



August 10, 2018

To the Honorable Members of the CA Senate Appropriations Committee:

**OPPOSE AB-2923**

Senator Anthony J. Portantino, Chair  
Senator Patricia Bates, Vice-Chair  
Senator Jim Beall  
Senator Steven Bradford  
Senator Jerry Hill  
Senator Jim Nielsen  
Senator Scott Wiener

Dear Senator Appropriations Committee Members:

Livable California, a state-wide coalition of 50 neighborhood and community groups reaching 16,000 voters, strongly opposes AB-2923 and urges you to OPPOSE it.

When elected members of the BART Board themselves write to express their strong opposition to the bill, it sends red flags and sounds alarms about this misguided legislation. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors, cities of Fremont, Hayward, Lafayette, Novato, Pleasant Hill, and League of California Cities oppose the bill. Who supports it? YIMBYs, the Bay Area Council, Silicon Valley Leadership Group, MTC, building and trade special interests, among others who see profits in heavy-handed, top-down mandate to transfer planning authority from Constitutionally permitted cities to BART.

Your colleagues in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations conclude there is “unknown likely significant state-mandated local costs to BART. . . potentially reimbursable by the state depending upon a determination by the Commission on State Mandates.” And in addition “Unknown state-mandated local costs to local jurisdictions . . . with costs potentially reimbursable by the state.”

From an appropriations’ and a policy perspective, this bill, as amended, is an affront to cities and an example of poorly crafted legislation. We urge you to OPPOSE AB-2923.

Sincerely,

Susan Kirsch, Chair  
Livable California  
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San Francisco, CA 94103