

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 2/8/05
Department Name: First District Office
Department No.:
Agenda Date: 2/15/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisors Salud Carbajal and Brooks Firestone

STAFF Eric Friedman
CONTACT: 568-2155

SUBJECT: Resolution Affirming Santa Barbara County's Legislative Priority of Maintaining Local Control of Land Use and Zoning Policies

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:
Adopt a resolution affirming the County's legislative priority of maintaining local control of land use and zoning policies.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 1. An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

Governor Schwarzenegger and members of the State Legislature have indicated they will seek to reform regulatory and planning laws in order to promote homebuilding throughout California. It is important that a balance is maintained between the State's need for more affordable housing and the County's need for flexibility to effectively respond to the housing challenges that are unique to our area.

Mandates and Service Levels: None

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: None

Special Instructions: Send Resolution to Governor Schwarzenegger, State legislative leadership, local legislative delegation and our County State legislative advocate, Cliff Berg.

Concurrence:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF) RESOLUTION NO.
MAINTAINING LOCAL CONTROL)
OF LAND USE POLICIES)
AS A LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY)

WHEREAS, planning and land use policy are essential functions of local government and local governments across the country have long been the principal stewards of land and infrastructure resources through implementation of local land use polices; and

WHEREAS, land use planning and community design have a direct impact on the quality of life and sustainability of communities; and

WHEREAS, one size does not fit all; geography, natural features, climate, culture, historical resources, and ecology contribute to the distinctive character and constraints of a community. Each local government must have the flexibility to develop its own approach to land use which respects, protects and incorporates the distinctive character of its community and the particular place in which it is located; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Barbara's Comprehensive Plan is developed with significant local citizen input, therefore local land use decisions are directed by the vision of the local community; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County supports a cooperative and mutually supportive relationship with federal, state and local governments, based on the recognition that funding for housing programs is best implemented at the broadest level, while program delivery is best implemented at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and State Legislature to give careful consideration to a balance between statewide needs for more affordable housing and localities' desire to have local control to implement flexible and creative approaches to addressing their own housing needs.

THEREFORE, the County of Santa Barbara is committed to preserving local sovereignty through opposing any efforts by State and Federal government to direct or restrict land use planning and decision making by local governments.

FURTHER, the County of Santa Barbara supports efforts to enhance local governments' ability to implement their comprehensive plans by allowing for local decision making and authorizing a full spectrum of land use and planning tools for local elected bodies to use.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 15th day of February, 2005 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

MICHAEL F. BROWN
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

STEPHEN SHANE STARK
COUNTY COUNSEL

By: _____
County Counsel