

EUNICE M. ULLOA
Mayor

CURTIS BURTON
Mayor Pro Tem



KAREN C. COMSTOCK
CHRISTOPHER FLORES
MARC LUCIO
Council Members

DR. LINDA REICH
City Manager

CITY of CHINO

September 19, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 339 (Ortega): Local Public Employee Organizations: Notice
Requirements, As amended 8/29/25 – REQUEST FOR VETO**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Chino respectfully requests your Veto on AB 339 (Ortega), which would undermine cities' ability to partner with private and non-profit partners to provide necessary local programs and services. AB 339 would impose considerable costs to cities, including new notification requirements, unclear language that will undoubtedly result in increased conflict and eventual litigation with our labor partners, and significant delays in executing programs and delivering services.

AB 339 has an extremely broad reach and ignores existing employee protections. AB 339 applies to nearly any contract (outside of the public works exemption) that is within the scope of work of any job classification represented by a recognized employee organization; for local agencies with represented workforces, this essentially means most contracts would be subject to notice. An administrative remedy is already available to recognized employee organizations when they believe that a local agency has neglected to meet existing notification and meet-and-confer requirements regarding contracting. AB 339's redundant and impractical approach will expose local agencies to additional costs that result from a new and potentially significant workload increase.

The definition of "emergency" is inconsistent and vague. The lack of definition of emergency or exigent circumstances in AB 339 undermines existing emergency contracting authority. As first responders, local agencies rely on existing statutes that allow for considerable flexibility to ensure the safety and well-being of our communities. This language only adds another opportunity for disagreement with our labor partners when local agencies need to focus available resources on response and recovery during an emergency.

AB 339 could not come at a worse time. With state and local agencies grappling with a substantial and growing decline in federal government support for various programs and services, now is not the



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time to undermine local agencies' efforts to continue providing essential services to their communities. Partnership with local non-profit organizations, who are on the front lines of providing critical local services, is essential to assist local agencies in maximizing federal, state, and local resources to ensure that services reach those who need them most.

[Please include specific information about the impact of AB 339 on the programs/services your city provides. We suggest including the impact of delays and additional costs on both your agency and the community members you serve.]

For these reasons, the City of Chino respectfully requests your Veto on AB 339 (Ortega).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich", with a stylized, cursive script.

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org

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September 19, 2025

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**RE: AB 492 (Valencia) Alcohol and drug programs: licensing.
Request for SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Chino respectfully requests your signature on AB 492 (Valencia), which would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to notify cities anytime a new alcohol and drug treatment facility is approved in their jurisdiction.

DHCS is not currently required to notify local governments when approving licenses, leaving cities in the dark about the operation of new facilities within their jurisdictions. This lack of communication can make it challenging to ensure that recovery and treatment programs are effectively integrated into local communities.

AB 492 would enable cities to better coordinate services and address gaps in the state's approach to treatment needs. Similar notification requirements are already in place for liquor licenses, cannabis businesses, and syringe exchange programs.

This measure is a critical step forward, keeping cities informed and enhancing their collaboration with the state to more effectively address substance use treatment needs. We respectfully request that you sign AB 492 .

Sincerely,

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org



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**RE: AB 507 (Haney) Adaptive reuse: streamlining incentives.
Request for Veto**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The City of Chino writes to request your veto of AB 507 (Haney), which would deem adaptive reuse projects by right in all zones, subject the projects to a ministerial review process, and exempt them from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

This bill seeks to streamline the process for adaptive reuse projects by deeming them a use-by-right in all zones, subject to a ministerial review process, and exempting them from certain impact fees. While the intentions behind the bill may be to encourage adaptive reuse and address housing needs, we believe that the potential consequences could ultimately harm California cities. Adaptive reuse projects are often seen as a means to revitalize existing structures and promote sustainable development. Proponents of AB 507 argue that by streamlining the approval process and providing incentives, the bill will encourage more adaptive reuse projects, thereby addressing housing shortages and promoting economic growth.

However, despite its purported benefits, AB 507 fails to adequately address the potential negative impacts on California cities. First, by deeming adaptive reuse projects a use-by-right in all zones, the bill undermines cities' ability to make decisions locally. It disregards the unique planning and zoning considerations of individual municipalities. This one-size-fits-all approach may not be suitable for all communities and could lead to incompatible development in sensitive areas.

Second, the exemption from certain impact fees could result in lost revenue for local governments. These fees play a crucial role in funding essential services and infrastructure improvements, such as transportation, parks, and public safety. Exempting adaptive reuse projects from these fees, unless they are reasonably related to the impacts resulting from the change of use of the site from



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nonresidential to residential or mixed-use development, will place an additional financial burden on cities already struggling to meet the needs of their residents.

We recognize the importance of promoting adaptive reuse and addressing housing challenges in California, but we believe that AB 507 is not the appropriate solution. Instead of imposing a one-size-fits-all approach that undermines local control and reduces vital revenue streams, we urge you to veto this measure again this year, until it balances the interests of all stakeholders and respects the autonomy of California cities.

For these reasons, the City of Chino respectfully requests your Veto of AB 507 (Haney)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich", with a stylized, cursive script.

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org

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**RE: AB 650 (Papan) Planning and Zoning: Housing Element: Regional Housing Needs Allocation.
Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Chino respectfully requests your Signature on AB 650 (Papan), which would allow local governments to begin updating their housing element six months early, provide greater certainty, and reduce ambiguity in the housing element review process.

Since 1969, California's local governments have planned and selected sites for housing at all income levels through the housing element portion of a local government's general plan. Every five to eight years, local governments are required to adopt a blueprint outlining where developers can or cannot build residential developments within their respective communities and obtain certification from the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Local governments plan for their fair share of housing development as determined through the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process. As part of this complex process, local governments submit in their housing elements a variety of essential data, actions, and programs to promote fair, equitable, and affordable housing in their community. Currently, local jurisdictions are planning and zoning for nearly 2.5 million additional homes statewide.

During the 6th RHNA cycle, local governments experienced various challenges in obtaining certification from HCD. Some of the challenges include a short timeline for completing these complex documents and responding to HCD's feedback, a lack of clarity regarding what the state expects from local governments when reviewing additional housing element drafts, and the introduction of new requirements late in the housing element review process.

AB 650 would address these issues by allowing local governments to begin updating their housing element six months early. The bill would also require HCD to provide specific text and analysis that must be included in the housing element to remedy deficiencies, ensuring that local governments are



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not penalized when HCD identifies additional deficiencies not previously identified in prior review letters.

AB 650 would also provide greater clarity and certainty to the housing element process, helping to ensure that all jurisdictions adopt a certified housing element in a timely manner. Additionally, the measure will help local governments facilitate the creation of more housing by providing resources that enable cities to obtain state approval for their housing plans, thereby creating more certainty for developers hoping to build in California.

For these reasons, the City of Chino respectfully requests your Signature on AB 650 (Papan).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich", with a stylized, flowing script.

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org

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**RE: SB 79 (Wiener) Housing development: transit-oriented development.
REQUEST FOR VETO**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Chino writes to request your Veto on SB 79 (Wiener), which would disregard state-certified housing elements and bestow land use authority to transit agencies without any requirement to align development standards with local general plan and zoning requirements.

SB 79 doubles down on the recent trend of the state overriding its own mandated local housing elements. This latest overreaching effort forces cities in urban transit counties defined as “a county with more than 15 rail stations” to approve transit-oriented development projects near specified transit stops — up to seven stories high and a density of 120 homes per acre — without regard to the community's needs, environmental review, or public input.

Most alarmingly, SB 79 defies cities’ general plans and grants transit agencies land use authority on property they own that is adjacent to a transit stop, or if the agency owns land on or before January 1, 2026, within a half mile of a transit stop. Transit agencies would have the power to determine nearly all aspects of the development, including height, density, and design, without any regard to local zoning or planning. Transit agencies play a crucial role in planning transportation services, providing operations and logistics management, and ensuring that Californians have various options for commuting. By expanding their role to include housing developers and land-use authorities, this measure would continue to stretch already-thin agencies that are dealing with funding shortfalls and that lack expertise in land-use planning and development. It is fiscally unsound to assign new responsibilities in housing development to them when they are struggling to sustain core operations.

While the City of Chino appreciates the author’s desire to include an alternative transit-oriented development plan, as currently drafted, the local government has the option to do this through an additional analysis in the local government’s housing element or through the adoption of an



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ordinance with approval from the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). SB 79 would add additional requirements for state review, increasing workloads, and making it more likely that local governments will not get their housing elements or ordinances approved promptly.

Finally, the local flexibility provided in the measure is minimal at best. The bill does not provide exemptions for cities that have adopted plans to promote taller, denser residential development near transit in consultation with the community but fall short of the bill's rigid minimum requirements. The alternative plan would still be required to meet or exceed the required development near transit as determined by HCD across all transit-oriented development zones within the jurisdiction, without accounting for infrastructure constraints, environmental hazards, or community design goals unique to each jurisdiction. For example, a community may want to distribute density around the jurisdiction due to its infrastructure capacity. However, they must still meet the minimum requirements of the bill, regardless of whether they make sense for the community or the design of the jurisdiction. In short, the flexibility is about how to meet the state's requirements – not whether those requirements make sense for the community.

For these reasons, the City of Chino respectfully requests a veto of SB 79 (Wiener).

Sincerely,



Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org

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**RE: SB 274 (Cervantes): Automated License Plate Recognition Systems
VETO REQUEST**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The City of Chino requests that you veto SB 274 (Cervantes), which seeks to restrict the use and storage of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology by law enforcement. The bill poses significant challenges to law enforcement's ability to protect the public and effectively investigate criminal activity.

SB 274 would require agencies to associate every use of surveillance technology, including ALPRs and security footage, with a specific case number and impose a 60-day data retention limit unless the information is tied to an active investigation. While well-intentioned, this requirement does not reflect the realities of modern policing, particularly in complex investigations where patterns and suspects may not be identified within the limited timeframe.

In many cases, data such as ALPR hits or surveillance footage are instrumental in connecting the dots across jurisdictions and identifying suspects weeks or even months after a crime has occurred. Officers frequently request our Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) and Dispatch to run a suspect vehicle's license plate through our ALPR system while they respond to calls for service, often helping us quickly establish a possible route of travel. The Chino Police Department has consistently apprehended suspects shortly after crimes are committed using ALPR technology. However, many incidents have been reported more than 60 days after the fact. Our Patrol Officers and Criminal Investigations Bureau solve a high percentage of these cases by using ALPR data and other investigative tools to link suspects to vehicles and place those vehicles near crime scenes at the time of the incidents.

Requiring a case number at the point of data collection and mandating the deletion of data after 60 days will severely hinder both proactive and reactive investigations, particularly in cases involving organized retail theft, vehicle theft, or patterns of violent crime. Surveillance tools often capture



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suspicious activity not linked to a known crime at the time, but which later proves critical in solving major cases. Under SB 274, law enforcement risks losing potentially vital evidence simply because it was not immediately tied to a case file.

The bill will result in detrimental unintended consequences on law enforcement's ability to safeguard our communities. The balance between privacy and public safety is essential, but SB 274, as written, shifts too far from providing the tools law enforcement relies on to protect victims and hold offenders accountable.

For these reasons, the City of Chino respectfully requests that you veto SB 274.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich", with a stylized, cursive script.

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org

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September 19, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
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Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 454 (McNerney): State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS mitigation program.
REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The City of Chino respectfully requests your signature on SB 454 (McNerney), which would establish a statewide PFAS Mitigation Fund (fund) to help local public agencies, including cities, leverage funding to pay for PFAS remediation and treatment in drinking water and wastewater.

Public water agencies are responsible for delivering safe, clean, and affordable drinking water throughout California. To fulfill this responsibility, public water agencies must comply with federal and state drinking water standards, including those related to PFAS. Drinking water standards can have significant financial impacts on water affordability, which are passed on to ratepayers. This bill would create a much-needed funding tool intended to leverage a variety of funding sources, including future state, federal, and private funding, designated for PFAS remediation and treatment that the State Water Resources Control Board would administer to public water agencies. The fund would help fill a gap for much-needed infrastructure funding associated with treating for PFAS.

SB 454 includes provisions to ensure that the establishment of the fund does not add any additional cost pressures on the state. First, the bill states that the State Water Resources Control Board costs should be covered from any deposits into the fund, up to 5 percent of the total monies. Additionally, SB 454, which would become operative only upon appropriation by the Legislature, aligns with budget trailer bill, SB 105 (Committee on Budget). SB 105 would allocate \$180 million in safe drinking water funding and specifically allows a portion of this funding to be directed to PFAS remediation projects, which could serve as the initial funding for the proposed fund under SB 454.



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Hon. Gavin Newsom
September 19, 2025
Page 2

To ensure the availability of safe and affordable drinking water supplies for communities from these forever chemicals, the City of Chino respectfully requests your signature on SB 454.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linda" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Reich".

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org

EUNICE M. ULLOA
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September 19, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
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1021 O Street, Suite 9000
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**RE: SB 707 (Durazo) Open Meetings: Meeting and Teleconference Requirements –
REQUEST FOR VETO**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Chino respectfully requests a veto of SB 707 (Durazo). Our city strongly supports public transparency and accessibility; however, SB 707, as currently drafted, would impose costly and inequitable new mandates on cities like ours without providing the necessary resources or flexibility for implementation.

SB 707 would create significant fiscal and operational challenges for our city, including:

- Providing two-way telephonic or audiovisual access for council meetings, halting proceedings during any service disruption.
- Translating agendas into all “applicable languages” spoken jointly by 20 percent or more of the applicable population, provided that 20 percent or more of the population that speaks that language in that city speaks English less than “very well.”
- Designating a public space for community-submitted translations, even if inaccurate or misleading.
- Creating and maintaining multi-language webpages for agendas, instructions, and meeting procedures.
- Expanding outreach efforts and electronic systems for agenda access.

Our existing staff is already beyond capacity to implement the myriad of requirements already mandated. The additional requirements imposed by SB 707 must be weighed against the benefits to the public and constituents, who must bear the costs of providing additional resources to meet the barrage of mandates imposed by the state.



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For the City of Chino, these obligations would involve hiring additional staff to manage the required technology at the extra meetings, updating and posting the additional agenda items, and contracting for additional translation services. Because of Proposition 42 (2014), none of these requirements would be reimbursable, forcing our city to absorb all costs.

Additionally, the bill applies unevenly across California, treating cities of similar size differently based solely on county population, while the State itself is exempt from these rules.

Although the recent amendment moved the implementation deadline to July 1, 2026, this deadline still does not provide sufficient time for cities to fully budget, procure, and train for compliance. Additional time is necessary to ensure responsible and effective implementation.

For these reasons, the City of Chino respectfully requests your Veto of SB 707 (Durazo).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org

EUNICE M. ULLOA
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City Manager

September 19, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 827 (Gonzalez) – Local Agency Officials: Training.
VETO REQUEST**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Chino respectfully requests that you veto SB 827 (Gonzalez), which would expand existing ethics training requirements to include management-level employees of local agencies and require certain local agency officials to receive at least two hours of fiscal and financial training at least once every two years.

Our City believes in conducting the business of government with transparency, openness, respect, and civility. The spirit of honest public service is what builds communities. However, the City of Chino believes that state officials and agencies should adhere to the same level of transparency and ethical behavior as is expected of local officials and agencies.

We oppose this legislation applying solely to California cities and local officials, unless such law or regulation also applies equally to the state of California and state officials. While we acknowledge that local governments and state governments may have unique needs and understand that training for local officials and state officials may involve different standards, the requirements of this bill, which expands ethics and fiscal training, should impose similar requirements on the State. For these reasons, we ask that you veto SB 827.

Sincerely,

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: cityletters@cacities.org



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DR. LINDA REICH
City Manager

CITY of CHINO

October 10, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Request to Revise DIR's 2021 Determination Misclassifying Municipal Street Sweeping as Public Works

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Chino respectfully urges your office to direct the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) to revise its October 4, 2021, opinion letter that reclassified municipal street sweeping as a public works activity subject to prevailing wage requirements.

For more than 15 years, California cities operated under clear precedent. In 2005, DIR determined that municipal street sweeping was not considered public works, and this decision was reaffirmed in 2006—even after an appeal by a labor organization. Municipal sweeping has never been classified as a union job nor treated as public works. However, the 2021 DIR opinion reversed course without legislative authority, imposing a costly and unsustainable burden on cities across the state, including ours.

Importantly, the Legislature has already considered—and rejected—this change. AB 1886 (Cooper, 2022), which sought to codify the reclassification, failed passage. Yet, despite that clear legislative record, DIR's 2021 opinion remains in effect.

Difference Between Municipal and Construction Sweeping

Municipal street sweeping is an environmental compliance service required under the Clean Water Act, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, and state pollution prevention programs. Cities use specialized regenerative air sweepers designed to remove fine particulates and pollutants before they enter storm drains and waterways. This is fundamentally different from construction sweeping, which utilizes mechanical broom sweepers to clear heavy debris and has always been appropriately classified as a public works project. Cities fully support prevailing wage standards for construction sweeping. However, applying the same standard to municipal sweeping ignores the regulatory purpose, specialized equipment, and day-to-day operations of this essential environmental service



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Financial and Service Impacts

The reclassification more than triples the cost of sweeping contracts. Average wages for municipal sweeping currently range from \$25–\$30 per hour, but DIR’s prevailing wage determination requires payment of more than \$96 per hour. This could mean that a street sweeper operator earns approximately \$200,000 annually—exceeding the salaries of engineers, attorneys, and department heads.

Cities simply cannot absorb this increase without slashing other essential services such as public safety, homelessness programs, and park maintenance. Many cities are already considering reducing service levels in upcoming RFPs to protect budgets. This situation also sets a dangerous precedent, creating the risk that other basic municipal maintenance services could be misclassified as public works.

Request for Action

We respectfully ask that your office:

1. Direct DIR to rescind or revise its 2021 opinion letter and reinstate the 2005 determination excluding municipal sweeping from prevailing wage; and
2. Establish a clear exemption to prevent future misclassification of this environmental compliance service.

This issue is urgent. Cities across California, including ours, are facing untenable financial pressure and reduced service capacity due to an unfunded mandate that conflicts with legislative intent. We strongly support prevailing wages for construction-related work, but municipal street sweeping is not construction—it is an environmental mandate.

For these reasons, the City of Chino urges your leadership to restore precedent, protect city budgets, and ensure that Californians continue to receive the essential services they rely upon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: Jennifer Osborn, Director, Department of Industrial Relations
Brady Borcharding, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor’s Office
lvarela@calcities.org
League of California Cities (via email: cityletters@calcities.org)