



City of
SANTA CLARITA

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May 20, 2026

Laurene Weste
Mayor

The Honorable Lori Wilson
California State Assembly, District 11
1021 O Street, Suite 8110
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Wilson:

SUBJECT: AB 1621 (WILSON): OPPOSE

On behalf of the Santa Clarita City Council, I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to Assembly Bill 1621, which would establish new requirements for the review and appeal of local building permit applications for residential projects. The Santa Clarita City Council voted to oppose this legislation on May 12, 2026.

The City of Santa Clarita (City) has experienced a significant amount of growth in the last 30 years, more than doubling in population to over 230,000 residents. Currently, there are approximately 13,000 units that are in some phase of the housing development and construction process in Santa Clarita. This accounts for a 16 percent increase in housing units in the City, with approximately 75 percent of future units as multi-family units.

While we appreciate the author's goal to streamline housing development, Assembly Bill 1621 sets a damaging precedent by preempting the City's building inspection and permitting program.

Typically, building permits go through an extensive review process, assessing the viability of the plans and the project's impact to public health and safety, in addition to other goals, including air quality regulations, capacity of public utilities, and parking. This affords the City's Building & Safety division the ability to review residential projects based on unique community circumstances and needs, and ensures that a site has adequate access to services and resources to support residential use and sustain the proposed residential density.

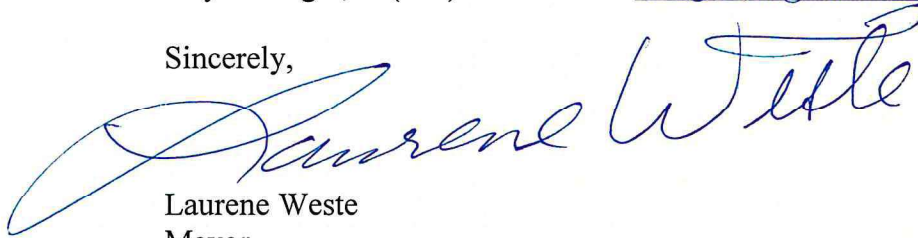
The bill's provisions to limit the number of plan-checks and reduce the amount of time within which a local agency must provide a written determination

jeopardizes the due diligence and responsibilities held by local governments to ensure projects are vetted to preserve public health, safety, and welfare.

It is critical for the City to maintain local land use authority and ensure that the City continues to have the ability to consider various factors when reviewing residential development proposals.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita respectfully opposes Assembly Bill 1621. Should you or your staff require any further information regarding our position on this bill, please contact Masis Hagobian, Interim Assistant to the City Manager, at (661) 286-4057 or mhagobian@santaclarita.gov.

Sincerely,



Laurene Weste
Mayor

LW:MH:sb

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cc: Members of the City Council
Senator Suzette Valladares
Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo
Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager
Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager
Masis Hagobian, Interim Assistant to the City Manager
Joe A. Gonsalves & Son