

# Housing Element Overview



State law does not require the City of Livermore to build or finance new housing, but we must plan for it.

## What is a Housing Element?

The Housing Element is the City's plan to meet the housing needs of all Livermore residents. It is part of the Livermore General Plan, which serves as the blueprint for how Livermore will grow and address changing needs for development.

## Why is Livermore updating its Housing Element?

All cities and counties in the Bay Area must update their Housing Element for the 2023-2031 planning period. Housing elements must be updated every eight years and be certified by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

## What happens if Livermore does not adopt a Housing Element?

Livermore could face lawsuits, lose decision-making authority for certain housing projects, and become ineligible for state funding for housing programs. These and other consequences are written in state law.

## Components of a Housing Element

- **Housing Needs Assessment.** Examines demographic, employment, and housing trends and conditions.
- **Evaluation of Past Performance.** Reviews and measures progress of the prior Housing Element.
- **Housing Sites Inventory.** Identifies locations of available sites for housing development or redevelopment to determine if there is enough land zoned for housing to meet the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) and future need.
- **Community Outreach and Engagement.** Implements a community outreach and engagement program to all economic segments of the community, with particular focus on outreach to traditionally underrepresented groups, to find solutions to addressing local housing challenges.
- **Constraints Analysis.** Analyzes and recommends remedies for existing and potential governmental and nongovernmental barriers to housing development.
- **Policies and Programs.** Establishes policies and programs to fulfill the identified housing needs.



The State of California Housing and Community Department (HCD) determines the number of new homes the Bay Area needs to plan for at different affordability levels to meet the housing needs of people at all income levels. **The Bay Area must plan for 441,176 housing units.**



The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) convenes stakeholders in a Housing Methodology Committee to distribute the region's housing allocation to each jurisdiction in the Bay Area.



Every city in California receives the **Regional Housing Needs Allocation or RHNA** which provides the target number of homes to plan for. **The City of Livermore must plan for 4,570 housing units** in this cycle of RHNA, which is currently in the sixth cycle.

## Housing Element Update Process

### Community Input

September 2021 – May 2022



### Release Draft Housing Element

March 2022



### Feedback from Public

Spring 2022



### State of California Review

Summer & Fall 2022



### Release Revised Housing Element

Fall 2022



### City Council Votes

January 2023

