



December 6, 2021

Mayor Victor Gordo
Members of the City Council
City of Pasadena
Via Email

WPRA Supports Interim Urgency SB9 Ordinance

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

The West Pasadena Residents' Association strongly urges the City Council to approve the recommendations of the Planning and Community Development Department report of 12/6/2021, which would enact an Interim Urgency Ordinance in response to Senate Bill 9.

SB 9 requires certain ministerial approvals of lot splits and housing construction, and imposes other intrusive requirements on local zoning and building codes. However, it also permits local adoption of objective zoning, subdivision and design review standards under certain conditions, which is the objective of the interim and eventual permanent ordinances.

WPRA appreciates the efforts of the involved commissions and staff to balance SB 9 mandates with local flexibility and to recognize Pasadena's prior efforts in producing affordable and market rate housing. We look forward to suggesting additional changes or clarifications to the permanent ordinance, such as design standards, parking, infrastructure, affordability, and fire mitigation in high-risk zones, but the imperative now is timely enactment of the interim ordinance to meet the January 1, 2022 deadline.

In a matter closely related to SB 9, WPRA urges the Council to support the "Our Neighborhood Voices" initiative, which would provide that local planning and zoning provisions would prevail over contradictory State dictates.

Thank you for your consideration of our points of view.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Beal".

President, WPRA
For the Board of Directors

The WPRA is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in southwest Pasadena. We represent nearly 8,000 households, including 1,000 paid members.