



April 2, 2026

The Honorable Blanca Pacheco
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 4510
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1821 (Pacheco) CA Public Records Act: Fees and Agency Response Time
City of Upland – Notice of Support**

Dear Assemblymember Pacheco,

On behalf of the City of Upland, I write to you today in support of AB 1821, which provides a balanced and practical update to the California Public Records Act (CPRA) to improve transparency while ensuring that public agencies can sustainably respond to increasingly complex records requests.

Cities are committed to providing timely and meaningful access to public records. Recently, local agencies have faced a sharp rise in the volume, scope, and technical complexity of CPRA requests. AB 1821 lets agencies recover reasonable administrative costs when requests exceed set search times. It maintains protections for journalists, newspapers, and educational or scientific institutions. The bill preserves access for important requestors and helps agencies manage resource-intensive requests.

The bill also improves clarity and consistency in response timelines by updating statutory deadlines to “business days,” which better reflects how public agencies operate and provides clearer expectations for both requestors and agencies. Additionally, AB 1821 maintains strong transparency standards by requiring agencies to continue promptly determining whether responsive records exist and to communicate estimated timelines for production.

Importantly, AB 1821 strikes a thoughtful balance between public access and operational feasibility. By providing modest tools for cost recovery and clarifying response timelines, the bill enables cities to continue meeting their transparency obligations without compromising other essential public services.

For these reasons, the City of Upland is pleased to support AB 1821.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Velto".

Bill Velto
Mayor, City of Upland