



CITY OF MOORPARK

799 Moorpark Avenue, Moorpark, California 93021
Main City Phone Number (805) 517-6200 | Fax (805) 532-2205 | moorpark@moorparkca.gov

September 30, 2021

TRANSMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Leg.Unit@gov.ca.gov

RE: **SB 556 (Dodd) Street Light Poles, Traffic Signal Poles: Small Wireless Facilities Attachments
REQUEST FOR VETO**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The City of Moorpark respectfully **requests your veto of SB 556 (Dodd)**, related to wireless broadband infrastructure deployment. While we oppose SB 556, the City of Moorpark remains committed to closing the digital divide while continuing to protect and modernize the critical infrastructure in our communities.

While we appreciate the recognition of local authority to manage the public right-of-way in the most recent amendments, SB 556 now requires local governments to allow telecommunications providers to provide remedies if an application for a pole attachment is denied. Pursuant to existing Federal Communications Commission (FCC) decisions, local governments are afforded the authority to deny an application based on “safety, engineering, and insufficient capacity concerns.” Local governments should not be required to allow applicants to provide remedies when public health and safety are at risk, as that is inconsistent with what has been agreed upon at the federal level.

SB 556 is an attempt by the telecommunications industry to undermine local authority in broadband permitting, while making no meaningful progress or requirements toward closing the digital divide in California’s unserved and underserved communities. If California is to close the digital divide, legislative efforts should focus on encouraging and incentivizing telecommunications companies to service areas that for too long have not had access to reliable and affordable Internet.

In Moorpark, where approximately 99% of residents are served by high-speed broadband, permitting processes have not been a limiting factor toward broadband deployment. The few remaining unserved areas are unserved because of the underlying economics of deployment, not because of permitting processes.

Inasmuch as SB 556 seeks to bypass local authority where local authority is not causing a problem, it is misguided and fails to address the needs of the communities and portions of communities that need broadband deployment the most.

For these reasons, the City of Moorpark requests your veto of SB 556.

Sincerely,



Janice S. Parvin
Mayor

cc: City Council
City Manager
Senator Henry Stern
Senator Bill Dodd
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin
League of California Cities