

# ATTACHMENT

For Item

#1

Wednesday,  
September 15, 2021

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE  
CLERK OF THE BOARD



September 15 , 2021

The Hon. Nathan Fletcher, Chair  
San Diego County Board of Supervisors  
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335 San Diego CA 92102

**RE: Item # 1 NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDER RESCINDING THE TRANSPORTATION STUDY GUIDE IMPLEMENTING VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED ANALYSIS IN THE UNINCORPORATED REGION**

Dear Chairperson Fletcher and Members of the Board:

The San Diego Housing Coalition (SDHC) understands the serious housing shortage facing the County of San Diego. As we transition to increase our housing stock to meet our goals, it is critical that we truly prioritize our community and address issues of equity and access, sustainability, as well as health and wellness. Our organization is a strong advocate for smart neighborhoods that promote home ownership and rental opportunities along with a high quality of life for households of a variety of income levels. It is extremely important for the County to adopt policies which support increasing the housing stock instead of hindering its growth. On Wednesday September 15<sup>th</sup>, you'll be making a decision over VMT that will greatly impact the County's ability to reach its regional needs goals for households of all income levels and affect residential projects that are already in the pipeline.

Our organization is grateful for the tireless work we have witnessed from you all, as well as County staff in working towards being compliant with SB 743. However, it is our hope that this Board of Supervisors will reconsider making any decision that will impede the construction of homes in the County. The people most impacted by the lack of clear guidance are future homeowners and renters who will benefit substantially from an increase in our region's housing stock. As stated in today's board letter, "six proposed residential projects and one proposed mixed-use project that are currently going through the County's discretionary process meet the unincorporated average but would not meet a regional average." The inability for these projects to move forward is incredibly concerning. Additionally, as written, adopting this policy would also place an additional burden for projects to develop their own threshold and provide additional information that will likely increase the cost of building in San Diego significantly.

We understand this is a complicated policy issue and the presentation of today's item is a result of more than a year of diligent work from County staff, as well as several stakeholders. Nonetheless, a decision on something so crucial for the future of our community should not be rushed into. We urge you to postpone the recindment of the Transporation Study Guide until there is suitable replacement.

Respectfully,

Melinda Vasquez  
San Diego Housing Coalition, Chair