

City of Calistoga

Staff Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Dylan Feik, City Manager
DATE: June 20, 2017
SUBJECT: Consideration of authorization for Mayor Canning to send a letter of support for legislation for providing funding for affordable housing and public infrastructure projects through bill ACA 4.

APPROVAL FOR FORWARDING:



Dylan Feik, City Manager

1 **ISSUE:** Consideration of authorization for Mayor Canning to send a letter of support for
2 legislation for providing funding for affordable housing and public infrastructure projects
3 through bill ACA 4.
4

5 **RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize Mayor Canning to send letter.
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7 **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:** California State Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-
8 Curry is sponsoring a bill which proposes to lower the voter threshold requirements for
9 special taxes by a local government for affordable housing and public infrastructure
10 projects. The voter threshold is currently 66% and approval of this proposal would
11 reduce that threshold to 55% approval for affordable housing and public infrastructure
12 projects. Statewide, infrastructure needs and high costs of housing continue to demand
13 widespread and urgent action. The intent of this bill provides local communities
14 additional flexibility when addressing these issues (affordable housing and public
15 infrastructure).
16

17 **FISCAL IMPACT:** None.
18

19 **ATTACHMENTS:**

- 20 1. City of Calistoga Letter of Support for ACA 4 (Aguiar-Curry)



CITY OF CALISTOGA

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June 20, 2017

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 5144
Sacramento, CA 95814

ACA 4 (Aguiar-Curry). Local government financing: Affordable housing and public infrastructure: voter approval

Notice of SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Aguiar – Curry,

The city of Calistoga is please to support your bill, ACA 4, which would lower the voter threshold requirements for special taxes by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for affordable housing and public infrastructure projects from 2/3rds approval to 55% approval.

As you know, local governments have widespread and urgent infrastructure needs and the high cost of housing in the state is well-documented. Local communities need additional flexibility to promote the development of affordable housing close to jobs and to continue to provide critical infrastructure for a better quality of life.

ACA 4 provides the voters an opportunity to consider treating investments in local infrastructure and affordable housing in a similar manner as schools. California voters have demonstrated--through their past approval of major state school, housing, and water bonds--that they understand the importance of investing in their future.

Thank you for your leadership and let's pass ACA 4 to provide voters with an opportunity to weigh in on local investments on infrastructure and affordable housing -- issues that are so critical to the state's future, prosperity and quality of life.

For these reasons, the City of Calistoga supports ACA 4 (Aguiar-Curry).

Sincerely,

Chris Canning, Mayor
City of Calistoga

cc: Senator Bill Dodd
Nancy Hall Bennett, League of CA Cities, nbennett@cacities.org
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, mdesmond@cacities.org