

1.6 Element Organization

This Encinitas Housing Element is comprised of the following sections:

- **Section 1: Introduction and Housing Element Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs** contain the Housing Element background and the requisite policies and programs to address housing need in the community.
- **Appendix A: Summary of Community Engagement** provides a summary of the community engagement activities that have occurred throughout the development of the Housing Element document.
- **Appendix B: Housing Profile Report** provides the required demographic analysis, needs, constraints, and other analyses required by state law.
- **Appendix C: Adequate Sites Inventory** provides an inventory of sites to meet the estimated RHNA need throughout the planning period.

2. Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs

This section of the Housing Element contains the goals and policies the City intends to implement to address important housing-related issues. The following three major issue areas are addressed by the goals and policies of the Housing Element:

- ensure that a broad range of housing types are provided to meet the needs of both existing and future residents;
- ensure that housing is both sound and safe for occupants; and
- ensure that the existing housing stock is maintained and preserved.

Each issue area and the supporting goals and policies are identified and discussed in the following section. In addition, housing programs that implement each goal and policy are summarized in a table located at the end of this section.

2.1 Housing Opportunities

The City wants to encourage the construction of new housing units that offer a wide range of housing types to ensure that an adequate supply is available to meet existing and future needs. The maintenance of a balanced inventory of housing in terms of unit type (e.g. single-family, multiple-family, etc.), cost, and style will ensure that the existing variety is maintained. Each of the five communities has a distinct character due in large part to the nature of their existing residential neighborhoods. New housing constructed in the City should be compatible in design with the surrounding neighborhood in particular and the community in general. The diverse make-up of the City with its five distinct communities will continue to attract a wide variety of people. The City has also made a strong and firm commitment that fair housing practices will continue in Encinitas and that it will affirmatively further fair housing.

GOAL 1: THE CITY WILL ENCOURAGE THE PROVISION OF A WIDE RANGE OF HOUSING BY LOCATION, TYPE OF UNIT, AND PRICE TO MEET THE EXISTING AND FUTURE HOUSING NEEDS IN THE REGION AND CITY.

POLICY 1.1: Strive to maintain a balance of housing types in the City.

POLICY 1.2: Strive to provide a wide variety of housing types so that a range of housing needs and types will be made available to existing and future residents.

POLICY 1.3: When existing single-family residential units are replaced, they should be replaced with units that are compatible in design with the surrounding residential neighborhood as planned by the City.

POLICY 1.4: Provide opportunities for low- and moderate-income housing in all five communities in the City and ensure that its location will not tend to cause racial segregation and will provide access to areas of high opportunity. Require that such housing should be high quality in terms of design and construction without sacrificing affordability.

POLICY 1.5: Utilize available federal, state, and local financing sources and subsidies to assist in the development of lower and moderate-income housing and housing serving special needs, such as farmworkers, persons with disabilities, and extremely low-income persons.

POLICY 1.6: Encourage retention of all existing mobile home parks to the extent permitted by applicable state law.

POLICY 1.7: Coordinate with local social service providers to address the needs of the City's homeless population and to provide housing suitable for special needs populations, including seniors, large families, the disabled, and farmworkers.

POLICY 1.8: Continue to provide assistance to agencies that ensure that the provisions of the federal and state laws that prohibit housing discrimination are enforced.

POLICY 1.9: Support ongoing efforts of the state and federal agencies and local fair housing agencies to enforce fair housing laws, as well as regional efforts to affirmatively further fair housing.

2.2 Quality of Housing

New housing opportunities in the City must be made available to all persons.

GOAL 2: SOUND HOUSING WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE CITY OF ENCINITAS FOR ALL PERSONS

POLICY 2.1: Encourage developers to provide a balance of housing types and sizes.

POLICY 2.2: Adopt policies, including development fees, to ensure that there is adequate infrastructure and public facilities required to serve new housing.

POLICY 2.3: Allow for cluster-type housing and other innovative housing design that provides adequate open areas around and within these developments.

POLICY 2.4: Coordinate the provision of open areas in adjoining residential developments to maximize the benefit of the open space.

POLICY 2.5: Encourage street planting, landscaping, and undergrounding of utilities.

POLICY 2.6 Encourage high standards of design, materials, and workmanship in all construction and developments.

POLICY 2.7: Discourage residential development of steep slopes, canyons, and floodplains.

POLICY 2.8: Continue to develop and promote energy efficiency conservation measures consistent with the strategies outlined in the City's Climate Action Plan.

2.3 Maintenance and Preservation of Housing

Substandard and deteriorating housing units, in addition to the obvious problems of blight, can expose occupants to a wide range of hazards ranging from electrical fire to exposure to toxic substances used in construction. Many factors can determine the "life expectancy" of a dwelling, including quality of workmanship, age, type of construction, location, and numerous other factors. A major focus of this Housing Element is to provide goals and policies which underscore the City's commitment to ensure that the existing housing stock in the five communities is maintained.

GOAL 3: THE CITY WILL ENCOURAGE THE MAINTENANCE AND PRESERVATION OF THE EXISTING HOUSING STOCK AS WELL AS QUALITY DESIGN IN NEW HOUSING.

POLICY 3.1: Where determined to be dangerous to the public health and safety, substandard units in the City shall be repaired so that they will comply with the applicable building, safety and housing codes. When compliance through repair is not or cannot be achieved, abatement of substandard units shall be achieved.

POLICY 3.2: Enforce the building, safety and housing codes through active code enforcement efforts.

POLICY 3.3: Continue to apply for and support existing available federal state and local housing programs which provide housing assistance. These include assistance to property owners that can demonstrate financial need in the upgrading of their substandard units. Continue existing city programs for housing rehabilitation, and work to obtain additional external funding.

2.4 Housing Conservation

The City's existing housing stock includes units which are affordable to very low, low, and moderate-income households. A significant part of the City housing focus is on these existing affordable units, and how to ensure their continued affordability. Of particular concern are projects which were government-subsidized when built, in return for units being rent-restricted to be affordable. With passage of time, some deed-restricted affordable units may be subject to being converted to market-rate rental units by the expiration or pre-payment of the government subsidy arrangement. State law requires that local housing elements address the status of these "units at risk." The City is committed to doing what it can so that affordable units remain affordable to target-income households.

GOAL 4: THE CITY WILL ATTEMPT TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED AFFORDABILITY OF DEED-RESTRICTED AFFORDABLE UNITS.

POLICY 4.1: The City will continue to develop necessary actions to attempt to ensure the continued affordability of affordable “units at risk” of conversion to market rate units due to expiration of use restrictions, affordability covenants, or funding subsidies.

2.5 Removal of Governmental and Nongovernmental Constraints

GOAL 5: THE CITY WILL DEVELOP STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL CONSTRAINTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING.

POLICY 5.1: The City periodically evaluates adopted zoning provisions, entitlement procedures, fees and other city requirements that may create constraints to the development of housing and will implement policies to reduce or eliminate those constraints.

POLICY 5.2: The city will monitor non-governmental constraints, such as interest rates, construction costs, and others through consultation with developers, lenders and other entities directly involved in the provision of housing. Should non-governmental constraints be identified that are related to City policies, the City will modify its policies and procedures if City actions may help to reduce those constraints.

2.6 Related Goals and Policies

As required by state law, the Land Use Element sets standards for permitted uses and for residential density, thereby affecting housing opportunity in Encinitas. In addition, the Land Use Element contains policies directed at maintaining the existing housing stock, as well as ensuring the quality of new residential development. The Circulation Element contains policies to minimize roadway traffic into residential neighborhoods, and the Noise Element sets forth policies to minimize the level of noise in neighborhoods. The Resource Management Element establishes development standards to minimize the impact of residential development on sensitive resources, such as hillside areas, ecological habitat, and scenic view sheds. Finally, the Public Safety Element sets forth policies to ensure the safety of the City’s housing stock through such measures as code enforcement, and mitigation of environmental hazards as a condition to development.

Table 2-1: Housing Policy Matrix depicts General Plan elements that support the goals of the Housing Element.

Table 2-1: Housing Policy Matrix					
Issue Area	Land Use	Circulation	Resource Mgmt.	Noise	Public Safety
Housing Opportunities	X	X			X
Housing Quality	X				
Maintenance and Preservation	X	X	X	X	X
Housing Conservation	X				X