



MEMO TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

HEARING DATE: October 14, 2021

October 7, 2021

Case Number: 2019-016230CWP
Project: Housing Element 2022 Update
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Recommendation: None – Informational Item Only

Background

The Housing Element 2022 Update is San Francisco's first housing plan that will center racial and social equity. It will include policies and programs that express the city's collective vision and values for the future of housing in San Francisco. This plan will identify priorities for decision makers, guide resource allocation for housing programs and services, and define how and where the city should create new homes for San Franciscans, or those who want to call this city home. This plan will need to accommodate the creation of 82,000 units by 2031, a target set by State and Regional Agencies that has been tripled compared to the city's current targets.

The last update was adopted in 2014. Since then, the Planning Department pursued multiple initiatives that evaluated and analyzed housing needs and strategies in collaboration with our community partners. The public process for the Housing Element Update 2022 launched with a summary of key ideas informed by these initiatives. This public process includes three phases:

- Phase 1 outreach, May- December 2020, completed.
- Phase 2 outreach, April- September 2021, completed.
- Phase 3 outreach, January- March 2022

Purpose of the hearing

A major theme heard during outreach and engagement to date was that communities were unclear about how their input is incorporated into policy. The purpose of this hearing is primarily to increase transparency of the steps between community engagement and drafting updates to policies and actions. At this hearing, staff will present:

- An overview of Phase 2 outreach and engagement components and methods, and communities engaged
- Public input analysis steps and timeline
- Snapshot of public input highlights, and examples of how policies or actions could be modified or added to incorporate input
- Major policy shifts discussed with communities during Phase 2 of outreach and engagement, and identified challenges and opportunities
- Preliminary scope of racial and social equity impact analysis for the Housing Element 2022 Update, and process for scoping and analysis

Overview of Outreach and Engagement to Date

The public process and community outreach and engagement began in June 2020, and the second phase was launched in April 2021 with the release of the [first draft of the Housing Element goals, policies and actions](#), along with a [Context Statement](#), the [Public Input Summary](#), the [Draft Needs Assessment summary](#). Draft 1 of goals, policies, and actions were put together based on an extensive review process of all input received during phase 1 in collaboration with other City agencies.

Phase 2 of outreach and engagement included 22 focus groups designed and led by 21 community-based organizations serving low-income communities, communities of color, and vulnerable groups in collaboration with an outreach consultant, *incommon*; 25 community conversations; written comments received; and 108 digital participation platform respondents, who in total shared 432 comments. It also included seven topic conversations with the Housing Policy Group, a group of over 40 housing policy, advocacy, and development organizations. A detailed input summary of this phase will be forthcoming later in the Fall and in early 2022.

Phase 1 wrapped up in December 2020 resulting in 1,631 survey respondents, more than 220 listening session participants, and 118 digital participation platform respondents, who in total shared more than 2,400 comments and rated key policy ideas summarized from past outreach and engagement efforts. In addition, the Department engaged with the Housing Policy Group on critical topics and tension points over the course of nine meetings.

The following illustrates the project’s overall timeline including the upcoming key milestones and processes:



The Housing Element project will result in a proposal for a holistic update to the Housing Element of the General Plan. It is one part of a series of proposed amendments to the General Plan intended to modernize the City's land use policy document. The other updates underway include updates to the Safety and Resilience Element to add climate resilience, a holistic update of the Transportation Element consistent with the interagency ConnectSF Program, and an incorporation of Environmental Justice policies into the General Plan, consistent with both state law and the Commission's equity resolution number 20738. An overview of these changes to the General Plan has been tentatively scheduled for November 4, 2021.

Required Commission Action

This item is being presented for informational purposes only. No formal action by the Planning Commission is required.

Recommendation: None – Informational Item Only