

Want to Make a Difference? Inform Your City's Housing Elements

Housing Elements represent an opportunity to infuse your city's housing and development initiatives with a focus on older adults, accessibility and inclusion.

All cities and counties in California are required to adopt housing elements as part of their General Plan. A Housing Element identifies how much housing is needed, what regulations and market forces may be creating barriers to development, and policies and programs to guide decision making about the types of housing needed, the locations for new housing, and strategies and programs to preserve housing and help people with special housing needs.

In 2021 and 2022, Bay Area cities and counties are developing their new 8-year plans. They are supposed to reach out to engage the entire community in this discussion. But in reality, very few people know about this process and so community priorities go unheard.

Seize the opportunity! Here's how to do it in Alameda County....

ALAMEDA

- Click [here](#) to review the city of Alameda's Draft Housing Element and sign up to receive emails with updates and opportunities to give input. Click [here](#) to submit your comments and ideas.

ALBANY

- Albany held one community meeting on December 6, 2021. To find out how you can participate or give input, contact Community Development Planning Division at (510) 528-5760 or email com-dev@albanyca.org.

BERKELEY

- Attend Berkeley's EIR Public Scoping Meeting – February 9, 2022 – 7pm – for the link and call in numbers for this meeting click [here](#) to go to the Planning Commission web page and click on the Agenda for 02-09-22.
- Mail or email your written comments before February 21, click [here](#) for the address and email information
- Visit cityofberkeley.info/housingelement, where you can sign up for email updates.

DUBLIN

- Click [here](#) to go to Dublin's Housing Element Update page to learn more.
- Attend Dublin's virtual Housing Element Workshop on February 17, 2022 at 6pm. Click [here](#) for the zoom link, passcode and call-in information.
- Take Dublin's online Housing Element Survey by clicking [here](#). The survey is open through February 28, 2022.

EMERYVILLE

- Click [here](#) to go to Emeryville's Housing Element web page, sign up to receive email updates, see the dates of community workshops when they are scheduled, get materials, and watch recorded public meetings.

FREMONT

- Click [here](#) to go to Fremont's Housing Element web page where you can learn more. Click [here](#) to read the FAQs.

- Click [here](#) to join the housing element update email list and find out about upcoming events; or click [here](#) to set up a virtual meeting with the Housing Element project team to share your thoughts and questions.

HAYWARD

- Click [here](#) to learn about Hayward's Housing Element Update project, which is being combined with updates of the city's Climate Action Plan and Safety Element.
- To find out how you can get involved, reach out to housingelementupdate@hayward-ca.gov or call Leigha Schmidt, the project planner, at (510) 583-4113.

LIVERMORE

- Click [here](#) to go to Livermore's Imagine Livermore 2045 website, sign up for updates, and learn more.
- Click [here](#) to see what people wrote on the vision wall.
- Click [here](#) to send the Planning Division your thoughts and questions about the Housing Element, or contact Andy Ross at GPUUpdate@cityoflivermore.net.

NEWARK

- Newark has just issued an RFP seeking consulting services for its Housing Element Update. Click [here](#) for a .pdf of the existing 2015-2023 Housing Element.

OAKLAND

- Click [here](#) to go to Oakland's Housing Element website, learn more and sign up for email updates.
- Attend Oakland Housing Element Workshop 1 - February 10, 2022, 6pm to 8pm - Click [here](#) for information and to register.
- Attend Oakland Housing Element Workshop 2 - February 17, 2022, 6pm to 8pm - Click [here](#) for information and to register.

PLEASANTON

- Click [here](#) to go to Pleasanton's Housing Element Update web site and sign up for email updates.
- Click [here](#) to find out about the timeline and see the schedule of upcoming events.

SAN LEANDRO

- Click [here](#) to find out about San Leandro's Housing Element project.
- Send in your comments and recommendations and join the project email list. Click [here](#) and fill in the form and click on "submit."
- Use the online Balancing Act Tool to let the city know where you think new housing should be located. Click [here](#) to go to the tool. Deadline is February 10, 2022!

UNION CITY

- Union City will host a variety of community engagement meetings for the Housing Element update beginning in early 2022. Click [here](#) for information and to sign up for email updates.

ALAMEDA COUNTY/UNINCORPORATED AREAS

- Alameda County will begin developing its Housing Element Update in 2022, so stay tuned!
- Click [here](#) for a .pdf of the county's current 2015-2023 Housing Element, which covers the unincorporated communities in the Eden Area (Ashland, Cherryland, Hayward Acres, San Lorenzo, and Fairview), Castro Valley Area, and the unincorporated area in East County.

Have questions? Send an email to wendy@seniorservicescoalition.org.