



December 1, 2020

The Honorable Rex Richardson,  
President  
Southern California Association of Governments  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

RE: Request to Convene a Special Meeting of the SCAG Regional Council to Consider the Information and Recommendations of the SCAG President's RHNA Litigation Study Team

Dear President Richardson,

Thank you for honoring our September 18, 2020 request (attached) and reconvening a closed meeting of the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team on November 2, 2020.

The OC Mayor Group requested this meeting to allow the RHNA Litigation Study Team to consider:

- a) whether the State Department of Housing and Community Development (State HCD) failed to follow housing law in calculating the SCAG regional housing need number of 1.34 million units for the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle RHNA; and,
- b) new 2020 information released after State HCD's October 2019 regional housing determination, which question the accuracy of the 1.34 million housing units assignment and identify significantly lower numbers in the order of 650,000 housing units or less for the SCAG region.

At the 11/05/2020 meeting of the SCAG Regional Council, you reported out that the RHNA Litigation Study Team:

- 1) considered the February 2020 Freddie Mac report; and,
- 2) determined, via a consensus majority, that litigation against State HCD was not the path to pursue, and that other options could be pursued. You also stated that an option is for subregional Councils of Government to separately pursue litigation, if they are so concerned.

Upon hearing your verbal report, our colleagues – City of Mission Viejo Councilmember Wendy Bucknum and City of Anaheim Councilmember Trevor O'Neil – sought clarifying information to understand the recommendation of the RHNA Litigation Study Team.

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Given and respecting the closed session nature of the RHNA Study Team discussions, they requested that a separate meeting of the SCAG Regional Council be convened, to allow the entire Regional Council to receive and discuss the same information that was presented to the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team, and thereby better understand the reasoning and factors that led to the Litigation Study Team's recommendation to not pursue litigation. SCAG Executive Director Kome Ajise also clarified that it is the prerogative of the SCAG Regional Council to consider litigation.

We believe our colleagues' request is sensible, worthwhile and deserving of the opportunity for further discussion.

**We would therefore respectfully request that a special closed meeting of the SCAG Regional Council be convened, to thoughtfully discuss the recommendation of the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team to not pursue litigation, and determine, for the entire SCAG region, the appropriate actions to pursue.**

With sincere appreciation,



**Harry Sidhu**  
Mayor  
City of Anaheim



**Marty Simonoff**  
Mayor  
City of Brea



**Katrina Foley**  
Mayor  
City of Costa Mesa



**Cheryl Brothers**  
Mayor  
City of Fountain Valley



**Jennifer Fitzgerald**  
Mayor  
City of Fullerton



**Steven R. Jones**  
Mayor  
City of Garden Grove




**Lyn Semeta**  
Mayor  
City of Huntington Beach



**Christina Shea**  
Mayor  
City of Irvine



**Bob Whalen**  
Mayor  
City of Laguna Beach



**Janine Heft**  
Mayor  
City of Laguna Hills



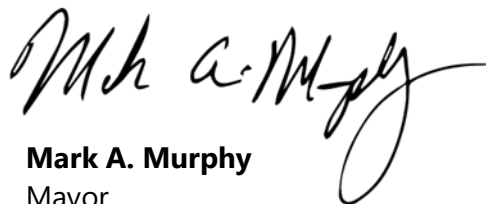
**Richard D. Murphy**  
Mayor  
City of Los Alamitos



**Brian Goodell**  
Mayor  
City of Mission Viejo



**Will O'Neill**  
Mayor  
City of Newport Beach



**Mark A. Murphy**  
Mayor  
City of Orange



**Ward Smith**  
Mayor  
City of Placentia



**Bradley J. McGirr**  
Mayor  
City of Rancho Santa Margarita

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**Laura Ferguson**  
Mayor Pro Tem  
City of San Clemente



**Miguel A. Pulido**  
Mayor  
City of Santa Ana



**Allan Bernstein**  
Mayor  
City of Tustin



**Tri Ta**  
Mayor  
City of Westminster



**Beth Haney**  
Mayor  
City of Yorba Linda

Enclosure:  
Orange County Mayors Letter dated September 18, 2020

cc: Kome Ajise, SCAG Executive Director  
Orange County Mayors  
Council Member Trevor O'Neil, Chair, OCCOG Board of Directors  
Council Member Wendy Bucknum, Vice-Chair, OCCOG Board of Directors  
Orange County Representatives on SCAG Policy Committees and Regional Council  
Orange County City Managers Association  
Marnie O'Brien, OCCOG Executive Director  
Nate Farnsworth, OCCOG TAC Chair