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*Sent on behalf of Borre Winckel, President & CEO*

Dear Honorable Greg Cox, Chair of the County Board of Supervisors:

The building industry is grateful to Governor Gavin Newsom for including construction, and new housing in particular, as part of critical infrastructure. He made this clear in his COVID-19 Response Executive Order N-33-20. When Californians are ordered to stay at home, our industry provides the very shelter that makes staying home a reality for people who otherwise have no place to call home.

We are equally appreciative of the assistance we receive from our local government partners through their proactive implementation of the Governor's Order. Our Staff is in frequent contact with all of San Diego County's jurisdictions to learn of their evolving practices. In turn, we communicate all updates with our membership. We view these combined efforts as a critical two-way street. Of paramount importance, is our industry's commitment to abide by the most stringent COVID-19 related health and safety guidance. We have conducted an industry summit to confirm and coordinate with our builder members on the latest safety protocols. The health, safety and wellbeing of our jurisdictional partners who help us, is as important to our industry as is the health, safety and wellbeing of our industry's entire workforce.

We have another critical reason for writing this letter. We are learning that some jurisdictions plan to update their regulations and/or fee schedules, which would add cost to housing production during these extraordinary trying times. We ask all of our local government partners to please "do no harm" by suspending all plans to increase regulatory - and fee burdens unless they are specifically designed to create relief by reducing costs and/or by streamlining the housing planning and production process. Now is the time to accelerate all "best practices" to achieve positive outcomes from this health & housing crisis.

We thank all of our local government partners for assisting the building industry. Again, when the Governor orders most Californian's to stay home, you are helping us provide the public, whom we both serve, their place for shelter from the COVID-19 scourge.

Sincerely,

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