

SB 1177 (Portantino)

Joint powers authorities: Cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena

PROBLEM

Nearly all California communities have been impacted by the high cost of housing and the devastating effects it has had on lower income households. Rents and home prices have far outpaced wage growth for most of the region's residents. Meeting these various housing needs had been made more difficult in recent years due to increasing demand, dwindling revenue sources, a host of political and economic issues, and most recently and long lasting, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Lower income residents of the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena have been impacted particularly hard with a variety of affordable housing challenges, as the high cost of housing for the region has outpaced those in the surrounding Los Angeles County area.

Collectively, the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena have nearly 3,000 affordable housing units in the combined development pipeline, including permanent supportive housing, senior housing, missing middle housing, and affordable home ownership units. However, they have insufficient funding to bring their pipeline affordable housing projects to completion. Moreover, the insufficient funding hinders the ability of these cities to grow the pipeline to meet the affordable housing need.

BACKGROUND

The cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena make up the Arroyo Verdugo Region and have worked collaboratively in the past, sharing the goal of cooperatively addressing regional priorities and matters of mutual interest as evidenced by the Burbank, Glendale, and Pasade-

na Airport Authority and Arroyo Verdugo Dispatch Center.

The cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena each operate their own respective housing authority, and both Glendale and Pasadena are two of only three cities in the state to have their own homeless continuum of care. They are fully staffed, trained, and committed to the concept of working collaboratively to develop more affordable housing for the region.

SUMMARY

SB 1177 creates a regional housing trust fund that would be administered by a joint powers authority (JPA) comprised of the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena. If created, the JPA would be allowed to request and receive private and state funding allocations, as well as authorize and issue bonds, to help finance affordable housing projects for persons and families of extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate-income households.

SB 1177 has the potential to generate significant amounts of funding that could be utilized to address the local affordable housing crisis.

EXISTING LAW

The Joint Exercise of Powers Act, as codified in California Government Code section 6500, governs JPAs. Under the Act, JPAs are restricted to use by public agencies only.

SUPPORT

City of Burbank (Sponsor)
City of Glendale (Sponsor)
City of Pasadena (Sponsor)

Ascencia
Boys & Girls Club Burbank
Burbank Community YMCA
Burbank Housing Corporation
Family Services Agency of Burbank
Friends in Deed
NAACP Pasadena Branch
NAACP California Hawaii State Conference
Pasadena City College
Pasadena Community Foundation
Pasadena Partnership
SGVCOG
Union Station Homeless Services

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