



PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, June 22, 2023
10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m

Sheraton Fairplex Hotel and Conference Center
601 West McKinley Avenue, Pomona

General Briefing and Special Listening Session
on Affordable Housing Production for All Policy Committee Members

10:00 a.m.

Upon adjournment, individual policy committee meetings will begin

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introductions**
- II. Public Comment**
- III. Homelessness Advocacy Priority Update (Attachment A)** *Informational*
Caroline Cirrincione, Lobbyist, Legislative Affairs, Cal Cities
- IV. Homeless Outreach Services Presentation** *Informational*
Speaker: Captain Geff Deedrick and Lieutenant William Kitchin, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Homeless Services Outreach Team
- V. Homelessness Presentation: Governor's Office (Invited)** *Informational*
- VI. Cal OES: Earthquake Early Warning Presentation** *Informational*
Speaker: Derek Lambeth, Program Manager, Emergency Services Coordinator, Earthquake Early Warning
- VII. Legislative Advocacy Update** *Informational*
Melanie Perron, Deputy Executive Director, Advocacy, Cal Cities
Public Safety position bills can be found [here](#). Cal Cities hot and priority bills can be found [here](#).
- VIII. Adjourn**

Next Virtual Meeting: Staff will notify committee members by August 4 if the policy committee will meet in September. If you have any questions, please contact Meg Desmond, Cal Cities Associate Manager, Legislative Administration.

Brown Act Reminder: The League of California Cities' Board of Directors has a policy of complying with the spirit of open meeting laws. Generally, off-agenda items may be taken up only if:

- 1) Two-thirds of the policy committee members find a need for immediate action exists and the need to take action came to the attention of the policy committee after the agenda was prepared (Note: If fewer than two-thirds of policy committee members are present, taking up an off-agenda item requires a unanimous vote); or*
- 2) A majority of the policy committee finds an emergency (for example: work stoppage or disaster) exists.*

A majority of a city council may not, consistent with the Brown Act, discuss specific substantive issues among themselves at League meetings. Any such discussion is subject to the Brown Act and must occur in a meeting that complies with its requirements.

Special Listening Session on Affordable Housing Production

As part of Cal Cities on-going efforts to showcase the work cities are doing on housing and to further our efforts to proactively drive a housing agenda that responds to the statewide crisis and respects local decision-making, we want to hear from you.

For too long the focus on finding solutions to the housing crisis has been driven in Sacramento by the Legislature. It's time to take the conversation out of the Capitol and that's why Cal Cities is hosting a series of listening sessions with cities statewide, and stakeholder meetings — both regionally and at the state level — on broad solutions that protect local control and boost affordable housing production.

As part of this effort, Cal Cities is hosting its first listening session at the June policy committee meetings in Pomona, CA, to hear directly from city officials regarding what they need to help spur much needed affordable housing construction in their communities.

Below are several discussion questions for you to consider in preparation for the listening session:

- What are the barriers you have identified that are hampering affordable housing construction in your community?
- Does your city have the needed tools and resources to help spur housing construction? If not, what is lacking? If so, what are they?
- What kind of assistance is the California Department of Housing and Community Development providing to your city (technical assistance, grant programs, implementation regulations, guidelines, etc.)?
- Please provide specific examples of actions your city has taken to help spur housing construction and identify recently approved housing projects. You may also email examples to jrhine@calcities.org



May 25, 2023

Assemblymember Phillip Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, California, 95814

Senator Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8630
Sacramento, California, 95814

RE: Finding a Permanent Home in the State Budget for Homelessness Programs and Affordable Housing

Dear Chairs Ting and Skinner,

In the spirit of a strong state and local government partnership that benefits all Californians, we the undersigned Members respectfully ask for your consideration for **a permanent funding stream of \$3 billion annually for cities to help Californians find homes** and prevent more Californians from having to live on the streets, under bridges, or in their cars.

A recent statewide survey by the League of California Cities underscores why this funding is so essential to helping cities serve those experiencing homelessness in their communities. According to the [survey results](#), 84% of cities have implemented various programs aimed at address homelessness. Nearly 90% of cities have fiscal concerns over providing existing homelessness services long term. Alarminglly, **1 in 4 cities reported having to divert funding from unrelated city programs to support homelessness programs and services**. Despite the concerted efforts of local governments, the number of individuals entering homelessness continues to surpass the capacity of these initiatives to effectively support individuals transitioning out of homelessness.

One-time funding inhibits cities' long-term planning efforts and stifles more ambitious statewide goals. An ongoing investment of \$3 billion from the state would have transformative effects, generating crucial housing production and providing vital support to thousands of Californians currently experiencing homelessness. Most significantly, such funding would play a pivotal role in preventing thousands more individuals from losing their homes in the first place. By replacing the outdated patchwork funding approach with a dedicated commitment to ongoing state funding, cities across California can establish an accountable oversight system for implementing effective homelessness programs.

With the slowing economy, stubbornly high inflation, and the threat of another potential recession, **we know that more of our residents could lose their homes and join the growing ranks of the unhoused. Together, we affirm that all Californians deserve a place to live.**



The collaboration of all levels of government is of utmost importance to advancing the shared state and local goals of addressing homelessness, ultimately leading to the creation of robust and prosperous communities that benefit all Californians. I look forward to working with you and the League of California Cities to realize a strengthened partnership that will significantly improve the quality of life for all residents of California

Sincerely,

Sharon Quirk-Silva

SHARON QUIRK-SILVA
Assemblywoman, 67th District

Stephanie Nguyen

STEPHANIE NGUYEN
Assemblymember, 10th District

Rick Chavez Zbur

RICK CHAVEZ ZBUR
Assemblymember, 51st District

Heath Flora

HEATH FLORA
Assemblymember, 9th District

Tasha Boerner

TASHA BOERNER
Assemblymember, 77th District

John Laird

JOHN LAIRD
Senator, 17th District

Buffy Wicks

BUFFY WICKS
Assemblymember, 14th District

Bill Dodd

BILL DODD
Senator, 3rd District

Corey A. Jackson

COREY A. JACKSON
Assemblymember, 60th District

Juan Alanis

JUAN ALANIS
Assemblymember, 22nd District

Lori D. Wilson

LORI D. WILSON
Assemblywoman, 11th District

Catherine Blakespear

CATHERINE BLAKESPEAR
Senator, 38th District

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LAURIE DAVIES
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PILAR SCHIAVO
Assemblywoman, 40th District

DAWN ADDIS
Assemblymember, 30th District

LENA A. GONZELEZ
Senator, 33rd District

SUSAN RUBIO
Senator, 22nd District

JANET NGUYEN
Senator, 36th District

SCOTT WILK
Senator, 21st District

MARC BERMAN
Assemblymember, 23rd District

THOMAS J. UMBERG
SENATOR, 34th District

ROSILIC OCHOA BOGH
Senator, 23rd District

BLANCA PACHECO
Assemblywoman, 64th District

TRI TA
Assemblymember, 70th District

BOB ARCHULETA
Senator, 30th District

BLANCA E. RUBIO
Assemblywoman, 48th District

STEVEN BRADFORD
Senator, 35th District



The Honorable Gavin Newsom
 Governor of California
 1021 O St., Ste. 9000
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins
 1021 O Street, Ste. 8518
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Budget Chair Nancy Skinner
 1021 O Street, Ste. 8630
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
 1021 O Street, Ste. 8330
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Budget Chair Phil Ting
 1021 O Street, Ste. 8230
 Sacramento, CA 95814

May 11, 2023

RE: Ongoing Funding to Address Homelessness in the 2023-2024 Budget

Dear Governor Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Atkins, Assembly Speaker Rendon,
Senate Budget Chair Skinner, Assembly Budget Chair Ting:

Thank you for your commitment to addressing California's most pressing humanitarian crisis: homelessness. The unprecedented state investments in addressing our affordable housing and homelessness crisis under your leadership have helped tens of thousands of Californians exit homelessness into permanent housing, access shelter and supportive services, and connect to care. As a result of this investment, California has significantly expanded the capacity of local homelessness response systems, including increasing access to interim and permanent housing, outreach, and targeted homelessness prevention.

The undersigned local government leaders, nonprofit service providers, business associations, advocates, and people directly impacted by homelessness humbly request you build on your commitment by prioritizing in the 2023-24 budget **ongoing funding for solutions to homelessness through the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program, while including comprehensive accountability measures for both the local grantees and the state.**

Solving homelessness will require more than ongoing funding. It will require addressing our housing crisis through continued significant investments in building and preserving more affordable and supportive housing development and increasing housing stability including expanding tenant protections. However, ongoing funding for homelessness would be transformative. A commitment of ongoing funding would establish a baseline that local homeless response systems could rely on to build capacity, support the frontline workforce of people providing services, and dedicate funding to a more comprehensive response. It will allow local recipients to fund long-term housing interventions that are difficult to provide with one-time funding and sustain the success of critical programs like Homekey. Ongoing funding would reduce administrative burdens on state and local systems, allowing more resources to go toward achieving reductions in homelessness.

We share the Administration and Legislature's goals of greater accountability around homelessness. We welcome continued conversation on how to align metrics and set ambitious goals, define local and state roles in addressing homelessness, and ensure we are all achieving the collective outcome of sharply reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness. Ongoing funding provides a critical accountability tool that allows the state to leverage future funding to improve underperforming programs and reward high performing ones.

We share a vision of a state in which all Californians have an affordable place to live and can access the services and care they need. Creating ongoing funding to solve homelessness is a critical foundation to realizing that future.

Thank you for your continued leadership and collaboration.

Sincerely,

Zella Knight

Zella Knight
Bring CA Home Coalition and
Residents United Network Los Angeles

Mayor Todd Gloria
Big City Mayors Coalition
City of San Diego

Justin Garrett
CA State Association of Counties

Carolyn Coleman
League of California Cities

Sharon Rapport
Corporation for Supportive Housing

Chione Flegal
Housing California

Amy Lemley
John Burton Advocates for Youth

Ann Oliva
National Alliance to End Homelessness

Nella McOsker
Central City Association

Francisco Dueñas
Housing NOW!

Tomiquia Moss
All Home

David Low
Destination Home

Tamera Kohler
Regional Task Force on Homelessness San Diego

Jennifer Hark Dietz
PATH



Stephanie Klasky-Gamer
LA Family Housing



William F. Pickel
Brilliant Corners



Amy Turk
Downtown Women's Center



Hope Kamer
Compass Family Services San Francisco



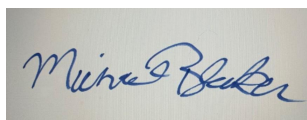
John Maceri
The People Concern



Jonathan Russel
Bay Area Community Services



Michelle Murphy
Orange County United Way



Michael Blecker
Swords to Plowshares



Beth Stokes
Episcopal Family Services



Wendy Wang
Sycamores

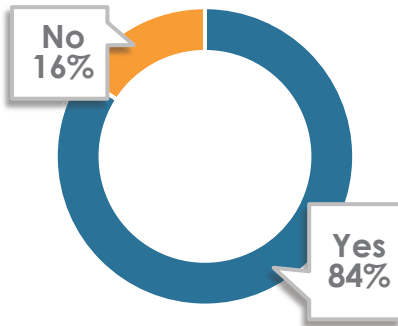
Responding to Homelessness

Real progress requires ongoing resources

California cities are working in overdrive to prevent and reduce homelessness and boost affordable housing in their communities. Many cities are doing their part, but the demand for housing and services are outpacing their efforts, straining capacity, and draining resources. The crisis is so urgent that more than one in four cities have reduced or cut funding from other city programs to provide additional homelessness programs and services.

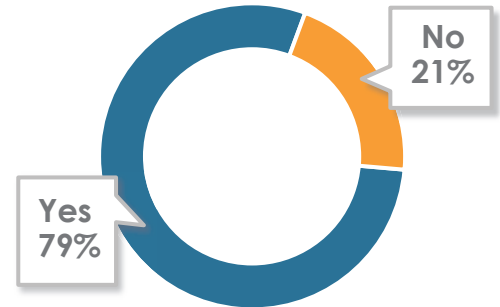
With the threat of an economic recession looming, the number of unhoused residents will only increase, as will the number of Californians who can't access affordable housing. Now more than ever, cities need ongoing, permanent funding to continue to provide emergency and temporary shelters, build permanent supportive housing, provide rent relief, and hire staff to connect people with wraparound services.

Has your city implemented programs to address homelessness?



Limited supportive housing options and lack of ongoing funding are the top two barriers to preventing and reducing homelessness.

Has your city spent general fund money to address homelessness since FY 2018-19?



Does your city have fiscal concerns over providing existing homelessness services long term?



Cal Cities urges the state to invest **\$3 billion in ongoing, permanent funding to prevent and reduce homelessness** and boost affordable housing.

Cities would increase capacity, resources, and services with ongoing funding to reduce homelessness, such as:

- ▶ Additional supportive services
- ▶ Homeless outreach teams
- ▶ Additional affordable housing options
- ▶ Increasing shelter space
- ▶ Rent subsidy programs
- ▶ Additional voluntary behavioral programs and services
- ▶ Bolstering city workforce

For more information email ccirincione@calcities.org.

*Data and Assumptions: The League of California Cities conducted a statewide survey in March 2023 to better understand how cities are responding to the homelessness crisis. In total, 189 cities responded to the survey, and represent a diverse group of cities by geography, population, and setting. Collectively, these 189 cities represent 38.2 percent of the state's population (14.97 million residents).



Responding to Homelessness

How California cities are making real progress

The recent, sharp rise in the number of Californians experiencing homelessness is now reaching crisis proportions. Most of these individuals experiencing homelessness are concentrated in cities.

In the last few years, cities have accelerated their efforts to find innovative solutions to prevent and reduce homelessness. Local leaders are forming public-private partnerships, collaborating closely with residents and community groups, and cobbling together a patchwork of funding to deliver emergency shelters, permanent supportive housing, and a wide array of other wraparound services. However, in many cities — even with new investments and accelerated efforts — the number of people falling into homelessness is outpacing the number of people cities are able support. Cities need a permanent home in the state budget to be able to address this crisis.

The cities below are a small sampling of those throughout the state that are making progress in supporting and reducing the number of unhoused individuals in their communities. Their work provides insights into what works to prevent and end homelessness.

[Bakersfield](#)

Since 2020, [Bakersfield](#) has invested millions of city, county, and state dollars to support individuals experiencing homelessness, provide housing, increase staffing, and expand wraparound services. This influx of funding has seeded projects such as a new 150-bed navigation center and 70 more beds at existing shelters. An additional 118 navigation center beds, the creation of a countywide Homeless Action Plan, the expansion of street outreach teams, and more direct behavioral health supportive services at the city's four homeless shelters are all underway.

[Corona and Norco](#)

In 2020, [Corona](#) adopted its Homeless Strategic Plan, with the mission of forming public-private partnerships with dozens of local nonprofits and faith-based organizations to deliver a broad spectrum of services to people experiencing homelessness. The plan soon led to a joint program with the smaller, neighboring city of [Norco](#). A statewide nonprofit provides outreach services, case management, support services, and a path to permanent housing in both cities. The program's impact was immediate: Homelessness in Corona has decreased by 33% since 2020. In Norco, 26% of the program participants have moved into permanent housing. This unique joint program, funded by state, federal, and local dollars, has served as a model for other cities in California.

[Eureka](#)

[Eureka](#) has significantly reduced the number of unhoused residents through Uplift Eureka, a pioneering program that combines an array of social services. Through streamlined services and expanded partnerships with dozens of community-based organizations and government agencies, Eureka's capacity to give people the support they need has vastly increased. Uplift Eureka focuses on four areas: housing assistance, resume and interview skill development, job training, and outreach. Since its inception in 2019, the program has raised more than \$3 million in grants, including a cornerstone \$1 million federal Emergency Solutions Grant, and reduced the number of people experiencing homelessness by roughly 25%.

[Hayward](#)

The number of people experiencing homelessness in [Hayward](#) fell by 22% from 2019 to 2022, due in large part to the city's first Housing Navigation Center and motel conversion project. The center, staffed and managed by a local nonprofit, provides a host of services, including outreach, short-term housing, intensive case management, and housing placement services for people living in encampments. The center is funded through several revenue streams, including the voter-approved state Safe Neighborhood and School Fund, the American Rescue Plan Act, and the city's General Fund/Community Development Block Grants.

[Paramount](#)

For cities with few resources, connecting people with existing systems of care is key to reducing homelessness. [Paramount's](#) strategy revolves around coordinating services with public agencies and community nonprofits. The city has also passed several affordable housing incentives. These efforts have been remarkably successful; the number of unhoused residents has plummeted by 56% since 2019. One such partnership with a local nonprofit and the Paramount Unified School District has directly aided 27 Paramount families and permanently housed 10.

[Redlands](#)

In March 2022 [Redlands](#) received \$30 million in state Homekey funding to convert a former motel into housing for chronically homeless people. Six months later, the first of 100-plus residents began moving into the studio apartments. The Governor and federal homelessness experts have lauded this unprecedented speed of construction, which Redlands credits to strong public-private partnerships. The city worked closely with a company to remodel the motel and manage the property, and a local nonprofit provides supportive services.

[San Diego](#)

[San Diego](#) has successfully secured a variety of funding sources to prevent and reduce homelessness on multiple fronts. In the last two years, the city received \$27.5 million in state Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention grant funding, as well as an additional \$11.8 million in Homekey funding. San Diego County also granted \$5 million to three cities, including San Diego, to collaboratively bring more shelter options online and connect more people to services. The results have been striking. In six months, San Diego increased its shelter beds capacity and street outreach by 28%. In 2022 alone, the city also connected more than 1,470 people experiencing homelessness to permanent or longer-term housing.

[The cities of San Mateo County](#)

A city cannot solve homelessness by itself. It requires the political will of several government entities, as well as the support of the entire community. In [San Mateo County](#), 20 cities, the county government, and community leaders banded together to educate and raise the awareness of residents about the urgent need for permanent supportive housing. The result? Since 2021, 733 formerly homeless households have moved into permanent housing. To date, more than 300 new units of interim and permanent housing have gone up, and a navigation center is slated to open in 2023, with 240 beds for interim housing — a 91% increase from 2019.

Boosting Affordable Housing

How California cities are making real progress

On any given day, newspaper headlines in California and across the nation are highlighting the state's growing housing supply and affordability crisis. [Seven in ten Californians](#) view housing affordability as one of the top problems in their community, and there is [growing concern from residents](#) that housing prices are so expensive, younger generations will be priced out of ever being able to buy a home.

Cities are working hard to develop solutions that spur housing production so Californians of all income levels have a place to call home. They're taking on these difficult and complex tasks all while navigating the state's annual barrage of housing bills that, in some cases, serve as barriers for cities to successfully grow affordable housing supply. The cities below are just a few examples of communities creatively leveraging partnerships, community input, and multiple funding sources to significantly increase affordable housing.

[Alameda](#)

[Alameda](#), a city historically resistant to new development, became the first Bay Area city in 2022 to adopt an ambitious, state-certified housing plan. The plan, created with substantial input from residents, businesses, and other stakeholders, is to build more than 5,300 homes and apartments. The state commended Alameda for its leadership in taking concrete action to close the housing availability gap.

[Baldwin Park](#)

[Baldwin Park](#) teamed up with Habitat for Humanity to increase its affordable housing supply. The city has earmarked \$5 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding for housing acquisition and rehab, which Habitat for Humanity is using to repair homes — with a special focus on those owned by senior citizens — as well as purchase homes, repair them, and sell them to families at below-market value. The initiative's creative financing and partnership, coupled with a leading national affordable housing group will, yield 40 to 50 new affordable homes for low-income families.

[Banning](#)

This Riverside County city hopes to nearly double in size in the coming decade. To turn into a more vibrant, walkable 21st century city, [Banning](#) has prioritized the creation of affordable housing. In 2020 and 2021, the city issued nearly 1,000 new residential permits and approved a new master-planned development. With nearly 500 homes completed and another 4,000 in the pipeline, the development alone will increase the city's housing stock by roughly a third. An additional 8,500 other homes are in various stages of development.

[Emeryville](#)

For decades, the small Bay Area city of [Emeryville](#) was mostly zoned for commercial and industrial use. However, as the state's affordable housing crisis deepened, Emeryville reversed course and prioritized housing. Approximately 1,100 housing units are in the pipeline, 35% targeted for low-income residents. One way Emeryville jumpstarted affordable housing construction was by creating a development bonus code, which grants developers who meet or exceed the city's affordable housing requirements and include other community benefits, such as increased parking and density.

[Merced](#)

From 2008 to 2016, only 200 new homes were built in [Merced](#). From 2019-2021, the Central Valley city averaged 700 new single-family homes and 400 multifamily per year — with many more on the way. In 2022, the city was awarded \$31 million from the state to help build two affordable housing complexes,

which will include 264 new multifamily homes. Merced has also partnered with several nonprofits, banks, government entities, and development companies to further grow housing supply. Officials estimate these partnerships will yield 600 additional affordable units in the coming years.

[Nevada City](#)

Rural communities must contend with many extra challenges when developing housing, including reduced access to funding, workforce shortages — and in the case of [Nevada City](#) — wildfire risks, higher associated insurance costs, and a lack of buildable terrain. Until the opening of Cashin's Field — 51 units for extremely-low, very-low, and low-income families — the last large multifamily housing built in Nevada City was in 2001. The city financed the project by cobbling together a variety of public and private funds. With the project, Nevada City exceeded its state-mandated low-income housing requirement.

[Pomona](#)

In 2022, [Pomona](#) adopted a new set of housing and land use policies to address the widening affordable housing gap. The multi-faceted toolbox includes the adoption of an inclusionary housing ordinance, the aggressive pursuit of regional, state, and federal grant opportunities, various policy reforms, and a streamlined building permit process. As of 2023, the city had over 2,500 total units in the development pipeline, including several 100% affordable housing projects.

[Redding](#)

[Redding's](#) affordable housing crisis was exacerbated by a wildfire that destroyed more than 1,000 homes in 2018. In response, the city helped spur several notable affordable housing projects thanks to a creative mix of financing and partnerships. As of mid-2022, Redding had added 82 units for low- and very low-income residents at the Downtown Market Center Apartments, with another 79 affordable and 15 market-rate units in the pipeline. Redding is also at the forefront of a potential cost-saving construction measure: It was the first city in California to approve the construction of an on-site, 3D-printed, single-family home.

[Sacramento](#)

In 2022, [Sacramento](#) became the first city in California history to receive the state's "prohousing designation," reflecting the city's efforts to speed up housing production among a dire shortage of affordable homes. To expedite and encourage housing development, the city is waiving fees for affordable housing construction, allowing by-right housing in commercial corridors, expediting approvals for accessory dwelling units, and reducing or eliminating parking requirements. The designation gives the city an advantage in applying for state and federal grants and tax credits for affordable housing projects.

[Santa Ana](#)

[Santa Ana](#) took an equity-centered approach when it transformed one of its oldest neighborhoods into an affordable housing community for families earning between 30 and 60% of the area median income. The city focused on the needs and history of the neighborhood, ensuring that neither businesses nor residents were displaced. The community features many amenities, including an outdoor open space and a revitalized commercial center. The project was funded by multiple sources, including \$6 million in city resources.

[Santa Monica](#)

In 2022, [Santa Monica](#) launched a pilot program prioritizing affordable housing for families displaced by urban renewal policies of the 1950s and '60s. The city-funded program, initially open to 100 displaced, low-income families or their descendants, gives priority access to below-market rent apartments. Santa Monica is one of a handful of cities nationwide attempting to compensate the more than a million people impacted by racist urban renewal policies. The city is also funding several affordable housing projects.