

January 13, 2011

Mr. Jay Trevino
Executive Director
Planning & Building Agency
City of Santa Ana
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**Orange County
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Re: Fee Deferral Extension Request

Mr. Trevino,

I am writing on behalf of the membership of the Building Industry Association of Southern California, Orange County Chapter (BIA/OC) to formally request an extension to the City of Santa Ana's Development Impact Fee (DIF) deferral program.

It is no secret that the last few years have been extremely difficult for our industry. We have seen numerous bankruptcies and hundreds of lay-offs. This economy has been unforgiving to say the least. However, there have been some bright spots. Many local government agencies like the City of Santa Ana have worked in partnership with our association to accelerate the recovery process. One of the most beneficial actions by local agencies has been the development fee deferral program.

State-wide, over 75 individual jurisdictions have deferred fees. Locally, 13 individual jurisdictions, including the first school district (AUHSD), have adopted temporary fee deferral programs. The results have been better than expected. In high growth cities like Anaheim and Orange, construction has resumed putting local residents back to work. Jurisdictions have realized the benefits of this stimulus by way of increased revenue to their general funds. Agencies are now going through the process of extending programs that are set to expire.

Our industry anticipates residential development will resume in the next 18 months, and we are confident that the extension of fee deferrals will create an incentive opportunity. **BIA/OC and our membership is grateful that the City of Santa Ana is considering to extending the original fee deferral program.** We appreciate the willingness of Santa Ana to partner with our industry during these difficult times. The result will be a mutually beneficial path to local economic recovery. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Bryan M. Starr
Deputy Executive Officer, BIA/OC

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