



# PRESS RELEASE



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## Los Angeles City Planning Calls for a More Equitable Housing Strategy


**LOS ANGELES**—Today, Los Angeles City Planning [released a report](#) outlining bold strategies to distribute affordable housing more equitably throughout the City. The report to the City Council proposes the establishment of an equitable Housing Element rezoning program, the establishment of housing targets by community, and other strategies to ensure that equity is at the forefront of future land use considerations.

The centerpiece of the report is a set of recommendations that prioritizes the fair distribution of affordable units across the City in both short and long-term planning efforts. By addressing issues related to zoning capacity, the recommendations will ensure that Los Angeles's community-by-community approach to planning complements citywide objectives for accommodating growth in a way that furthers equity.

“Affordable housing has become an evermore critical lifeline for so many Angelenos,” said Director of Planning Vince Bertoni. “With housing costs on the rise, we must facilitate housing production across every one of our neighborhoods to address our present and future needs. By aligning our long-range policies, we can achieve fair, equitable, and meaningful results.”

To ensure that every neighborhood in Los Angeles provides its fair share of affordable units, City Planning is updating the Housing Element's policies and strategies for meeting the City's housing goals, needs, and targets. Laying the foundation for policy decisions on allocating land resources, the Housing Element of the General Plan plays a pivotal role in advancing changes such as expanding options for alternative models of housing. As part of this effort, City Planning is proposing new rezoning strategies that will focus additional housing capacity in high-opportunity areas with good access to jobs and/or transit, while protecting tenants and vulnerable communities as well as environmentally sensitive areas.

The Department is also proposing a structural change that will require every neighborhood in the City to do its part to address the housing crisis. The change would introduce targeted fair-share zoning allocations to guide future plan updates and ensure that affordable housing is equitably distributed across the City. An explicit objective of this new plan is to reverse past land use policies that have contributed to racial segregation. The plan would seek to undo those policies by expanding housing opportunities in higher-resource areas and further prioritizing affordable housing.



The report also calls on the City Council to consider the development of additional housing incentive programs that would streamline the approval process for affordable units and expand the City's existing programs into more neighborhoods where housing is needed.

In the coming weeks, City Planning will unveil a comprehensive suite of policies and programs as part of the Housing Element Update, alongside the Housing + Community Investment Department. The new Housing Element will build on this report's recommendations and support Los Angeles's overall approach of expanding access to affordable housing, combating displacement, and strengthening tenants' protections.

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