

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

**July 17, 2018**

**Support for AB 987- Sports and Entertainment Project in the City of Inglewood**

While the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was originally designed to allow agencies to identify the potential environmental impacts of proposed projects and to reduce those environmental impacts to the extent feasible, in application, CEQA has, at times, been improperly used by project opponents as a tactical tool to delay projects. Recognizing this, the California State Legislature has repeatedly granted exemptions to CEQA for specific, large-scale projects across the State to expedite the environmental review process. These projects foster economic development and generate jobs and revenue for the region. Examples of this type of initiative include the recently completed Kings Arena in Sacramento as well as the proposed Farmers Field football stadium in downtown Los Angeles.

AB 987 (Kamlager-Dove) similarly proposes expedited administrative and judicial review procedures for the administrative and judicial review of the environmental impact report and approvals granted for a project related to the development of a specified sports and entertainment project in the City of Inglewood.

The Los Angeles Clippers National Basketball Association’s (NBA) basketball team has expressed a desire to move to the City of Inglewood and construct a state-of-the-art basketball arena adjacent to the new location for the National Football League’s Los Angeles Rams Inglewood stadium; however this potential move requires that the new arena be available for the 2024 NBA season. AB 987 seeks to provide to the new

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Clippers arena CEQA streamlining relief equivalent to what was granted to the new Sacramento Kings arena and the new Golden State Warriors arena in San Francisco.

AB 987 seeks to provide the same 270-day expedited judicial review, which has been granted to other arena/stadium projects. In addition, AB 987 requires that the project attain at least a LEED Gold rating within one year of the completion of the first NBA season, achieve a reduction in the arena's operational emissions of greenhouse gases, be subject to a project labor agreement and have a transportation management plan.

In recent years, the County of Los Angeles (County) has taken positions on a number of bills which would streamline CEQA compliance or which would have provided narrow and tailored exemptions for specific projects such as SB 52 in 2012, relating to the Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2011, the County-sponsored AB 1486 (Chapter 690, Statutes of 2012) relating to the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS), and the County-sponsored AB 239, which would provide urban counties with the same authority that cities are afforded under current law to exempt infill (affordable and other housing) projects from CEQA. Support for AB 987 would similarly ensure a comprehensive and streamlined environmental analysis, consistent with the County's position on the aforementioned bills. In addition, last year, the County's Board of Supervisors (Board) supported Senate Bill 789 (Bradford), which proposed to streamline the timeline for environmental review of the Inglewood Sports and Entertainment Project.

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**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Sacramento advocates to support AB 987 (Kamlager-Dove) to foster economic development and generate employment and revenue in the Inglewood region of the County of Los Angeles by streamlining the California Environmental Quality Act process for the proposed basketball stadium to host the Los Angeles Clippers' basketball organization.

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