

Affordable Housing Linkage Fee



Subject Line: **New Affordable Housing Linkage Fee Market Area Maps Approved by City Council**

Dear Interested Parties,

On March 25, 2026, the City Council adopted the staff-recommended Affordable Housing Linkage Fee (AHLF) 5-Year Market Area adjustment. As directed by the adopted AHLF Ordinance ([LAMC Chapter 1 Sec. 19.18](#) and [Chapter 1A Sec. 15.4.3.](#)), the [market area maps](#) have been updated to reflect more current market conditions and shift from Community Plan Area boundaries to smaller neighborhood-based boundaries. This change “right-sizes” affordability requirements by aligning them more closely with actual submarket conditions. The new maps will become effective on April 24, 2026.

The AHLF Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Dec. 13, 2017 to establish a fee on certain residential and commercial development. The [fee amount](#) varies by the type of project and by market area. It offers exemptions for qualifying projects, including those that provide the required percentage of affordable housing. Linkage Fee revenue provides local funding for affordable units and supports the City's overall housing needs. Since its adoption, the ordinance has led to increased mixed-income construction citywide and revenues for affordable housing.

In addition to determining the [Linkage Fee rate](#), the market area maps are used to establish affordability set-aside requirements in the [Mixed-Income Incentive Program \(MIIP\)](#), and determine the applicability of minimum density requirements in the Housing Element Sites and Minimum Density (HESMD) Ordinance. To learn more about the MIIP and the HESMD Ordinance, click [here](#). Members of the public can find the Market Area for a given property in [ZIMAS](#) under the “Planning and Zoning” tab.

Updates to the Linkage Fee Implementation Memo, and [ZIMAS](#) are forthcoming. See the [Housing Policy webpage](#) for updates. Please send questions about the 5-Year Map Update to planning.housingpolicy@lacity.org.

Resources

[2018 Market Area Maps](#)

[2026 Updated Market Area Maps](#)

[Council File 17-0274-S5](#)

[Housing Policy webpage](#)