



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

(714) 741-5104

August 28, 2018

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Steven R. Jones
Mayor

Kris Beard
Mayor Pro Tem - District 1

John R. O'Neill
Council Member - District 2

Thu-Ha Nguyen
Council Member - District 3

Patrick Phat Bui
Council Member - District 4

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Council Member - District 5

Kim Bernice Nguyen
Council Member - District 6

RE: AB 448 (Daly), Joint Powers Authorities: Orange County Housing Trust—REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Garden Grove would like to express its support for AB 448, which would establish the Orange County Housing Trust, aiding in our regional efforts to address homelessness in Orange County. The homeless challenges in our communities have only increased during my time in office, and I believe the time to find solutions is long overdue. Since 2013, Orange County has experienced a 53 percent increase in the unsheltered homeless population, despite the expansion of expenditures by the cities of Orange County, the County of Orange, and our healthcare industries, which totaled nearly \$300 million in the 2014/2015 fiscal year. The establishment of a single city/county entity will bring focus to the opportunities to address the issues of homelessness and housing affordability, through a single purpose, Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement.

Additionally, the Association of California Cities—Orange County (ACC-OC) has released a detailed 2700 Permanent Supportive Housing Unit plan, which seeks to address chronic homelessness in a regionalized manner. The time to work together in addressing the homeless challenges in our communities has never been more important.

The ACC-OC 2700 Unit Plan outlines and emphasizes the possibility of accessing state funding to support these and other on-going projects. Utilizing a Housing Trust to receive and pursue state funding ensures a better chance for Orange County to capture a fair share of these available dollars, while reducing unnecessary competition between the cities. Additionally, the Orange County Housing Trust will have the ability to receive both public and private funding, the ability to bond against those funds, and service debt. Most importantly, it will accomplish these critical functions without acting as a regulator of land use or as an owner/operator of housing units, therefore preserving local control.

AB 448 (Daly), Joint Powers Authorities: Orange County Housing Trust–REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

August 28, 2018

Page 2

There are many benefits to regionalizing our work on this issue and the financial implications are too great for any single stakeholder to take on alone. The collaborative approach of the Orange County Housing Trust will ensure we are working together toward pragmatic solutions. It is for these reasons the City of Garden Grove supports AB 448.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Jones
Mayor

C: Tom Daly, Assembly Member, 69th District
Sharon Quirk-Silva, Assembly Member 65th District
Janet Nguyen, Senator, 34th District
Travis Allen, Assembly Member, 72nd District
Heather Stratman, ACC-OC
Tony Cardenas, League of California Cities
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities