

ITEM 5

EXHIBIT 4

HOUSING BILLS OF HIGHER IMPACT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DIGESTS AB 115, SB 9, SB 10, SB 12, & SB 55



Bill Information

California Law

Publications

Other Resources

My Subscriptions

My Favorites

AB-115 Planning and zoning: commercial zoning: housing development. (2021-2022)

SHARE THIS:



Date Published: 12/18/2020 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 115

Introduced by Assembly Member Bloom

December 18, 2020

An act to add and repeal Section 65583.7 of the Government Code, relating to land use.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 115, as introduced, Bloom. Planning and zoning: commercial zoning: housing development.

Existing law, the Planning and Zoning Law, requires that the legislative body of each county and each city adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the county and city, and specified land outside its boundaries, that includes, among other mandatory elements, a housing element. Existing law authorizes the legislative body of any county or city, pursuant to specified procedures, to adopt ordinances that, among other things, regulate the use of buildings, structures, and land as between industry, business, residences, open space, and other purposes.

This bill, notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of a city's or county's general plan, specific plan, zoning ordinance, or regulation, would require that a housing development be an authorized use on a site designated in any local agency's zoning code or maps for commercial uses if certain conditions apply. Among these conditions, the bill would require that the housing development be subject to a recorded deed restriction requiring that at least 20% of the units have an affordable housing cost or affordable rent for lower income households, as those terms are defined, and located on a site that satisfies specified criteria.

The bill would require the city or county to apply certain height, density, and floor area ratio standards to a housing development that meets these criteria. The bill would deem a housing development consistent, compliant, and in conformity with local development standards, zoning codes or maps, and general plan if it meets the requirements of the bill. The bill would require a jurisdiction to comply with these requirements only until it has completed the rezoning, required as described above, for the 6th revision of its housing element. The bill would repeal these provisions as of January 1, 2031.

The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

By adding to the duties of local planning officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes



Bill Information

California Law

Publications

Other Resources

My Subscriptions

My Favorites

SB-9 Housing development: approvals. (2021-2022)



Date Published: 12/07/2020 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 9

Introduced by Senators Atkins, Caballero, Rubio, and Wiener (Coauthors: Senators Gonzalez and McGuire) (Coauthor: Assembly Member Robert Rivas)

December 07, 2020

An act to amend Section 66452.6 of, and to add Sections 65852.21 and 66411.7 to, the Government Code, relating to land use.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 9, as introduced, Atkins. Housing development: approvals.

The Planning and Zoning Law provides for the creation of accessory dwelling units by local ordinance, or, if a local agency has not adopted an ordinance, by ministerial approval, in accordance with specified standards and conditions.

This bill, among other things, would require a proposed housing development containing 2 residential units within a single-family residential zone to be considered ministerially, without discretionary review or hearing, if the proposed housing development meets certain requirements, including, but not limited to, that the proposed housing development would not require demolition or alteration of housing that is subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of moderate, low, or very low income, that the proposed housing development does not allow for the demolition of more than 25% of the existing exterior structural walls, except as provided, and that the development is not located within a historic district, is not included on the State Historic Resources Inventory, or is not within a site that is legally designated or listed as a city or county landmark or historic property or district.

The bill would set forth what a local agency can and cannot require in approving the construction of 2 residential units, including, but not limited to, authorizing a city or county to impose objective zoning standards, objective subdivision standards, and objective design standards, as defined, unless those standards would have the effect of physically precluding the construction of up to 2 units, prohibiting the imposition of setback requirements under certain circumstances, and setting maximum setback requirements under all other circumstances.

The Subdivision Map Act vests the authority to regulate and control the design and improvement of subdivisions in the legislative body of a local agency and sets forth procedures governing the local agency's processing, approval, conditional approval or disapproval, and filing of tentative, final, and parcel maps, and the modification of those maps. Under the Subdivision Map Act, an approved or conditionally approved tentative map expires 24 months after its approval or conditional approval or after any additional period of time as prescribed by local ordinance, not to exceed an additional 12 months, except as provided.

This bill, among other things, would require a city or county to ministerially approve a parcel map or tentative and final map for an urban lot split that meets certain requirements, including, but not limited to, that the urban lot split would not require the demolition or alteration of housing that is subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of moderate, low, or very low income, that the parcel is located within a residential zone, and that the parcel is not located within a historic district, is not included on the State Historic Resources Inventory, or is not within a site that is legally designated or listed as a city or county landmark or historic property or district.

The bill would set forth what a local agency can and cannot require in approving an urban lot split, including, but not limited to, authorizing a city or county to impose objective zoning standards, objective subdivision standards, and objective design standards, as defined, unless those standards would have the effect of physically precluding the construction of 2 units on either of the resulting parcels, prohibiting the imposition of setback requirements under certain circumstances, and setting maximum setback requirements under all other circumstances.

The bill would also extend the limit on the additional period that may be provided by ordinance, as described above, from 12 months to 24 months and would make other conforming or nonsubstantive changes.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment. CEQA does not apply to the approval of ministerial projects.

This bill, by establishing the ministerial review processes described above, would thereby exempt the approval of projects subject to those processes from CEQA.

The California Coastal Act of 1976 provides for the planning and regulation of development, under a coastal development permit process, within the coastal zone, as defined, that shall be based on various coastal resources planning and management policies set forth in the act.

This bill would exempt a local government from being required to hold public hearings for coastal development permit applications for housing developments and urban lot splits pursuant to the above provisions.

By increasing the duties of local agencies with respect to land use regulations, the bill would impose a statemandated local program.

The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes



Bill Information

California Law

Publications

Other Resources

My Subscriptions

My Favorites

SB-10 Planning and zoning: housing development: density. (2021-2022)

SHARE THIS:



Date Published: 02/24/2021 09:00 PM

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 24, 2021

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 10

Introduced by Senator Wiener (Principal coauthors: Senators Atkins and Caballero) (Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Robert Rivas)

December 07, 2020

An act to add Section 65913.5 to the Government Code, relating to land use.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 10, as amended, Wiener. Planning and zoning: housing development: density.

The Planning and Zoning Law requires a city or county to adopt a general plan for land use development within its boundaries that includes, among other things, a housing element. Existing law requires an attached housing development to be a permitted use, not subject to a conditional use permit, on any parcel zoned for multifamily housing if at least certain percentages of the units are available at affordable housing costs to very low income, lower income, and moderate-income households for at least 30 years and if the project meets specified conditions relating to location and being subject to a discretionary decision other than a conditional use permit. Existing law provides for various incentives intended to facilitate and expedite the construction of affordable housing.

This bill would, notwithstanding any local restrictions on adopting zoning ordinances, authorize a local government to pass an ordinance to zone any parcel for up to 10 units of residential density per parcel, at a height specified in the ordinance, if the parcel is located in a transit-rich area, a jobs-rich area, or an urban infill site, as those terms are defined. In this regard, the bill would require the Department of Housing and Community Development, in consultation with the Office of Planning and Research, to determine jobs-rich areas and publish a map of those areas every 5 years, commencing January 1, 2022, 2023, based on specified criteria. The bill would specify that an ordinance adopted under these provisions provisions, and any resolution adopted to amend the jurisdiction's General Plan to be consistent with that ordinance, is not a project for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act. The bill would prohibit a residential or mixed-use residential project consisting of 10 or more units that is located on a parcel rezoned pursuant to these provisions from being approved ministerially or by right.

This bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no



Bill Information

California Law

Publications

Other Resources My Subscriptions

My Favorites

SB-12 Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires. (2021-2022)



Date Published: 12/07/2020 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 12

Introduced by Senator McGuire (Coauthors: Senators Atkins, Caballero, and Dodd)

December 07, 2020

An act to amend Sections 65007, 65302, 65584, 65584.04, and 65584.06 of, and to add Sections 65011, 65012, 65013, 65040.18, 65302.11, 65860.2, 65865.6, 65962.3, and 66474.03 to, the Government Code, to amend Section 13132.7 of the Health and Safety Code, and to amend Section 4290 of, and to add Section 4123.6 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to local government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 12, as introduced, McGuire. Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires.

(1) The Planning and Zoning Law requires the legislative body of a city or county to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan that includes various elements, including, among others, a housing element and a safety element for the protection of the community from unreasonable risks associated with the effects of various geologic and seismic hazards, flooding, and wildland and urban fires. Existing law requires the housing element to be revised according to a specific schedule. Existing law requires the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, but not less than once every 8 years to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element.

Existing law requires that the Office of Planning and Research, among other things, coordinate with appropriate entities, including state, regional, or local agencies, to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities, as provided.

This bill would require the safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element or the hazard mitigation plan, on or after July 1, 2024, whichever occurs first, to be reviewed and updated as necessary to include a comprehensive retrofit strategy to reduce the risk of property loss and damage during wildfires, as specified, and would require the planning agency to submit the adopted strategy to the Office of Planning and Research for inclusion into the above-described clearinghouse. The bill would also require the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard

mitigation plan, but not less than once every 8 years, to identify new information relating to retrofit updates applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element. By increasing the duties of local officials, this bill would create a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law requires the general plan to include a land use element that designates the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of the land for, among other purposes, housing, business, and industry. Existing law additionally requires the general plan to include a housing element and requires each local government to review and revise its housing element, as specified.

This bill would require a city or county that contains a very high fire risk area, as defined, upon each revision of the housing element on or after July 1, 2024, to amend the land use element of its general plan to contain, among other things, the locations of all very high fire risk areas within the city or county and feasible implementation measures designed to carry out specified goals, objectives, and policies relating to the protection of lives and property from unreasonable risk of wildfire. The bill would require the city or county to complete a review of, and make findings related to, wildfire risk reduction standards, as defined, upon each subsequent revision of the housing element, as provided. The bill would require the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to review the findings and make recommendations, as provided.

The bill would additionally require the Office of the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the Office of Planning and Research and the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, by January 1, 2023, to adopt wildfire risk reduction standards that meet certain requirements and reasonable standards for third-party inspection and certifications for a specified enforcement program. The bill would also require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to, by January 1, 2024, update the maps of the very high fire hazard severity zones, as specified. The bill would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to convene a working group of stakeholders, as specified, to assist in this effort and to consider specified national standards.

Existing law requires county or city zoning ordinances to be consistent with the general plan of the county or city, as specified.

This bill would require a city or county that contains a very high fire risk area, within 12 months following the amendment of the city or county's land use element, to adopt a very high fire risk overlay zone or otherwise amend its zoning ordinance so that it is consistent with the general plan, as specified.

This bill would additionally prohibit the legislative body of a city or county that contains a very high fire risk area, upon the effective date of the revision of the city or county's land use element, from entering into a development agreement for property that is located within a very high fire risk area, approving specified discretionary permits or other discretionary entitlements for projects located within a very high fire risk area, or approving a tentative map or a parcel map for which a tentative map was not required for a subdivision that is located within a very high fire risk area, unless the city or county makes specified findings based on substantial evidence in the record,

By increasing the duties of local officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(3) Existing law requires the Department of Housing and Community Development, in consultation with each council of governments, to determine each region's existing and projected housing need, as provided. Existing law requires each council of governments, or the department for cities and counties without a council of governments, to adopt a final regional housing need plan that allocates a share of the regional housing need to each city, county, or city and county and that furthers specified objectives.

This bill would require the regional housing needs allocation plan to additionally further the objective of reducing development pressure within very high fire risk areas.

(4) Existing law requires the council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable, to develop a proposed methodology for distributing the existing and projected regional housing need and, to the extent that sufficient data is available as provided, to include specified factors to develop the methodology that allocates regional housing needs, including, among other factors, the rate of overcrowding.

This bill would additionally require the council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable, to include within those factors for the seventh and subsequent revisions of the housing element, the amount of land in each member jurisdiction that is within a very high fire risk area by allocating a lower proportion of housing if the council of governments or delegate subregion determines, based on specified factors, that it is likely that the jurisdiction would otherwise need to identify lands within a very high fire risk area as adequate sites in order to meet its housing need allocation.

For cities and counties without a council of governments, existing law requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to determine and distribute the existing and projected housing need, unless that responsibility is delegated as provided to cities and counties, based upon available data and in consultation with the cities and counties, taking into consideration, among other things, the availability of suitable sites and public facilities.

This bill would also require the department, for the seventh and subsequent revisions of the housing element, to take into consideration the amount of land in each city and each county that is within a very high fire risk area, as defined, by allocating a lower proportion of housing if the department determines, based on specified factors, that it is likely that the jurisdiction would otherwise need to identify lands within a very high fire risk area as adequate sites in order to meet its housing need allocation.

By increasing the duties of local officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(5) Existing law requires the Office of Planning and Research to implement various long-range planning and research policies and goals that are intended to, among other things, encourage the formation and proper functioning of local entities and, in connection with those responsibilities, to adopt guidelines for the preparation and content of the mandatory elements required in city and county general plans.

This bill would require the Office of Planning and Research, on or before January 1, 2023, in collaboration with cities and counties, to identify local ordinances, policies, and best practices relating to land use planning in very high fire risk areas, wildfire risk reduction, and wildfire preparedness and publish these resources on the above-described clearinghouse, as specified.

(6) Existing law requires, until the 2023–24 fiscal year, the amount of \$165,000,000 to be appropriated from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for healthy forest and fire prevention programs and projects that improve forest health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by uncontrolled wildfires.

This bill would establish the Wildfire Risk Reduction Planning Support Grants Program, administered by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, for the purpose of providing small jurisdictions, as defined, containing very high fire hazard risk areas with grants for specified planning activities to enable those jurisdictions to meet the requirements set forth in the bill, as described above. Upon appropriation, the bill would require the department to distribute grant funds under the program via a noncompetitive, over-the-counter process, as provided, to small jurisdictions. The bill would require a recipient small jurisdiction to use the allocation solely for wildfire risk reduction planning activities, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to set aside up to 5% of any amount appropriated for these purposes for program administration.

(7) Existing law requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to adopt regulations implementing minimum fire safety standards that are applicable to lands classified and designated as very high fire hazard severity zones, and requires the regulations to apply to the perimeters and access to all residential, commercial, and industrial building construction within lands classified and designated as very high fire hazard severity zones, as defined, after July 1, 2021.

This bill would specify that the above-described regulations apply to the perimeters and access from the perimeters to all residential, commercial, and industrial building construction within lands classified and designated as very high fire hazard severity zones. The bill would also require the regulations to conform as nearly as practicable with specified existing regulations adopted by the State Fire Marshal.

(8) Existing law requires a common interest development within a very high fire severity zone to allow an owner to install or repair a roof with at least one type of fire retardant roof covering material that meets specified requirements.

This bill would require the one type of fire retardant roof covering material to additionally meet, at a minimum, class B standards, as specified in the International Building Code.

(9) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes



Bill Information

California Law

Publications

Other Resources

My Subscriptions

My Favorites

SB-55 Very high fire hazard severity zone: state responsibility area: development prohibition. (2021-2022)



Date Published: 12/07/2020 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE-2021-2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 55

Introduced by Senators Stern and Allen

December 07, 2020

An act to add Section 51182.5 to the Government Code, relating to land use.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 55, as introduced, Stern. Very high fire hazard severity zone: state responsibility area: development prohibition.

Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection to identify areas of the state as very high fire hazard severity zones based on specified criteria. Existing law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, very high hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the director. Existing law authorizes a local agency to include areas within its jurisdiction not identified as very high fire hazard severity zones by the director as very high fire hazard severity zones following a specified finding supported by substantial evidence.

Existing law requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to determine, based on specified criteria, whether an area of the state is one for which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires is primarily the responsibility of the state. Existing law refers to these areas as "state responsibility areas."

This bill would, in furtherance of specified state housing production and wildfire mitigation goals, prohibit the creation or approval of a new development, as defined, in a very high fire hazard severity zone or a state responsibility area. By imposing new duties on local governments with respect to the approval of new developments in very high fire hazard severity zones and state responsibility areas, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

- (i) The tract is high opportunity, meaning its characteristics are associated with positive educational and economic outcomes for households of all income levels residing in the tract.
- (ii) The tract meets either of the following criteria:
- (I) New housing sited in the tract would enable residents to live near more jobs than is typical for tracts in the region.
- (II) New housing sited in the tract would enable shorter commute distances for residents, relative to existing commute patterns and jobs-housing fit.
- (B) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall, commencing on January 1, 2022, 2023, publish and update, every five years thereafter, a map of the state showing the areas identified by the department as "jobs-rich areas." The department shall begin with the most current version of the Department of Housing and Community Development and California Tax Credit Allocation Committee Opportunity Maps and update the methodology as it determines is appropriate to advance the goals of subparagraph (A).
- (3) "Transit-rich area" means a parcel within one-half mile of a major transit stop, as defined in Section 21064.3 of the Public Resources Code, or a parcel on a high-quality bus corridor.
- (4) "Urban infill site" means a site that satisfies all of the following:
- (A) A site that is a legal parcel or parcels located in a city if, and only if, the city boundaries include some portion of either an urbanized area or urban cluster, as designated by the United States Census Bureau, or, for unincorporated areas, a legal parcel or parcels wholly within the boundaries of an urbanized area or urban cluster, as designated by the United States Census Bureau.
- (B) A site in which at least 75 percent of the perimeter of the site adjoins parcels that are developed with urban uses. For the purposes of this section, parcels that are only separated by a street or highway shall be considered to be adjoined.
- (C) A site that is zoned for residential use or residential mixed-use development, or has a general plan designation that allows residential use or a mix of residential and nonresidential uses, with at least two-thirds of the square footage of the development designated for residential use.
- (d) The Legislature finds and declares that ensuring the adequate production of affordable housing is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, this section applies to all cities, including charter cities.