



# City of Santa Barbara

Office of the Mayor

[SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

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June 18, 2025

**Randy Rowse**  
Mayor

The Honorable Diane Papan  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Room 4140  
Sacramento, CA 95814

City Hall  
735 Anacapa Street  
Santa Barbara, CA  
93101-1990

**RE: AB 93 (Papan) – Water resources: demands: data centers.  
City of Santa Barbara – Notice of Support**

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Dear Assemblymember Papan,

On behalf of the City of Santa Barbara, I am writing to express our strong support for Assembly Bill 93, your thoughtful legislation that brings much-needed transparency and accountability to the water use of data centers in California.

As a coastal city with a long-standing commitment to water conservation, Santa Barbara understands the value and scarcity of water resources—especially in the face of long-term drought and climate change. The exponential growth of data center development to support artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies presents a real and urgent need for oversight of commercial and industrial water use.

AB 93 provides a balanced and practical approach by requiring data center developers to disclose their anticipated water usage prior to local permitting, self-certify actual water use annually, and support accurate cost-of-service analysis by water suppliers. These provisions will allow local governments like ours to better assess the long-term infrastructure and resource implications of data center development while protecting the integrity of our water planning processes.

We also appreciate the bill's direction to the Department of Water Resources and the California Energy Commission to develop best practices and efficiency guidelines by 2028. These statewide standards, if informed by data and stakeholder engagement, will help ensure technology growth in California is aligned with sustainable urban water management practices.

Importantly, AB 93 respects local authority by building on the business licensing and permitting responsibilities already administered by cities and counties. It provides clear, actionable reporting requirements while supporting the public's right to understand how large-scale commercial operations impact shared water resources.

The City of Santa Barbara thanks you for your leadership in introducing this timely and necessary legislation. We are proud to support AB 93 and urge the Legislature to advance this important measure.

Sincerely,

  
Mayor Randy Rowse  
City of Santa Barbara

cc: Senator Monique Limon  
Assembly Member Gregg Hart