

Pasadena Housing Element Task Force

Meeting #1 Summary

April 1, 2021



Introduction

The City of Pasadena Housing Element Task Force conducted its first meeting on April 1, 2021. The Task Force will review and make recommendations regarding policies, programs, and funding strategies to the Planning Commission and City Council for the 2021-2029 Housing Element of the General Plan. Per direction from Mayor Victor M. Gordo, the Task Force will study and recommend:

- Policies to preserve Pasadena's historic residential neighborhood fabric while meeting our responsibility to target growth to meet the City's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocations
- Policies, incentives, and strategies to leverage funding for construction of sufficient affordable housing to meet the City's RHNA allocations
- Policies and incentives to facilitate adaptive reuse of underutilized commercial and institutional structures for housing where densities are compatible with adjacent neighborhoods
- Policies and programs for preservation existing affordable housing
- Opportunities to broaden home ownership in furtherance of Pasadena's values and the community's well-being
- Opportunities to join with owners of existing multi-unit housing in need of renovation, restoration, and revitalization as a means of retaining affordable housing
- Opportunities for use of underutilized public lands for affordable housing
- Other policies, programs, funding mechanisms and innovative approaches that will promote the goal of ensuring that all Pasadena residents have access to safe and decent housing

Task Force members attending the first meeting were: Chair William (Bill) Bogaard, Joel Bryant, Philipp Burns, Julianna Delgado, Megan Foker, Akila Gibbs, Allison Henry, Leonard Hernandez (for Leslie Barnes), Sarah Letts, Anne Miskey, Rita Moreno, Phyllis Mueller, Andrew Oliver, Phlunte Riddle, Stan Rushing, Barry Storch, and Noel Toro.

City staff in attendance were City Manager Steve Mermell, Vannia DeLaCuba, Arlene Granadosin-Jones, Bill Huang, David Reyes, David Sanchez, and Jim Wong.

Presentation and Discussion

The consultant team leading the Housing Element program—MIG, Inc. and Veronica Tam and Associates—provided background information via a PowerPoint presentation (attached). The team then assisted Chair Bogaard in leading the Task Force through a discussion of the following questions:

1. What are the major housing issues and challenges in Pasadena today and in the future?
2. What types of housing are needed in the community?
3. Where should new housing be located in Pasadena?
4. What programs could be expanded, or new programs offered?
5. What questions would you like to ask the community via the planned Housing Element Update workshops and survey?

The discussion was captured on a digital white board, a copy of which is attached.

Appendix B- Task Force Meeting Mural



Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Task Force Charge
- Housing Element Schedule
- Snapshot of Pasadena
- About the Housing Element
- New Challenges for 2021-2029
- Housing Programs Today
- Community Conversations Ahead

Housing Element Task Force: Meeting #1

Thursday, April 1, 2021
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Housing Element & Process

Challenges & Issues

Most land area is currently zoned single family residential			
Many older adults have problems with stairs. Some units look like residents have to climb a number of stairs.	When affordable housing projects are built, will they consider the needs of older adults?		

Housing Programs

Questions for the Community

What are some of the things you're looking for in new housing? (e.g. green space, walkable markets, further out, etc.)	Cost burden for tenants	Habitability - do tenants in particular feel they are in safe housing, is the cost fair, do they know about current fair housing resources?	How do residents of single-family homes feel about ADUs? What would it take for residents to feel comfortable with having more ADUs in the neighborhood?
For those who participate, how long have they lived in the City of Pasadena? It'd be great to match this with the other questions/issues	What is the community (specific to northwest Pasadena) perception of gentrification?	Do people have preferences between new rental or for sale housing?	What are the community's concerns around affordable housing being built in their community? Is it a PR issue or a design/planning issue?
Is the community aware of downpayment assistance funds (from State, County or City) for first-time buyers?	Can people describe their housing conditions in terms of needing improved air quality, pollution protections (e.g. noise)?	Are residents finding options for their household conditions (e.g. living with relatives)? Options that suit their household conditions (e.g. accessibility limitations)	People find housing but it doesn't meet their household needs (e.g. disability accommodations, number of bedrooms, etc.)
Has COVID changed people's needs? (e.g. working from home, number of cars)	If CA is going to move towards the sale of zero emissions vehicles, would people feel comfortable with housing placed closer to the freeway?		

Additional Questions and Comments

Have you already developed questions for the community? Are our questions going to add to existing questions?	When did the inclusionary ordinance become effective and what types of developments does that apply to?	April 15th is around the corner; there should be a good public outreach effort	Will future meetings of the task force be scheduled at 6:00 pm?	Will the public meetings be scheduled for 6:00 pm?	The previous RHNA number was 1,512. Have we met that target? If there are excess units do they get carried over?		
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