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June 7, 2022

Mayor Rowse and City Council City of Santa Barbara PO Box 1990 Santa Barbara, CA 93102

RE: Interim Urgency Ordinance Limiting New Hotel Development

Dear Mayor Rowse and Councilmembers:

The Santa Barbara South Coast Chamber of Commerce, from Goleta to Carpinteria, would like to express our concerns related to the proposed urgency ordinance limiting new hotel development. While we understand the City's desire to ensure that new hotel developments do not thwart the intentions of the 2023 Housing Element before it can be completed, this is not the correct solution.

The Chamber understands the need for, and supports, increased housing within the City of Santa Barbara. However, we do not support singling out industries with moratoriums, however temporary they may be. Instead, the City should consider solutions related to the zoning aspect of this issue. It would be much easier to support an ordinance that focuses on protecting future housing project, rather than an ordinance the directly targets a single industry in an attempt to do the same thing.

While the sense of urgency related to this ordinance is understandable, we ask that the Council delay making a decision until at least June 28th, to allow more time to assess the possible economic impacts of this ordinance as well as give residents and businesses additional time to consider this issue and offer adequate feedback.

Thank you,

Kristen Miller President & CEO

Santa Barbara South Coast Chamber of Commerce