



# STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM NO: 5a

MEETING DATE: April 27, 2019

**To: Honorable Mayor, City Council, and Planning Commission**

**Date: April 27, 2019**

**From: Kevin Gardiner, Community Development Director – (650) 558-7253**

**Subject: CASA Compact and Ongoing Developments in California Housing Law**

## **BACKGROUND**

On April 1, 2019, the City Council held a study session to discuss the CASA Compact and ongoing developments in California housing law (staff report, exhibits, and meeting minutes attached). At the conclusion of the study session, the City Council directed staff to prepare letters for the City Council to consider addressing the CASA Compact and SB 50. The letters would address matters that concern the City Council, but also the matters that the Council supports such as the “Calls for Action” in the CASA Compact.

## **DISCUSSION**

The CASA Compact is intended to address the jobs/housing imbalance and housing affordability challenges in the Bay Area. While recent years have been defined by particularly dramatic jobs/housing imbalances, the situation has been developing for several decades as housing production has not kept pace with employment growth in the Bay Area as well as many other areas of the state.

[SB 50 \(State Sen. Scott Weiner\)](#) is one piece of legislation that implements aspects of the CASA Compact. Beyond SB 50, more than two hundred additional bills implementing various elements of the CASA Compact have been introduced by State Legislators in the current session. The April 1, 2019 study session staff report outlines some of the key legislation, as well as a staff analysis of how SB 50 would impact Burlingame. Additionally, an infographic created by Bay Area artist and designer Alfred Twu providing an overview of key legislation is attached for reference.

Because of the interrelationship between SB 50 and the CASA Compact, staff has prepared a single letter addressing both for the City Council to consider. A draft of the letter is attached. As currently written, the letter highlights the positive actions the City of Burlingame has taken to address the housing shortage, including the General Plan Update and the ongoing review and approval of more than 1,200 new housing units. The letter proposes that flexibility should be provided for local communities such as Burlingame to design their futures in ways that account for local conditions and nuances, provided they meet the overall objectives of providing a fair share of housing at a range of income levels.

This discussion item provides an opportunity for the City Council and Planning Commission to jointly discuss the City's positions regarding the CASA Compact and ongoing legislation such as (but not limited to) SB 50.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

Exhibits:

- Draft City Council letter: CASA Compact and SB 50 (Wiener)
- "California Housing Legislation Highlights" Infographic – Alfred Twu
- City Council April 1, 2019 Study Session Meeting Minutes
- City Council April 1, 2019 Study Session Staff Report Packet:
  - Staff Report
  - CASA Compact – January 2019
  - Summary and Strategic Options - CASA Compact – 21 Elements, February 5, 2019
  - Properties Within Major Transit Routes
  - Senate Bill 50