

**CITY OF**

303 EAST "B" STREET, CIVIC CENTER

ONTARIO



**ONTARIO**

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PAUL S. LEON  
MAYOR

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MAYOR PRO TEM

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COUNCIL MEMBERS

February 24, 2020

SCOTT OCHOA  
CITY MANAGER

SHEILA MAUTZ  
CITY CLERK

JAMES R. MILHISER  
TREASURER

The Honorable Jim Beall  
California State Senate  
State Capitol Building, Room 2082  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Mike McGuire  
California State Senate  
State Capitol Building, Room 5061  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Portantino  
California State Senate  
State Capitol Building, Room 3086  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 795 – Notice of Support**

Dear Senators Beall, McGuire, and Portantino,

On behalf of the City of Ontario, I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 795 (Beall/McGuire/Portantino), the Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Program. This legislation gives cities the tools to improve communities while acknowledging the need for flexible funding to spur housing construction and revitalize communities.

The elimination of redevelopment in 2011 created a huge deficit in revitalization resources throughout California, including an annual loss of \$1 billion in funding for low- and moderate- income housing. Senate Bill 795 would create a new local-State partnership to provide up to \$2 billion annually to fund State approved affordable housing, infrastructure, and economic development projects that also support State policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, expand transit oriented development (TOD), address poverty, and revitalize neighborhoods.

The City of Ontario has been extremely active in searching for alternative funding sources to revitalize our Downtown, increase housing opportunities at all income levels, and incentivize businesses to bring jobs into our City. However, since funding is scarce and competition is fierce, securing investment has been difficult. If fairly distributed, Senate Bill 795 can help kick-start a wave of investment for the Inland Empire region and help cities achieve the various goals set by the State.

With a multi-billion dollar budget surplus, the time is right for the State to restore more robust financing mechanisms that support local efforts to build more affordable housing, provide essential infrastructure, and create opportunities in underserved communities.

For these reasons, the City of Ontario strongly supports Senate Bill 795.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul S. Leon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Paul S. Leon  
Mayor

c: The Honorable Senator Connie M. Leyva  
The Honorable Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez