Your Name or Your Group’s Name

Your Address

Your City, CA Zip Code

email@somedomain.org

February 5, 2021

Recipient Name

Name of City or County

Their Address

Their City, CA Zip Code

email@someotherdomain.com,

 Via Email

Re: Supporting Fair and Equitable Housing Elements

Dear City Clerk/City Manager/Etc.:

As the City of/County of PLACE works on its housing element, I/GROUP wanted to send this brief letter asking PLACE to remember its obligation to make “a diligent effort...to achieve public participation of all economic segments of the community in the development of the housing element, and the program shall describe this effort."[[1]](#footnote-0)

Additionally, given the ongoing shortage of homes throughout the state and the abysmally low production throughout the last housing element cycle, it’s imperative that PLACE have an honest conversation about the likelihood of development. What percentage of very low-, low-, and moderate-income dwelling units did PLACE have in the 5th Cycle Housing Element, and what does PLACE plan to do to increase that number to meet their RHNA in this planning period? I encourage the City of/County of PLACE to aim high because to have a 6th Cycle with as few homes as we saw in the 5th Cycle means more homelessness and less opportunity.

Last, the City of/County of PLACE will also need to analyze how its policies, programs, and site inventory square with the new law to affirmatively further fair housing. With the long history of racist and segregationist housing policy in California, it’s critical that PLACE’s housing element **affirmatively** works to undo those historic and ongoing inequities, integrates communities, and provides opportunities for social mobility, as opposed to the status quo of relying exclusively on ADUs and reducing the likelihood of development through a mountain of arbitrary governmental constraints and land use regulations, like large setbacks, low height limits, and onerous parking requirements. **Please take actions to welcome new neighbors, not keep them away.**

Sincerely,

Your Name/Your Group’s Name Here

1. https://www.hcd.ca.gov/community-development/building-blocks/getting-started/public-participation.shtml [↑](#footnote-ref-0)