



STOP THE STATE'S REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

PROTECT LOCAL JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

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February 17, 2011

Dear Governor Brown and California State Legislators:

RE: Eliminating redevelopment is wrong decision in this economy and fails to offer a real solution for the state budget

As elected city officials in the State of California, we fully understand that the State's massive budget deficit will require sacrifice by all Californians. We stand ready to work with the Administration and the Legislature to pass an honest budget that finally puts California on the road to fiscal health. However, it is important to ensure that no decisions are made in the frenzy of the upcoming budget deliberations that will make our financial problems worse.

Unfortunately, the Administration's proposal to abolish redevelopment represents more of the same State raids of local funds that voters have fought to prevent, and it will jeopardize the State's prospects for an economic recovery.

The Governor's proposal to eliminate redevelopment agencies is wrong because it:

- Will not provide expected budget relief to the State or local governments after bond and contractual obligations are repaid;
- Will destroy billions of dollars in local economic activity and hundreds of thousands of jobs;
- Will kill the State's only meaningful programs to provide affordable housing; and
- Will block our efforts in California to grow responsibly by focusing on urban and infill development.

The proposal will not provide budget savings to the State or local governments, and represents continued State raids of local funds the voters have acted to prevent.

Over the last 10 years, the State has adopted too many budgets based on proposals that are at best questionable and in some cases illegal. The proposal to eliminate redevelopment agencies is just another in a long string of proposals that will not deliver the real dollars needed to close the budget gap and put the State's fiscal house in order.

The measure is completely contrary to Proposition 22, which passed by 61 percent in November 2010, to protect local government revenues from grabs by the State. The provisions of Prop. 22 clearly prohibit the redevelopment proposal as it appears in the governor's budget.

Second, redevelopment agencies issue bonds to finance redevelopment activities, which must be repaid with interest. Redevelopment agencies currently hold more than \$20 billion in bonded indebtedness. Under the federal and state constitutions, these contractual obligations must be met before revenues could be used under the Governor's proposal to benefit the state's budget deficit.

The bottom line is that this is not a "real" budget proposal. It is a proposal that will once again fall far short of expectations.

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The proposal will kill jobs and economic expansion at the worst possible time.

Eliminating redevelopment will have a direct and lasting negative impact on the California economy and job creation.

- Redevelopment activities support an average of 304,000 full- and part-time private sector jobs in a typical year, including 170,600 construction jobs;
- Redevelopment contributes over \$40 billion annually to California's economy in the generation of goods and services;
- Redevelopment construction activities generate \$2 billion in state and local taxes in a typical year; and
- The success stories of redevelopment are all over California and available for all to see. The downtown areas of San Diego, Pasadena, Los Angeles and San Jose stand as outstanding examples of saving blighted neighborhoods and turning them into hubs of economic activity and job creation.

The proposal is bad for the environment, bad for our state.

Eliminating redevelopment will take away the primary tool local governments have to comply with the requirements of State law to plan for more compact urban development supported by improved public transportation opportunities. Redevelopment encourages infill development rather than Greenfield development and redevelopment agencies have the experience and tools needed to help implement AB 32 and SB 375.

Redevelopment is also the second largest funder of affordable homes after the federal government. More than 98,000 units of affordable housing have been constructed or rehabilitated through redevelopment since 1993.

As local officials, we stand ready to assist you in the passage of a responsible budget. However, this proposal runs completely contrary to the Governor and Legislature's stated goals of realigning state services to provide more responsibility and funding locally. We strongly urge you to reject this measure and refocus on proposals that offer real solutions to California's budget problems.

Sincerely,

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David Durant, Mayor, Pleasant Hill
John Hanecak, Council Member, Pleasant Hill
Michael G. Harris, Vice Mayor, Pleasant Hill
Terri Williamson, Council Member, Pleasant Hill
David Ingham, Council Member, Point Arena
Eloisa Oropeza, Council Member, Point Arena
Joe Riboli, Council Member, Point Arena
Lauren Sinnott, Vice Mayor, Point Arena
Terry Hughey, Mayor, Point Arena
Elliott Rothman, Mayor, Pomona
Stephen Atchley, Council Member, Pomona
Curt McBride, Council Member, Portola

William A. Weaver, Council Member, Portola
Dave Grosch, Council Member, Poway
Don Higginson, Mayor, Poway
James Cunningham, Council Member, Poway
John Mullin, Council Member, Poway
Merrilee Boyack, Council Member, Poway
Robert J. McGarvey, Mayor, Rancho Cordova
Bill Alexander, Council Member, Rancho Cucamonga
Chuck Buquet, Council Member, Rancho Cucamonga
Diane Williams, Council Member, Rancho Cucamonga
Sam Spagnolo, Mayor Pro Tem, Rancho Cucamonga
Richard Kite, Mayor, Rancho Mirage
Scott Hines, Council Member, Rancho Mirage
Brain Campbell, Council Member, Rancho Palos Verdes
Stefan Wolowicz, Council Member, Rancho Palos Verdes
Jon Harrison, Council Member, Redlands
Pete Aguilar, Mayor, Redlands
Steven Diels, Council Member, Redondo Beach
Barbara Pierce, Council Member, Redwood City
Anita Betancourt, Council Member, Reedley
Mary Fast, Mayor, Reedley
Pete Chavez, Mayor Pro Tem, Reedley
Ray Soleno, Council Member, Reedley
Steve Rapada, Mayor Pro Tem, Reedley
Deborah Robertson, Council Member, Rialto
Tom Butt, Vice Mayor, Richmond
Jason Patin, Council Member, Ridgecrest
Jerry Taylor, Council Member, Ridgecrest
Marshall "Chip" Holloway, Mayor Pro Tem, Ridgecrest
Ron Carter, Mayor, Ridgecrest
Steve Morgan, Council Member, Ridgecrest
Steven P. Morgan, Council Member, Ridgecrest
Jan Vick, Mayor, Rio Vista
Charlie Gay, Council Member, Ripon
Dotty Nygard, Council Member, Riverbank
Richard D. O'Brien, Council Member, Riverbank
Virginia Madueno, Mayor, Riverbank
Andy Melendrez, Council Member, Riverside
Chris Mac Arthur, Council Member, Riverside
Mike Gardner, Council Member, Riverside
Nancy Hart, Council Member, Riverside
Paul Davis, Council Member, Riverside
Ron Loveridge, Mayor, Riverside
Rusty Bailey, Council Member, Riverside
Steve Adams, Council Member, Riverside
Gina Belforte, Mayor, Rohnert Park
Pam Stafford, Council Member, Rohnert Park
Amy O. Ahanotu, Council Member, Rohnert Park
Judith Mitchell, Council Member, Rolling Hills Estates
Gary Taylor, Mayor, Rosemead
Margaret Clark, Council Member, Rosemead
Polly Low, Council Member, Rosemead
Sandra Armenta, Council Member, Rosemead
Steven Ly, Mayor Pro Tem, Rosemead
Scot Hunter, Council Member, Ross

Dennis Donohue, Mayor, Salinas
Tony Barrera, Council Member, Salinas
Patrick J. Morris, Mayor, San Bernardino
Rikke Van Johnson, Council Member, San Bernardino
Tobin Brinker, Council Member, San Bernardino
David Alvarez, Council Member, San Diego
Jerry Sanders, Mayor, San Diego
Kevin Faulconer, Council Member, San Diego
Lorie Zapf, Council Member, San Diego
Marti Emerald, Council Member, San Diego
Todd Gloria, Council Member, San Diego
Tony Young, Council President, San Diego
Emmett Badar, Council Member, San Dimas
David Gutierrez, Mayor, San Gabriel
Kevin Sawkins, Vice Mayor, San Gabriel
Mario De La Torre, Council Member, San Gabriel
Alonso Ledezma, Council Member, San Jacinto
John Taylor, Council Member, San Juan Capistrano
Larry Kramer, Mayor Pro Tem, San Juan Capistrano
Laura Freese, Council Member, San Juan Capistrano
Sam Allevato, Mayor, San Juan Capistrano
Diana Souza, Council Member, San Leandro
Jim Prola, Council Member, San Leandro
Joyce Starosciak, Council Member, San Leandro
Michael Greagory, Council Member, San Leandro
Pauline Cutter, Council Member, San Leandro
Steven Cassidy, Mayor, San Leandro
Ursula Reed, Vice Mayor, San Leandro
Jan Marx, Mayor, San Luis Obispo
Chris Orlando, Council Member, San Marcos
Hal Martin, Vice Mayor, San Marcos
Jim Desmond, Mayor, San Marcos
Kristal Jabara, Council Member, San Marcos
Rebecca Jones, Council Member, San Marcos
Arturo Cruz, Council Member, San Pablo
Cecilia Valdez, Vice Mayor, San Pablo
Genoveva G. Calloway, Council Member, San Pablo
Leonard R. McNeil, Council Member, San Pablo
Paul V. Morris, Mayor, San Pablo
Albert J. Boro, Mayor, San Rafael
Barbara Heller, Council Member, San Rafael
Greg Brockbank, Council Member, San Rafael
Abram Wilson, Mayor, San Ramon
Jerry Blackwelder, Council Member, Sand City
Victor Ruiz, Council Member, Sanger
Grant House, Council Member, Santa Barbara
Helene Schneider, Mayor, Santa Barbara
Jamie L. Matthews, Mayor, Santa Clara
Bob Kellar, Council Member, Santa Clarita
Frank Ferry, Council Member, Santa Clarita
Laurene Weste, Council Member, Santa Clarita
Laurie Ender, Mayor Pro Tem, Santa Clarita
Marsha McLean, Mayor, Santa Clarita
David Terrazas, Council Member, Santa Cruz
Don Lane, Council Member, Santa Cruz
Hilary Bryant, Council Member, Santa Cruz

(more)

Lynn Robinson, Council Member, Santa Cruz
Ryan Coonerty , Mayor, Santa Cruz
Betty Putnam, Council Member, Santa Fe Springs
Joe Serrano, Mayor, Santa Fe Springs
Juanita Trujillo, Council Member, Santa Fe Springs
Louie Gonzalez, Council Member, Santa Fe Springs
William Rounds, Mayor Pro Tem, Santa Fe Springs
Alice Patino, Mayor Pro Tem, Santa Maria
Bob Orach, Council Member, Santa Maria
Jack Boysen, Council Member, Santa Maria
Larry Lavagnino, Mayor, Santa Maria
Mike Cordero, Council Member, Santa Maria
Pam O'Connor, Council Member, Santa Monica
Richard Bloom, Mayor, Santa Monica
Terry O'Day, Council Member, Santa Monica
Ernesto Olivares, Mayor, Santa Rosa
Scott Bartley, Council Member, Santa Rosa
Susan Gorin, Council Member, Santa Rosa
Jack Dale, Council Member, Santee
John Minto, Council Member, Santee
John Ryan, Council Member, Santee
Randy Voepel, Mayor, Santee
Rob McNelis, Council Member, Santee
Dene Bustichi, Mayor, Scotts Valley
Kathleen Shaffer, Council Member, Sebastopol
Sarah Glade Gurney, Council Member, Sebastopol
Dennis Lujan, Council Member, Selma
George Rodriguez, Mayor Pro Tem, Selma
Jim Avalos, Council Member, Selma
Ken Grey, Mayor, Selma
Mike Derr, Council Member, Selma
Jon Johnston, Mayor Pro Tem, Shafter
Rod Lindsay, Mayor, Shasta Lake
John Buchanan, Mayor Pro Tem, Sierra Madre
Ed Wilson, Mayor, Signal Hill
Ellen Ward, Council Member, Signal Hill
Larry Forester, Council Member, Signal Hill
Michael J. Noll, Council Member, Signal Hill
Tina L. Hansen, Council Member, Signal Hill
Glen Becerra, Council Member, Simi Valley
Robert O. Huber, Mayor, Simi Valley
Dave Roberts, Council Member, Solana Beach
Joe Kellejian, Deputy Mayor, Solana Beach
Lesa Heebner, Mayor, Solana Beach
Mike Nichols, Council Member, Solana Beach
Jim Richardson, Mayor, Solvang
Laurie Kaiser Gallian, Mayor, Sonoma
Steve Barbose, Council Member, Sonoma
Hank Russell, Council Member, Sonoma
William B. Canning, Mayor, Sonoma
Angelica Garcia, Council Member, South El Monte
Hector Delgado, Council Member, South El Monte
Joseph Gonzales, Mayor Pro Tem, South El Monte
Louie Aguinaga, Mayor, South El Monte
Wilhans Ili, Council Member, South El Monte
Bill DeWitt, Council Member, South Gate

Gil Hurtado, Council Member, South Gate
Greg Martinez, Council Member, South Gate
Maria Davila, Council Member, South Gate
Michael Cacciotti, Mayor Pro Tem, South Pasadena
Philip C. Putnam, Council Member, South Pasadena
Barb Stanton, Mayor Pro Tem, Stanton
Ann Johnston, Mayor, Stockton
Kathy Miller, Vice Mayor, Stockton
Jane Day, Council Member, Suisun City
Michael A. Segala, Council Member, Suisun City
Michael J. Hudson, Mayor Pro Tem, Suisun City
Pete Sanchez, Mayor, Suisun City
Sam Derting, Council Member, Suisun City
Ron Swegels, Council Member, Sunnyvale
Randy Miller, Mayor, Taft
Linda Vernon, Council Member, Tehachapi
Chuck Washington, Mayor Pro Tem, Temecula
Ron Roberts, Mayor, Temecula
Jeff Comerchero, Council Member, Temecula
Maryann Edwards, Council Member, Temecula
Mike Naggar, Council Member, Temecula
Tom Chavez, Mayor Pro Tem, Temple City
Vincent Yu, Council Member, Temple City
Andy Fox, Mayor, Thousand Oaks
Dennis Gillette, Council Member, Thousand Oaks
Jacqui Irwin, Council Member, Thousand Oaks
Tom Glancy, Council Member, Thousand Oaks
Alice Fredericks, Council Member, Tiburon
Richard B. Collins, Council Member, Tiburon
Bill Sutherland, Council Member, Torrance
Cliff Numark, Mayor Pro Tem, Torrance
Frank Scotto, Mayor, Torrance
Gene Barnett, Council Member, Torrance
Pat Furey, Council Member, Torrance
Susan Rhilinger, Council Member, Torrance
Tom Brewer, Council Member, Torrance
Bob Elliott, Council Member, Tracy
Brent Ives, Mayor, Tracy
Michael Maciel, Mayor Pro Tem, Tracy
Robert Rickman, Council Member, Tracy
Steve Abercrombie, Council Member, Tracy
Kathy Bhardwaj, Mayor, Trinidad
Richard Anderson, Mayor, Truckee
Craig Vejvoda, Council Member, Tulare
David Macedo, Council Member, Tulare
Mark Watte, Council Member, Tulare
Skip Barwick, Vice Mayor, Tulare
Wayne Ross, Mayor, Tulare
Amy Bublak, Vice Mayor, Turlock
Forrest White, Council Member, Turlock
John Lazar, Mayor, Turlock
Mary Jackson, Council Member, Turlock
William Dehart, Council Member, Turlock
Benj Thomas, Council Member, Ukiah
Mari Roden, Mayor, Ukiah
Mary Anne Landis, Vice Mayor, Ukiah

(more)

Emily Duncan, Council Member, Union City
Jim Navarro, Vice Mayor, Union City
Lorrin Ellis, Council Member, Union City
Mark Green, Mayor, Union City
Pat Gacoscos, Vice Mayor, Union City
Gino L. Filippi, Council Member, Upland
Ken Willis, Council Member, Upland
Ray Musser, Council Member, Upland
Curtis Hunt, Council Member, Vacaville
Dilenna Harris, Council Member, Vacaville
Mitch Mashburn, Council Member, Vacaville
Ron Rowlette, Council Member, Vacaville
Steve Hardy, Mayor, Vacaville
Erin Hannigan, Council Member, Vallejo
Marti Brown, Council Member, Vallejo
Osby Davis, Mayor, Vallejo
Bill Fulton, Mayor, Ventura
Carl Morehouse, Council Member, Ventura
Christy Weir, Council Member, Ventura
Neal Andrews, Council Member, Ventura
Ryan McEachron, Mayor, Victorville
Bob Link, Mayor, Visalia
Dave Cowles, Council Member, Vista
Frank Lopez, Council Member, Vista
John Aguilera, Mayor Pro Tem, Vista
Judy Ritter, Mayor, Vista
Steve Gronke, Council Member, Vista
Antonio "Tony" Cartegena, Mayor, Walnut
Joaquin Lim, Council Member, Walnut
Mary Su, Council Member, Walnut
Nancy Tragarz, Mayor Pro Tem, Walnut
Tom King, Council Member, Walnut
Gary Skrel, Council Member, Walnut Creek
Kish Rajan, Council Member, Walnut Creek
Kristina Lawson, Vice Mayor, Walnut Creek
Robert Simmons, Mayor Pro Tem, Walnut Creek
Carl Joe Hiveley, Mayor, Wasco
Fred West, Jr., Council Member, Wasco
Charlie Goeken, Mayor, Waterford
Ken Krause, Council Member, Waterford
Bill Neighbors, Council Member, Watsonville
Daniel Dodge, Mayor, Watsonville
Eduardo Montesino, Council Member, Watsonville

Karin Armbrust, Council Member, West Covina
Michael Touhey, Mayor Pro Tem, West Covina
Shelley Sanderson, Council Member, West Covina
Sherri Lane, Council Member, West Covina
Steve Herfert, Mayor, West Covina
Jeff Prang, Council Member, West Hollywood
John J. Duran, Mayor Pro Tem, West Hollywood
Henry Graham, Mayor, Westmorland
Stanley Brummett, Council Member, Westmorland
Cathy Warner, Council Member, Whittier
Greg Nordbak, Mayor, Whittier
Owen Newcomer, Council Member, Whittier
Ben Benoit, Mayor Pro Tem, Wildomar
Bridget Moore, Council Member, Wildomar
Marsha Swanson, Mayor, Wildomar
Tim Walker, Council Member, Wildomar
Debora Fudge, Vice Mayor, Windsor
Robin Goble, Council Member, Windsor
Sam Salmon, Council Member, Windsor
Steve Allen, Mayor, Windsor
Cecilia M. Aguilar-Curry, Mayor Pro Tem, Winters
Michael A. Martin, Council Member, Winters
Frances Ortiz, Council Member, Woodlake
Gregorio Gonzalez, Vice Mayor, Woodlake
Jose Martinez, Council Member, Woodlake
Raul Gonzales Jr., Mayor, Woodlake
Rudy Mendoza, Council Member, Woodlake
Artermio Pimentel, Mayor, Woodland
Marlin H. Davies, Vice Mayor, Woodland
Martie Dote, Council Member, Woodland
Bill Marble, Council Member, Woodland
Marita Dorenbecher, Council Member, Yountville
John Buckland, Council Member, Yuba City
John Miller, Vice Mayor, Yuba City
Leslie McBride, Council Member, Yuba City
Diane Smith, Council Member, Yucaipa
Greg Bogh, Council Member, Yucaipa
Chad Mayes, Council Member, Yucca Valley
Dawn Rowe, Council Member, Yucca Valley
Frank Luckino, Mayor Pro Tem, Yucca Valley
George Huntington, Mayor, Yucca Valley
Isaac Hagerman, Council Member, Yucca Valley