

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-63

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE, TO SIGN AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE IN SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) MODERNIZATION

WHEREAS, for the past 40 years, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has served as a vital tool to protect our environment, to protect local communities and to enhance local control by ensuring that all proposed local development projects undergo a rigorous environmental review process and that the impacts of new projects on the environment are adequately mitigated; and

WHEREAS, CEQA is an important law to ensure local governments have the information and tools to protect our local communities, and to allow for citizen involvement in local land-use decisions; and

WHEREAS, today, many important local projects are being delayed by CEQA challenges or even the threat of challenges, often times for reasons that have nothing to do with environmental protection or mitigation; and

WHEREAS, it is much easier to challenge a CEQA decision than any other local land-use decision. This means that local governments must spend time and resources – which could otherwise be spent on actual environmental mitigation or some other local purpose – taking excessive steps to protect against litigation and the threat of litigation; and

WHEREAS, CEQA challenges and the threat of CEQA challenges also undermine the ability of local governments to approve projects that carry out important State policies such as infill development and affordable housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby urges the Legislature and Governor to adopt legislation that would modernize the California Environmental Quality Act to preserve the law's original intent – environmental protection and public disclosure and participation – while allowing environmentally responsible local decision-making, local economic development and jobs, and 21st century growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby authorizes Mayor Gary Davis, on behalf of the City of Elk Grove, to sign an open letter to the California Legislature in support of CEQA modernization.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Elk Grove this 10th day of April 2013.




GARY DAVIS, MAYOR of the
CITY OF ELK GROVE

ATTEST:



JASON LINDGREN, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



JONATHAN P. HOBBS,
CITY ATTORNEY

Local Government Officials in Support of CEQA Modernization

An Open Letter to the California Legislature

Dear Governor Jerry Brown, Members, California State Senate and Assembly:

We, the undersigned local elected officials, urge you to adopt legislation that would modernize the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to preserve the law's original intent – environmental protection and public disclosure and participation – while allowing environmentally responsible local decision-making, local economic development and jobs, and 21st century growth.

CEQA is an important law to ensure local governments have the information and tools to protect our local communities, and to allow for citizen involvement in local land-use decisions.

However, many important local projects are being held-up by CEQA challenges or even the threat of challenges- often times for reasons that have nothing to do with environmental protection or mitigation.

It's much easier to challenge a CEQA decision than any other type of local land-use decision. This means that local governments must spend a lot of time and a lot of money – which could be spent on actual environmental mitigation or for some other local purpose - taking excessive steps to protect against litigation and the threat of litigation.

CEQA challenges, and the threat of CEQA challenges, also undermine the ability of local governments to approve projects that carry out other important State policies such as infill development and affordable housing.

We appreciate the efforts of legislative leaders and the Governor to adopt meaningful CEQA reform. Local agencies play a critical role in CEQA and the protection of the environment. As such, we encourage you to take the interests of local decision-makers into account as you work to reform CEQA in a meaningful way.

We look forward to working with you to promote meaningful and responsible CEQA reform this year.

I agree to be publicly listed on this letter as an endorser of CEQA modernization.

Name

Title, City

Street Address

City

Zip

County

Phone Number

Email Address

Signature (Required)

Date

Please complete form and email or fax to mgamble@bcfpublicaffairs.com or 916-442-3510

CERTIFICATION
ELK GROVE CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2013-63

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO) **ss**
CITY OF ELK GROVE)

I, Jason Lindgren, City Clerk of the City of Elk Grove, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of Elk Grove at a regular meeting of said Council held on April 10, 2013 by the following vote:

AYES : COUNCILMEMBERS: *Davis, Detrick, Cooper, Hume, Trigg*

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: *None*

ABSTAIN : COUNCILMEMBERS: *None*

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: *None*


Jason Lindgren, City Clerk
City of Elk Grove, California