



## **REEDLEY CITY COUNCIL**

- ☐ Consent
- ☒ Regular Item
- ☐ Workshop
- ☐ Closed Session
- ☐ Public Hearing

ITEM NO: 8

**DATE:** October 27, 2020

**TITLE:** APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2020-089, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ACTIONS TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN LOCAL DEMOCRACY, AUTHORITY, AND CONTROL AS RELATED TO LOCAL ZONING AND HOUSING ISSUES

**APPROVED:** Nicole R. Zieba  
City Manager

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the City Council approve Resolution No. 2020-089, expressing support for strengthening local control in California.

### **BACKGROUND**

Over the last decade, the State legislature has passed numerous laws that reduce local governments' control over a variety of issues, most notably, housing and zoning. A coalition of local governments, known as "California Cities for Local Control", is coming together to advocate for restoration of local control and authority.

The League of California Cities has taken strong positions against the most extreme bills related to the usurping of local control, but is not taking a strong, active stance to promote local control on housing and zoning issues. Over the past few years, examples of housing and zoning laws which have eroded local control and authority include the establishment of Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) - numbers that cities are mandated to provide zoning for; the mandate that cities allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) on property zoned for single family homes, and the requirement that cities allow small lot sizes, regardless of how the local community feels about these items. In the last two legislative cycles, extreme laws have been proposed that would allow for multi-family units to be built on any property in a city, regardless of zoning, and that housing unit approval would be "administrative" in nature and not go to a vote of the Planning Commission or City Council for approval. Fortunately, these extreme laws have not passed. However, these laws are being brought back in various forms

each legislative cycle, indicating that the authors of these bills and other State players intend to keep bringing these, and other extreme housing and zoning bills, forward.

Resolution No 2020-089 expresses the City Council's support to retain local control over housing and zoning issues. It does not bind the City to any specific course of action, nor does it express support for any individual organization. If approved, a signed copy of the Resolution will be forwarded to the coalition of cities spearheading this effort, known as the "California Cities for Local Control".

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact to the City by approving this Resolution.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-089**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
REEDLEY EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ACTIONS TO  
FURTHER STRENGTHEN LOCAL DEMOCRACY, AUTHORITY,  
AND CONTROL AS RELATED TO LOCAL ZONING AND  
HOUSING ISSUES**

**WHEREAS**, the legislature of the State of California each year proposes, passes, and has signed into law numerous bills addressing a range of housing issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislature of the State of California does not allow sufficient time between each legislative cycle to determine if the enacted legislation is successful in bringing about the change for the State of California's housing issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of these bills usurp the authority of local jurisdictions to determine for themselves the land use policies and practices that best suit each city and its residents, and instead impose mandates that do not take into account the needs and differences of jurisdictions throughout the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, the ability of local jurisdictions to determine for themselves which projects require review beyond a ministerial approval; what parking requirements are appropriate for various neighborhoods within their jurisdiction; what plans and programs are suitable and practical for each community rather than having these decisions imposed upon cities without regard to the circumstances of each individual city; and what zoning should be allowed for residential properties is a matter of great import to the City of Reedley among other items related to local zoning and housing issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council, of the City of Reedley feels strongly that local government is best able to assess the needs of the local community and objects to the proliferations of State legislation that deprives the duly elected local body of that ability.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City Council of the City of Reedley resolves as follows:

1. The Council of the City of Reedley is opposed to the current practice of the legislature of the State of California continually proposing and passing a multitude of bills that directly impact and interfere with the ability of cities to control their own land use through the use of zoning authority that has been granted to them.
2. The City of Reedley will explore various ways to protect the ability of cities to retain local control over zoning as each individual city within the State of California is best suited to determine how the zoning in their city should be allocated in order to meet the housing needs of the community.


This foregoing resolution is hereby adopted this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Beck, Fast, Betancourt, Soleno, Pinon.


NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

  
Frank Piñon, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Sylvia Plata, City Clerk

