

April 8, 2019

The Honorable Jim Beall
California State Senate
State Capitol Building, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT SB 6 (BEALL) — Surplus Property Collaboration

Dear Senator Beall,

SPUR is pleased to support Senate Bill 6, which will create a centralized database of state and locally owned surplus/vacant land and properties across the state. A centralized database will assist cities, developers, advocates and others interested making better use of publicly-owned sites across the state.

SPUR (San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association) is a member-supported nonprofit organization that promotes good planning and good government. We bring people together from across the political spectrum to develop solutions to the big problems our cities face. With offices in San Francisco, San Jose and Oakland, we are recognized as a leading civic planning organization and are respected for our independent and holistic approach to urban issues.

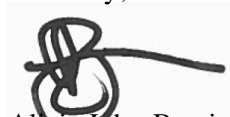
California is facing a severe housing crisis that will require creative solutions to encourage new construction across the state. Families are facing skyrocketing rents, displacement, and for too many, homelessness. More must be done to help communities reach their housing development goals at all income levels as described in their general plan.

The current lack of clarity about the availability of property and which entities own and manage land can delay land acquisitions and ultimately future development to accommodate our growing population. SB 6 proposes a straightforward solution to identify and make public lists of both state and local properties as potential sites for housing development.

By utilizing information already reported by cities, counties, and the state, this bill creates a centralized database of state and locally owned surplus and vacant land and properties across California, which will be updated regularly and available for viewing by the public.

SPUR thanks you for authoring this valuable bill and supports its passage.

Sincerely,



Alicia John-Baptiste
President & CEO