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January 20, 2012

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The Honorable Darrell Steinberg  
Senate President Pro Tempore  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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RE: Senate Bill 654 (Steinberg) – Redevelopment Housing Funds – **SUPPORT**

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Dear Senator Steinberg,

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The San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR) is pleased to support your Senate Bill 654, which seeks to protect the crucial existing housing funds of dissolving redevelopment agencies. SPUR is the Bay Area's preeminent urban planning and public policy organization. Through research, advocacy and public education, SPUR promotes good planning and good government. SPUR has long advocated for the production of affordable housing in the Bay Area and as redevelopment agencies dissolve, preserving funding for our most vulnerable Californians is most critical.

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SB 654 would ensure that any existing fund balances on deposit in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund of a dissolved redevelopment agency would be transferred to the successor agency of the sponsoring community. The bill also ensures that such funds would be expended pursuant to the Community Redevelopment Law, under which the funds were originally collected.

Redevelopment agencies' existing Low and Moderate Income Housing Funds are critical sources for the development and preservation of affordable homes across California. Thank you for your efforts to protect these funds in the midst of the changes impacting the state's redevelopment system.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Metcalf  
Executive Director