



# CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

CITY HALL

8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.  
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA  
90069-6216  
TEL: (323) 848-6460  
FAX: (323) 848-6562

## OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

PAUL AREVALO  
CITY MANAGER

September 20, 2017

Governor Jerry Brown  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

**RE: AB 1414 (Friedman) Solar Energy Systems: Permits –  
REQUEST FOR VETO**

The City of West Hollywood opposes AB 1414 (Friedman) that would set a hard cap on permitting fees for solar installations. AB 1414 undermines local decision making by setting the level of the permitting fee in statute. AB 1414 is on your desk awaiting consideration.

While the City of West Hollywood supports expanding access to renewable energy resources, including solar, AB 1414's proposal to cap permit fees for all solar installations obstructs local government protocols that ensure public safety. AB 1414 may create barriers for the City of West Hollywood to charge permit fees that cover routine costs for permitting and inspection.

The City of West Hollywood is dedicated to sustainability and preserving the environment and has long been an advocate for solar energy. The City has instituted "Go Solar West Hollywood", a city-sponsored program to encourage property owners to "go solar." In addition, the City of West Hollywood adopted one of the nation's first mandatory green building ordinances for private development to ensure that new buildings will be healthier for occupants/visitors, use energy more efficiently, and help reduce the carbon footprint.

While the City of West Hollywood appreciates the bill's intent to lower building permit fees for solar systems, the approach taken in AB 1414 would restrict the ability of the City to inspect and conduct other activities associated with permitting.

The City of West Hollywood urges you to veto AB 1414.

Respectfully,

Paul Arevalo  
CITY MANAGER

Cc: Hon Laura Friedman, AD 43  
Hon Benjamin Allen, SD 26  
Hon Richard Bloom, AD 50