



June 30, 2023

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
State Assembly, Housing and Community Development Committee
1020 N Street, Room 156
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Senate Bill 747 – Surplus Land – Support (As Amended on May 18, 2023)

Dear Chair Wicks:

The City of Santa Rosa is pleased to support SB 747 (Caballero), which contains much needed clarifications and reforms to the Surplus Land Act (SLA) and reaffirms the role of existing Economic Opportunity Law that is used by local agencies to acquire and dispose of property to improve economic opportunities for local residents.

NATALIE ROGERS
Mayor

DIANNA MACDONALD
Vice Mayor

EDDIE ALVAREZ
VICTORIA FLEMING
JEFF OKREPKIE
CHRIS ROGERS
MARK STAPP

The implementation of the SLA, including recent guidelines by the Housing and Community Development Department, has created immense delays and difficulties for local government agencies dealing with the use of their properties to further housing and economic development goals in service of their residents. SB 747 addresses these concerns through an array of helpful changes to the SLA, including clarifying that only leases of less than 35 years are subject to the SLA, providing exemptions to assist transit, transit oriented development, and avoiding delays for affordable housing developments which comply with the SLA's affordability requirements.

Thank you for your leadership in beginning to apply a sharper legislative focus on the application of the SLA to ensure that the administration of the law remains consistent with legislative intent and avoids unintended delays or conflicts with other laws and policy priorities the Legislature has enacted, including actions to support and further economic development.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support SB 747. Should you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate Dane Hutchings with Renne Public Policy Group at (916) 974-9270.

Sincerely,

Natalie Rogers, Mayor