



City of Riverside, California
Office of the Mayor
PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON



April 24, 2024

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo
Chair, Senate Local Government Committee
1021 O St., Room 2200
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 994 (Roth) - Local Government: Joint Powers Authority: Transfer of Authority – SUPPORT

Dear Chairwoman Durazo,

On behalf of the City of Riverside, I write to express our support of SB 994 (Roth) which aims to simplify the process of returning land use authority from the March Joint Powers Authority (MJPA) to the County of Riverside and ensuring the ongoing upkeep of public infrastructure.

The March Joint Powers Authority was established in 1993 to facilitate the reuse of the territory of the former March Air Force Base that is not presently operated by the March Air Reserve Base. The MJPA was tasked with planning and executing new uses for vacant lands, reuse of existing facilities, and joint use of the airfield facilities after the federal government realigned March Air Force Base to March Air Reserve Base. The MJPA has developed significant public infrastructure and landscaping, which it maintains directly and through a landscape and lighting maintenance district pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 and a community facilities district established pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982.

Now that MJPA's task of redeveloping the former March Air Force Base is nearing completion, the member agencies have voted to amend the joint powers agreement to eliminate the MJPA's land use authority effective July 1, 2025. As a result, land use authority for the territory will return to the County of Riverside on that date.

SB 994 provides helpful statutory direction to allow the County of Riverside to assume the responsibility of governing the Landscaping and Lighting District and the Community Facilities District in a manner similar to what would occur under current law when a city disincorporates.

For these reasons, the City of Riverside supports SB 994. If you have questions regarding the City's position, please contact Chekesha Gilliam, Intergovernmental Relations Officer at (951) 826-2419 or CGilliam@riversideca.gov.

Sincerely,

Patricia Lock Dawson
Mayor, City of Riverside

cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Local Government Committee
The Honorable Richard Roth
City of Riverside Legislative Delegation