

RESOLUTION NO. 21-017

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

WHEREAS, each year, the State of California legislature proposes and adopts a number of bills addressing a range of housing issues; and

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

WHEREAS, the primary focus of the bills that have been proposed and adopted is to 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 root causes of the lack of affordable housing or the needs and differences of jurisdictions throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the ability of local jurisdictions to determine for themselves to determine matters such as 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, and what zoning should be applied to land in the jurisdiction rather than having these decisions imposed upon them without regard to the circumstances of each individual city and county, is a matter of great import to the City of Saratoga; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Saratoga feels strongly that our local government is best able to assess the needs of our community in a way that also respects the needs of the region and objects to the proliferation of State legislation that deprives us of that ability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Saratoga hereby resolves as follows:

1. The City of Saratoga is opposed to the current practice of the State of California legislature of continually proposing and passing multitudes of bills that directly impact and interfere with the ability of local governments to control their own destiny through the planning and zoning authority that has been granted to them.
2. The City of Saratoga will explore various ways to protect the ability of local governments to retain local control over planning and zoning as each individual city and county within the State of California is best suited to determine how the planning and zoning in their jurisdiction should be carried out to meet the housing needs of the community.

The above and foregoing resolution was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Saratoga City Council held on the 7th day of April 2021 by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Yan Zhao, Vice Mayor Tina Walia, Council Members Mary-Lynne Bernald, Kookie Fitzsimmons, Rishi Kumar

NOES:


ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Yan Zhao, Mayor

ATTEST:



Debbie Bretschneider, CMC
City Clerk

DATE: 4/15/2021