

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2019

BIAOC Working For YOU!

OC Supervisor Special Election

As previously reported, the Special Election to fill the Orange County Board of Supervisor's District 3 seat will take place on March 12th. Mail-in ballots have already been distributed and the campaign has entered the home stretch. Three candidates remain at the forefront of this election, Mayor Don Wagner of Irvine, former Councilwoman Kris Murray of Anaheim and former Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez. This is a winner-take-all race, so a single vote could potentially determine the outcome.

BIA/OC is continuing to monitor this election and meet with the leading candidates as the election draws near. A full recap of this election will be included in the March newsletter so stay tuned!



County Assessor

BIA/OC's work with the County Assessor continues. As previously reported, a recent change in operations occurred causing concern. The processing of parcel segregation requests could potentially be delayed in relation to the current approach. For more information on this rapidly evolving issue, please contact Adam Wood at awood@biaoc.com.



La Habra Update

A decision was reached in the on-going La Habra situation. A great deal of time in January and February was dedicated to addressing the NIMBY efforts to erode private property rights and stop development of new single-family homes on a golf course property. A NIMBY campaign qualified a no-growth initiative and attempted to force the city council into adopting the language as an ordinance, exposing the city to litigation and denying approximately 89% of La Habra citizens from having a voice on the matter. Through hard work and determined effort, the Council was provided enough information to understand the need to hold an election on this matter and considering the current disinformation circulating in the community, schedule that election for 2020 so the facts of the matter may come to light.



For more information, please contact Adam Wood at awood@biaoc.com.

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Santa Ana Project – The Addington

A decision, of sorts, was reached on The Addington project in Santa Ana. As reported and presented to our Urban Infill Committee, The Addington was slated to be a 496-unit project located across from the Discovery Cube near the 5 freeway. This project was important to the community as it would provide much needed housing opportunity near job centers and would bring new life to the areas around the Main Place Mall.

Despite the importance of the project as designed, Council elected to send this project back to the Planning Commission for further review and amendment. This came after two council hearings were held on the project, both stretching late into the night. At both council meetings, hundreds upon hundreds of individuals turned out to protest the construction of housing in their community and further demonstrated the challenges facing the development community in Orange County. BIA/OC will continue to monitor this project and all those like it to ensure fair hearings are held and that much needed housing stock is added to all communities in the region.

For more information please contact Adam Wood at awood@biaoc.com.



Government Affairs Committee – February Meeting

BIA/OC's Government Affairs Committee held another great meeting in February where we heard from newly elected Mayor-Pro-Tem Dan Bane of San Clemente. Many development challenges exist in South County and significant infrastructure projects are under consideration. The Mayor-Pro-Tem shared his views on the future of San Clemente and the region in general.

Each month the BIA hears from influential members of the community in a format that allows direct access to decision makers. If you are interested in joining these meetings, offered as a free benefit of membership, please contact Adam Wood at awood@biaoc.com.



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BIA/OC in Sacramento

BIA/OC traveled to Sacramento this month to participate in the CBIA Winter Governance and Government Affairs meetings. In depth updates on housing policy and CEQA reform dominated the discussion with a tone of hope coming out of the Capitol. Serious reforms are necessary to hit the housing production levels identified by the Governor and BIA/OC is excited to have a seat at the table in shaping the reforms necessary to keep our members building.

To that end, BIA/OC staff was joined by Orange County Assemblyman Tyler Diep and BIA/OC Board Member Alan B to discuss the latest developments across the state. California has a massive housing shortage and this year stands to be the start of resolving this growing crisis.

For more information on the latest from Sacramento, please contact Adam Wood at awood@biaoc.com.



Pictured left to right: BIAOC EC Member Alan Boudreau, Boudreau Pipeline Corporation; BIAOC Director of Government Affairs, Adam Wood; Assemblyman Tyler Diep; BIAOC VP of Operations, Laura Barber; and BIAOC Executive Officer, Steve LaMotte