

Building Industry Association of Southern California, Inc.
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER



December 18, 2020

Mayor Harry Sidhu
Anaheim City Council
200 S. Anaheim Blvd
Anaheim, CA 92805

RE: Zoning Code Amendment – Parking Update

On behalf of our membership, **I write to state our concern with any increase to the existing parking standards in the City of Anaheim.**

The Building Industry Association of Orange County (BIA/OC) is a non-profit trade association of over 1,100 member companies employing over 100,000 people affiliated with the home building industry. Our mission is to champion housing as the foundation of vibrant and sustainable communities.

Parking requirements have an immediate and significant impact on construction costs, especially when land values across the region are at a premium. Studies have shown that parking spaces can be upwards of \$20,000 each to plan and build, a cost driver that only adds unnecessary expenses to constructing a home.

As all are aware, the entire globe has been thrust into the middle of a pandemic. Residents around the Country, but especially in California, are being asked to self-quarantine and by extension, limit their access to work.

The economic impact of this pandemic will take years to fully comprehend. Therefore, it is with great concern we see a proposal that could limit not only development and building in general, but developable land for much needed housing units.

Such limitations will directly hamstring business operations at the very moment increased flexibility and deregulation is needed to spur our economy.

Developers and Builders create a product based on market demand, potential buyers, and location, taking into account the very real issue of parking. In looking at the staff report, especially as it relates to tandem parking, Anaheim will be one of the strictest in Orange County. This is at a time when Anaheim's housing committee, led by Councilmember Trevor O'Neil, just recently created and approved a proactive and business friendly planning document to encourage attainable and affordable development in the City. Increasing these standards will only add cost to development, contradicting the basic principles of the Housing Committee's forward-thinking document.

As I have stated in my previous letters, now is not the time to focus on where cars should live. We should be focusing on where people should live. We are still in a housing crisis, one that has been exacerbated by stay at home orders. People need housing, especially housing that is attainable.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER
STEVE LA MOTTE

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. LaMotte', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven C. LaMotte

Executive Officer

Building Industry Association, Southern California, Orange County Chapter