



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

May 30, 2017

The Honorable Ben Hueso
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 649 – As amended on May 5, 2017 – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Hueso:

The County of San Bernardino regrettably must oppose SB 649, legislation that would establish a new permitting process for small cell wireless facilities and limit the fees that local government may charge for placement of small cells on city or county owned vertical infrastructure, such as a streetlight and traffic signal poles.

SB 649 undermines local control by mandating mandatory leasing at little to no cost and limits local agency discretion on application to site small cell wireless telecommunications facilities within the public right-of-way or in zones with commercial and industrial land uses. This will result in loss of County revenue by limiting the ability to recover costs and has the potential to interfere with public safety communications.

Furthermore, SB 649 removes the County's ability to exercise discretion with respect to aesthetics or address concerns expressed by residents or business owners located near the sites. Local governments oversee the use publically owned infrastructure such as a streetlight and traffic signal poles and enforce payments, however SB 649 sets precedent that appropriates taxpayer funded infrastructure for private benefit.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino regrettably must oppose SB 649. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lovingood".

Robert Lovingood
First District Supervisor
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

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