

Submitter: Matthew Sprague

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1529

I've been a land use planner for 32 years and I've seen the massive changes in requirements for development and housing. As a state and local jurisdictions we are making it harder and harder to provide needed housing. For example, 25 years ago we could address relevant code provisions in a 20 to 25 page document. Today it takes a document exceeding 100 or 150 pages. We've created this problem for ourselves thinking we always need to be addressing the lowest common denominator which is the wrong way to go about it.

High fees and SDCs are a substantial issue when it comes to affordable housing. Jurisdictions are unwilling to participate in addressing these extraordinary high costs. Additionally, jurisdictions have fought against housebill 2001 through the development and implementation of unworkable code provisions effectively discouraging middle housing. The state needs to take a strong position on these jurisdictions so that the intent of the law can be recognized.

I urge you to look and see what the jurisdictions have done to countermand the state's housing goals and its people.

Feel free to reach out to me for a discussion. I personally think the governors' choices for committee members are the wrong people to get to the heart of the matter.

Sincerely.,

Matt Sprague