



News Media Contact:
Valerie Kushnerov
Public Information Officer
805.961.7507; 805.689.8044 (cell)
vkushnerov@cityofgoleta.org

PRESS ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 18, 2011

CITY COUNCIL
Margaret Connell
Mayor

Edward Easton
Mayor Pro Tempore

Roger S. Aceves
Councilmember

Michael T. Bennett
Councilmember

Paula Perotte
Councilmember

CITY MANAGER
Daniel Singer

**Central Coast Cities Join Statewide Lawsuit Seeking to
Overturn Unconstitutional State Budget Bills that Would
Eliminate Redevelopment**

WHEN: Wednesday, July 20th, 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: 170 South Kellogg Avenue, Goleta (behind Santa Barbara Nissan on Hollister Avenue)

What: Local elected officials from the central coast will gather to announce their support for the League of California Cities lawsuit seeking to overturn the unconstitutional attempt to eliminate redevelopment with the passage of AB 1x 26 and 27. Unless overturned by the Courts, this legislation would devastate local job-creating redevelopment projects throughout the region.

WHO: Goleta Mayor Margaret Connell, Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider, Lompoc Mayor John Linn, Buellton Vice Mayor Holly Sierra and others.

BACKGROUND: In November 2010, voters passed Prop 22 by an overwhelming majority. The measure stopped State raids of local redevelopment funds. Despite this clear voter mandate, legislators passed and the Governor signed AB 1x 26 and 27 in blatant violation of Prop. 22 and the will of the voters. AB 1x 26 would abolish redevelopment agencies and AB 1x 27 would allow agencies to exist in some limited capacity only if they agreed to pay a "ransom" payment of \$1.7 billion statewide in the first year and \$400 million statewide each year thereafter. The League of California Cities and the California Redevelopment Association filed a lawsuit this afternoon seeking to overturn the unconstitutional redevelopment elimination bills.

Unless overturned, AB 1x 26 and 27 will result in the elimination of many redevelopment agencies and/or forced "ransom" payments by local agencies to fund State obligations. The result will be the elimination of many critical local job-creating revitalization projects throughout the central coast.

For additional information, please contact Valerie Kushnerov, Public Information Officer, City of Goleta, at 961-7507.

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