

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

SUPPORTING THE SCHOOLS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES
FUNDING ACT ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

WHEREAS, since the passage of Proposition 13 in 1978, cities and counties have faced significant limitations in their main source of funding, the property tax; and

WHEREAS, while the intent of Proposition 13 was to help homeowners, Proposition 13 permits major commercial and industrial properties to avoid reassessment to market value, a windfall to commercial property owners at the expense of vital public services; and

WHEREAS, the property tax collected has shifted away from commercial properties and toward residential properties throughout the state and in virtually every county; and

WHEREAS, city and county finances have long been stressed while the state has failed to enhance local finances; and

WHEREAS the property tax is one of the few discretionary sources of revenue for cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, academic researchers at USC have estimated that reassessing commercial properties will bring \$11.4 billion in additional property taxes to cities, counties, special districts, and schools; and

WHEREAS, these same researchers have identified that nearly 80% of the additional revenue will come from just 8% of properties, owned by corporations and wealthy investors, many of them out-of-state; and

WHEREAS, USC research shows that a majority of commercial property owners already pay close to market value, making the current system inequitable among commercial and industrial property owners, benefitting property owners who have held their properties for a long period; and

WHEREAS, the current failure to close the commercial property inequity has led to poor land use and inflated land values, particularly affecting the ability to provide adequate high-density housing; and

WHEREAS, the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act will be on the ballot in November 2020; and

WHEREAS, allocation of additional revenues to cities, counties and special districts will follow current property tax allocation; and

WHEREAS, the Act will provide billions in locally-controlled property tax funding yearly for cities, counties, and special districts; and

WHEREAS, the Act contains provisions to benefit small businesses, and levels the playing field among commercial and industrial property owners.

WHEREAS, the Act will improve land use, infrastructure, public safety, housing, parks, libraries, health and human services and the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Alameda that the City of Alameda goes on record in support of the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act and urges its residents to support its passage.

* * * * *

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in a special meeting of the City Council assembled on the 15th day of September, 2020, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 16th day of September, 2020.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda

Approved as to Form:

Yibin Shen, City Attorney
City of Alameda