



*"Small Town Atmosphere
Outstanding Quality of Life"*

June 28, 2022

The Honorable Alex Lee
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6330
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Assembly Bill 2053 (Lee) Social Housing Act
Notice of Opposition (As amended 6/14/2022)**

Dear Assemblymember Lee,

The Town of Danville must respectfully oppose your measure AB 2053, which would create the California Housing Authority with a mission to produce and acquire social housing developments for the purpose of eliminating the gap between housing production and regional housing needs assessment targets and to preserve affordable housing.

The Town of Danville strongly supports the intent of AB 2053, which is to produce more housing as housing affordability and homelessness are among the most critical issues facing California cities. Affordably priced homes are out of reach for many people and housing is not being built fast enough to meet the current or projected needs of people living in the state. Cities lay the essential groundwork for housing production by planning and zoning new projects in their communities based on extensive public input and engagement, state housing laws, and the needs of the building industry. Importantly, cities are currently updating housing plans to identify sites for more than two million additional housing units.

AB 2053 ignores this state mandated local planning effort and forces cities to allow housing developments in nearly all areas of a city. This seriously questions the rationale for the regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) process. If the California Housing Authority can build housing on any parcel they own or acquire, why should cities go through the multiyear planning process to identify sites suitable for new housing units, for those plans to be ignored and housing built on sites never consider for new housing.

Additionally, as a state entity, the California Housing Authority would have full control over the properties they own and would not be required to abide by local zoning, design standards, density requirements, height limitations, parking requirements, or other development standards.

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For these reasons, the Town of Danville opposes AB 2053 based on our significant concerns with the current version of the bill.

Sincerely,



NEWELL ARNERICH, MAYOR

cc: The Honorable Steven Glazer, George.Escutia@sen.ga.gov
The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, John.Skoglund@asm.ca.gov
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