

Resolution No. 9942

Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto
Expressing Support for Actions to Further Strengthen Local Democracy,
Authority, and Control as Related to Local Zoning and Housing Issues

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of California each year proposes, passes, and has signed into law a number of bills addressing a range of housing issues; and

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of California does not allow sufficient time between each legislative cycle to determine if the legislation is successful in bringing about the change for the State of California's housing issues; and

WHEREAS, the majority of these bills usurp the authority of local jurisdictions to determine for themselves the land use policies and practices that best suit each city and its residents and instead impose mandates that do not take into account the needs and differences of jurisdictions throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the ability of local jurisdictions to determine for themselves which projects require review beyond a ministerial approval; what parking requirements are appropriate for various neighborhoods within their jurisdiction; what plans and programs are suitable and practical for each community rather than having these decisions imposed upon cities without regards to the circumstances of each individual city; and what zoning should be allowed for residential properties is a matter of great import to the City of Palo Alto among other items related to local zoning and housing issues; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Palo Alto feels strongly that our local government is best able to assess the needs of our community and objects to the proliferation of State legislation that deprives us of that ability;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Palo Alto is strongly opposed to the current practice of the legislature of the State of California of continually proposing and passing multitudes of bills that directly impact and interfere with the ability of cities to control their own destiny through use of the zoning authority that has been granted to them; and

SECTION 2. That the City of Palo Alto will explore various ways to protect the ability of cities to retain local control over zoning as each individual city within the State of California is best suited to determine how the zoning in their city should be allocated to meet the housing needs of the community; and

SECTION 3. That the City of Palo Alto states its support of the California Citizens for Local Control volunteer organization and its efforts for protecting local control for cities.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall take effect as of the date of its passage and adoption.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: February 1, 2021

AYES: BURT, DUBOIS, FILSETH, KOU, STONE, TANAKA

NOES: CORMACK

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Beth Minar
27523117DA804D7...
City Clerk

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:
T. Dubois
DD53585CA6CB4E9...
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:
Molly Stump
39A473B853574A9...
City Attorney

DocuSigned by:
Ed Shikada
F20CA19CC8D4F9...
City Manager