



## Staff Report

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Elizabeth Gibbs, City Manager  
Darron Usher, Principal Management Analyst

**DATE:** September 2, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Discussion – Consideration of a Resolution Opposing State Interference in Local Land Use Authority

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**Description:** City Council consideration to adopt a resolution opposing state interference in local land use authority, modeled after a resolution adopted by the City of Murrieta, or choose to remain neutral on this issue.

### **Background and Analysis:**

At the request of Council Member Fenn, this item is being brought forth for discussion.

Cities and counties throughout California, including Beaumont, have historically maintained local control over land use planning, housing densities, and the provision of infrastructure and public services. Through general plans and zoning codes, municipalities establish growth patterns that balance housing, public facilities, transportation, and quality of life for residents.

In recent years, the State of California has adopted several laws, such as the Surplus Land Act and the expanded Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process, that significantly limit local discretion over land-use decisions. These laws mandate:

- The sale of surplus land with preference to housing developers, including affordability requirements of 15–25% of future units.
- Increased state oversight and reduced local control in approving high-density housing projects.
- The obligation for cities to update Housing Elements to accommodate large numbers of deed-restricted affordable housing units, often beyond local infrastructure capacities.

The City of Murrieta adopted **Resolution No. 24-4799** in December 2024, formally opposing what it described as unfunded state mandates that strain municipal services

and diminish local control. Murrieta's resolution also encouraged other cities to take a united stance in advocating for land use authority to remain at the local level.

The attached draft resolution is provided for Council's discussion and consideration.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The estimated cost of preparing this staff report is \$300.

This action may have an indirect impact on state grant applications if an opposition resolution is adopted.

**Recommended Action:**

Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Beaumont, California, opposing State interference in local land use authority; OR

Receive and file this report and remain neutral on this issue by not adopting the Resolution.

**Attachments:**

- A. Draft Resolution