

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL

December 17, 2018

Honorable Mayor Hendricks and Members of the City Council
 City of Sunnyvale
 456 W. Olive Avenue
 Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Dear Mayor Hendricks, Vice Mayor Klein, and Councilmembers Goldman, Griffith, Melton, Larsson, and Smith:

RE: Item 3 – Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Subregion Participation

We write today on behalf of our members to register strong support for the Santa Clara County RHNA Subregion, and urge the City Council to agree to participate alongside the other 15 jurisdictions in the County.

No one is in disagreement that the region is experiencing a housing crisis, and most would agree that no one city can solve the crisis on its own and that a regional response is needed.

A RHNA Subregion provides a unified voice in responding to the area's housing needs, allowing all cities in the County to work together to plan for housing, develop strategies and tools, and collaborate on regional and Statewide advocacy. Additionally, a Subregion would offer other opportunities for cooperation, including sharing Housing Element consultants, sharing expertise, analyses, and policies, as well as potentially enabling a shared review by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department. Three of the Bay Area's nine counties already have RHNA Subregions, including San Mateo County.

Thirteen cities and the County have already agreed to participate. While the State allows creation of a Subregion, it is only possible if the cities participating are contiguous. **If Sunnyvale does not vote to participate in the subregion, the rest of the jurisdictions in the County will not be able to move forward despite their support.**

We see only positives in taking positive action. Nothing about this proposal would require Sunnyvale to take on additional housing need that it does not want to accept. Yet the proposal would facilitate added coordination and cooperation between nearby cities, something that is vital if we are going to meet the housing needs of our region.

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Staff

Leslye Corsiglia
Executive Director

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Thank you for your consideration, and for the work you have done to meet your RHNA obligations over the years.

Sincerely,



Leslye Corsiglia
Executive Director