

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies, proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency, must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles region continues to face an unprecedented shortage of affordable housing, with the 2021 Los Angeles County Housing Needs Report conducted by the California Housing Partnership indicating that 499,430 low income renter households lack access to affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, faith-based institutions have played an integral role in combating poverty and supporting some of the most vulnerable Angelenos for well over a century; and

WHEREAS, houses of worship in Los Angeles, such as the Jewish spiritual community IKAR in the Fifth Council District, have realized the nexus of homelessness and housing affordability and are actively seeking to develop housing on their property; and

WHEREAS, religious institutions are often located in areas not currently zoned for multifamily housing, which can create time-consuming and expensive hurdles to building new affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, according to study by the UC Berkeley Turner Center there are approximately 38,800 acres of land across the state of California used for religious purposes that are potentially developable; and

WHEREAS, currently pending in the California Legislature is a bill, Senate Bill (SB) 4 (Wiener) – Affordable Housing on Faith Lands Act - co-sponsored by the Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California, Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH), Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California, California Conference of Carpenters, and Inner City Law Center; and

WHEREAS, SB 4 provides a streamlined process for religious organizations and nonprofit educational institutions to develop affordable housing on their property regardless of local zoning restrictions; and

WHEREAS, SB 4 will also support our state's construction workforce by requiring the payment of prevailing wage on projects with over 10 units, while on projects with 50 units or more contractors must offer apprentices employment and pay for health care for the workers and their dependents; and

WHEREAS, the City should support this bill because allowing for and expediting the development of affordable and supportive housing on lands owned by faith-based institutions can be a powerful tool toward reducing both the number of individuals living on the streets and the scarcity of affordable housing options;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-24 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for Senate Bill 4 (Wiener), Affordable Housing on Faith Land Acts.

PRESENTED BY:


Katy Yaroslavsky
Councilwoman, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



FEB 15 2023

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