

February 18, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

We are united in our opposition of your budget proposal to dissolve community redevelopment agencies in California.

The San Jose Redevelopment Agency has lived up to the expectations of our community. It is a fact that our Agency - governed by the San Jose City Council - has significantly contributed to the creation of permanent and construction jobs, leveraged private investments, built affordable and market rate housing, and eliminated blight in San Jose over the past three decades. Some significant achievements of the Agency are highlighted below:

- Invested over \$500 million in public infrastructure improvements that retained and attracted over 110,000 permanent jobs in our Downtown, Industrial Areas and Neighborhood Business Districts;
- Stimulated an estimated \$21 billion in private investments on a \$3 billion investment by the Agency in Redevelopment Project Areas; and
- Built or rehabilitated over 21,000 affordable housing units with 20% funds totaling \$835 million and over 9,500 market rate housing units.

We agree with your goal to make California a leader in job creation. We appreciate the State's fiscal challenges and understand you want to "rise to the occasion, do what is right and regain the public's trust." We don't agree that eliminating redevelopment - our primary tool for job creation and supply of affordable housing - is doing what is right.

Please re-consider your proposal. Competition with other states and countries to retain and attract jobs is fierce. Supplying affordable housing is challenging. Preserving our quality of life and providing services to our residents are difficult. Redevelopment helps us to do all these things and eliminating it would be a big mistake.

While we respectfully disagree on the elimination of redevelopment, we are certainly open to a dialog regarding reforms to redevelopment to assure that San José continues to be competitive in this global environment.

We thank you for your positive consideration of our position on redevelopment.

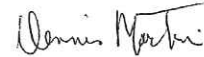
Sincerely,



Chuck Reed  
Mayor



Pat Dando  
San Jose/Silicon Valley  
Chamber of Commerce



Dennis Martin  
NAIOP SV Chapter



Scott Knies  
San José Downtown Association



Crisand Giles  
Home Builders Association



Robert Jacobvitz  
BOMA Silicon Valley



Eric Fox  
Association of Silicon  
Valley Brokers



Enrique L. Fernandez  
UNITE HERE, Local 19



Linder Jones  
American Institute of  
Architects

C:

Assembly Member Bob Wieckowski  
Assembly Member Richard Gordon  
Assembly Member Paul Fong  
Assembly Member Nora Campos  
Assembly Member Jim Beall, Jr.  
Assembly Member Bill Monning  
Assembly Member Luis A. Alejo  
Senator Ellen Corbett  
Senator Joe Simitian  
Senator Elaine Alquist  
Senator Sam Blakeslee