

# Our Neighborhood Voices Initiative

APRIL, 2023

**Our**  
**Neighborhood**  
**Voices**

# Neighbor's Remedy Statewide Event!

2

A graphic for a fundraiser event. It features a dark blue background with silhouettes of houses. The text is arranged in several blocks: a cursive headline, a large bold title, a date and time in a yellow box, an RSVP button, a call to action box, and the organization's logo.

*Join us for a*  
**NEIGHBORS REMEDY  
FUNDRAISER**

**Thursday, April 27**  
**at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom**

**RSVP HERE**

Help us organize  
to take back our  
neighborhood voice

**Our  
Neighborhood  
Voices**

Go to

[OurNeighborhoodVoices.com](https://OurNeighborhoodVoices.com)

to register for next Thursday's big event!

# California's Land Use Policy is Broken!

## Multi-year legislative effort to eliminate local democracy regarding housing and land use

- ▶ Increase density under guise of need for “affordable housing” with little to no affordability requirements or funding
- ▶ Eliminates environmental review and community input
- ▶ Puts developers and big real estate in charge of what gets built and where it gets built
- ▶ Long-term goal to eliminate single family zoning, even though this is the type of housing preferred by a huge majority of residents

# Trickle-Down Housing Doesn't Work!

4

- ▶ Massive underproduction of low & moderate income housing by elimination of most Federal and State funding for past 10-15 years
- ▶ “Densification” does not increase affordability
- ▶ Happening in tandem with huge increase in institutional investment in single family housing
- ▶ **Disparate impact on communities of color & middle class**
- ▶ **Massive transfer of wealth from Main Street to Wall Street**
- ▶ **No due process or equal protection, and no affordability!**
- ▶ **Locks people out of and destroys dream of single-family home**

# California is eliminating local democracy

State policies are eliminating local democracy, in order to solve the real affordable housing crisis.

Their ENDGAME emerged on Feb. 13 by Senator Wiener:

- ▶ 3 existing state laws and new SB423 will interact with California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for all cities/counties Housing Elements at middle of 6<sup>th</sup> cycle

***Sen. Scott Wiener introduced SB 423 which will eliminate local control across the State of California halfway through the 6<sup>th</sup> RHNA cycle***

# 2023: Builder's Remedy Projects

6

If a city or county does not have a 'substantially compliant' housing element, **this 20-year-old law allows ANY PROJECT of ANY SIZE at ANY LOCATION**

Santa Monica got hit with 12 projects, totalling 4000 units, just a few days before adopting their Housing Element!

**YIMBY Law** is offering to fund project proposals under Builders Remedy and is suing many cities.

# Builder's Remedy Projects

7

One 90-unit BR project in Santa Monica



One 20-unit BR project in Los Altos Hills on a 2-acre parcel in a single-family home neighborhood



One 85-unit BR project in Mountain View on a 1/2-acre parcel where a single-family home now exists

# Karma in SF! Wiener fighting YIMBY!



## EXCLUSIVE: Skyscraper Proposed For 2700 Sloat Boulevard In Outer Sunset, San Francisco



"It's a distraction from the housing work that we're doing. I don't think they're relying on any housing law that I've authored as a legislator. I think they are relying on the state-density bonus law which has been around for 40 years," said Sen. Scott Wiener.



**Jon** @JTomaz12 · Apr 17

Replying to @SonjaTrauss

Just voted yes. Let's pump up these numbers [#housing](#) Twitter.

[#YIMBY](#) @cayimby @SFyimby @penforeveryone



**Brian Hanlon** @hanlonbt · Apr 13

It's so beautiful 😍



# What is the Initiative?

9

The “Our Neighborhood Voices” Initiative is trying to get on the 2024 ballot as a **Constitutional Amendment** that will allow **local laws to prevail** over state laws when a conflict exists for land use and zoning laws.

- ▶ **Immediately** after adoption:
  - ▶ allows communities to ignore state laws on land use and zoning.
  - ▶ allows communities to change local zoning and development to what works for the community.

# Who Supports the Initiative?

- ▶ 36 individual cities have signed resolutions
- ▶ SCAG, the Southern California Association of Governments, with 191 cities in Southern California
- ▶ California Contract Cities with 80 cities
- ▶ South Bay Council of Governments with 16 cities
- ▶ Over 200+ individual City and County Leaders
- ▶ Over 25,000 individual residents

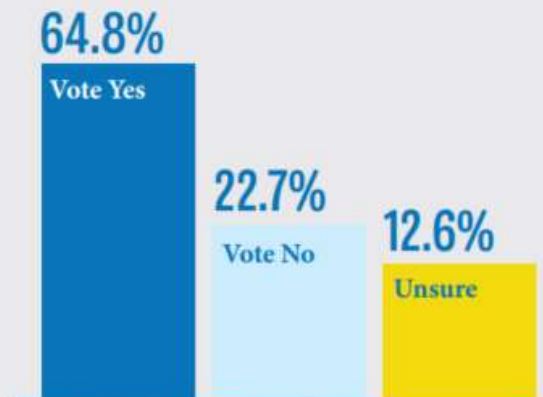
# How does the Initiative Poll?

- Problemsky Research shows STRONG support (~65%) and we only need 50% to win!

**Question:** This year the California legislature voted to strip local communities of their role in deciding how some residential homes and apartments are built and located. Under new laws, developers can build as many as 6 units on a single residential lot, and neighbors and local elected officials have no say in the matter. The legislators who supported removing local decisions about land use say it will make more housing available in places where it is needed. Opponents say we don't need to take away local land use authority to build more affordable housing. A statewide initiative seeks to restore powers taken away by the legislature to make local land use decisions.

**IF THE ELECTION WERE HELD TODAY,  
HOW WOULD YOU VOTE?**

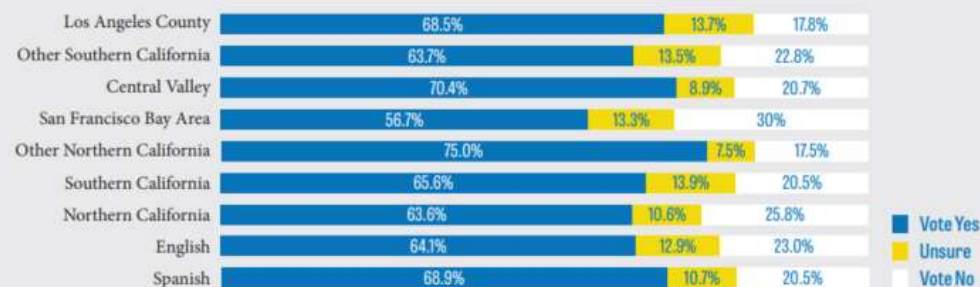
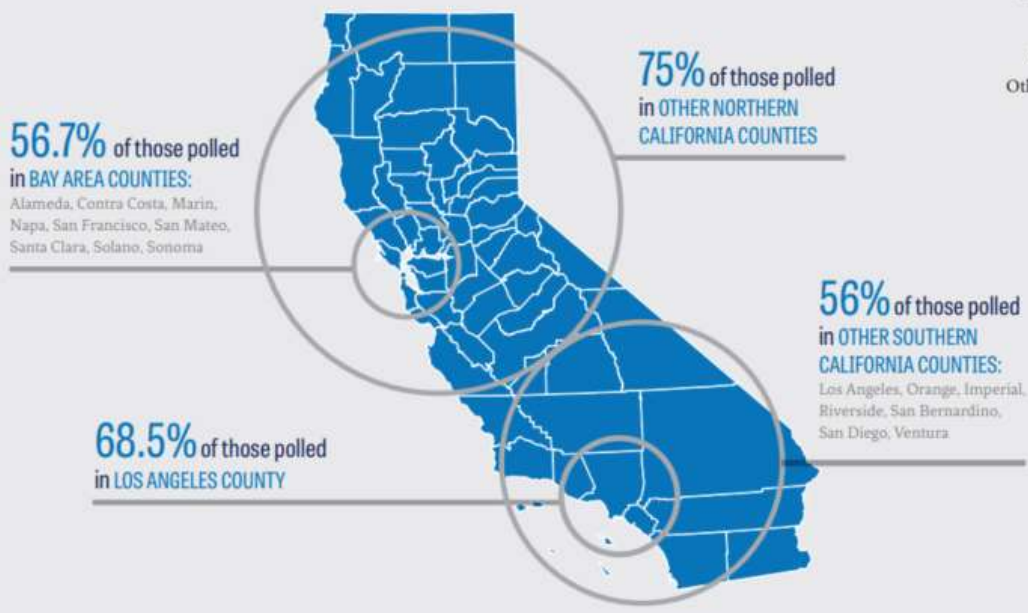
**65% Vote Yes** on a Statewide Initiative to Restore Local Land Use Powers Taken by the Legislature



# How does the Initiative Poll?

## Results by Geography and Language

**SUPPORT FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD VOICES** is extremely strong throughout the State, including politically powerful regions in Los Angeles and the Bay Area.



Poll across state, as well as English and Spanish speakers, shows strong support in all categories!

## 2024 Ballot Initiative Signature Collection Timeline

2023 -----> 2024



JUL

July 3rd is the last day for ONV to submit the initiative to the Attorney General and request a circulating title and summary.



**180 DAYS TO COLLECT 1,000,000+ SIGNATURES**

Once the Attorney General prepares and issues the circulating title and summary,\* proponents have 180 days to collect more than 1,000,000 signatures in order to qualify for the November ballot.

\*Exact start date depends on when the Attorney General issues the title and summary. This could be any time from late July through early September.



MAR – JUN

Signature verification and ballot certification process.



NOV



# Join Our Neighborhood Voices!

- ▶ Statewide coalition of local electeds, affordable housing advocates and community activists qualifying a constitutional amendment in 2024

***We need your help to spread the word, educate your neighbors, raise \$\$\$ and get ready to collect signatures later in 2023!***

***How much is it worth to you to determine what happens in your city?***

# All Political Power Resides in the People!

## JOIN US!



Sign Up: [OurNeighborhoodVoices.com](https://OurNeighborhoodVoices.com)