

Summary of Community Outreach

Section 65583 of the Government Code states that, “the local government shall make diligent effort to achieve public participation of all economic segments of the community in the development of the housing element, and the program shall describe this effort.” Meaningful community participation is also required in connection with the City’s Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH). A summary of citizen participation is provided below.

As part of the 6th Cycle Housing Element Update process, Newport Beach has conducted extensive public outreach activities beginning in 2019. In October 2019, the City launched Newport Together, a Listen & Learn process to guide and inform a future General Plan Update. The goal of the Listen & Learn was to hear from a broad spectrum of community members on community values, assess the current General Plan Vision, and provide recommendations for a future General Plan Update. Newport Together was guided by the General Plan Update Steering Committee, a body appointed by City Council to oversee the Listen and Learn process. The following series of Community Workshops occurred in each of the Newport Beach Council Districts:

- November 12, 2019 from 6 – 8 p.m. at 16th Street Recreation Center – *District 2*
- November 14, 2019 from 6 – 8 p.m. Back Bay Science Center – *District 3*
- November 20, 2019 from 6 – 8 p.m. Newport Coast Community Center – *District 7*
- November 21, 2019 from 6 – 8 p.m. OASIS Senior Center – *District 6*
- December 3, 2019 from 6 – 8 p.m. Central Library's Friend Meeting Room – *District 5*
- December 11, 2019 from 6 – 8 p.m. Bonita Creek Community Center - *District 4*
- December 12, 2019 from 6 – 8 p.m. Marina Park Community Center – *District 1*

Beginning in 2020 the City began additional focused discussion for the 6th Cycle Housing Element Update. These recent outreach efforts included Community Workshops, Digital Engagement, Planning Commission Study Sessions, Housing Element Advisory Committee Meetings, digital media, and noticed Public Hearings. Project materials, including summaries from community workshops and public meetings, notices, and draft public review documents are available on the City’s website: <https://www.newporttogether.com/housing>.

Outreach for the 6th Cycle Housing Element to the Newport Beach community, includes the following actions:

- **Community Workshop #1** – The City conducted a virtual community workshop on October 20, 2020. Advertising for the workshop included emailing the City’s list serve, posting on social media, creating an item on the City’s calendar, newspaper ads, water bill notices, and announcing the event on the project website. The recorded workshop is available for viewing on the workshop’s webpage at https://www.newporttogether.com/virtual_workshop. The 82 workshop participants were provided with an overview of the Housing Element Update process, community and housing characteristics, and also participated in engagement activities. Takeaways from the workshop include the following:

- Many believe Newport Beach has opportunities to overcome housing challenges in communities where density may be increased and through a mixture of housing types that meets the needs of many different family types and income levels;
 - Traffic impacts and parking are important issues to be addressed along with housing;
 - Different densities are suitable in different areas of the City;
 - And, some people are opposed to the development of more housing.
- **Community Workshop #2 and #3** – The City conducted a second and third community workshop on November 16th and 17th, 2020. Advertising for the workshop included emails out to the City’s distribution list, social media posts, creating an item on the City’s calendar, newspaper ads, water bill notices, and announcing the event on the project website. The recorded workshop is available for viewing on the workshop’s webpage at <https://www.newporttogether.com/housing-suitability>. The workshop included an ice breaker that asked participants to guess the density of various housing types. The activity’s goal was to have participants think about density and to associate density numbers with housing projects in Newport Beach. Participants could submit comments and questions via the Zoom chat box in the first half of the workshop. In the second half, during the public comment section, participants could use the “raise hand” function to indicate that they would like to speak verbally, and project staff would then unmute their microphone. Each participant was allotted three minutes to ask questions or provide comments. Participants were also able to submit comments via the chat box. A primary objective of the workshop was allowing participants opportunities to comment on the housing suitability analysis for focus areas in the City. Participants were asked to consider if focus areas were suitable for housing development and if there were challenges and opportunities associated with these specific areas. Attendance for the part 1 and part 2 of the workshop was as follows:
 - **Part 1:** 61 participants (4 called in and 57 participated on the web)
 - **Part 2:** 55 participants (1 called in and 54 participated on the web)
 - ~~● **Community Workshop #4** – The City conducted a fourth community workshop on February 24th, 2021. Advertising for the workshop included emails out to the City’s distribution list, social media posts, creating an item on the City’s calendar, newspaper ads, water bill notices, and announcing the event on the project website. The recorded workshop is available for viewing on the workshop’s webpage at <https://www.newporttogether.com/circulation-element-themes2>. The workshop discussed opportunity sites and policy strategies for the Housing Element and provide opportunities for the public to discuss options and provided feedback.~~
 - **Community Workshop #45** – The City conducted a ~~fourth~~^{fifth} community workshop on March 22nd, 2021. Advertising for the workshop included emails out to the City’s distribution list, social media posts, creating an item on the City’s calendar, newspaper ads, water bill notices, and announcing the event on the project website. The recorded workshop is available for viewing on the workshop’s webpage at <https://www.newporttogether.com/housing-element-initial-draft>.



The workshop provided an introduction to the initial draft and provided opportunities for the public to provide questions and comments.

- **Community Workshop #56** – The City conducted a ~~fifth~~sixth community workshop on June 21st, 2021. Advertising for the workshop included emails out to the City’s distribution list, social media posts, creating an item on the City’s calendar, newspaper ads, water bill notices, and announcing the event on the project website. The recorded workshop is available for viewing on the workshop’s webpage at <https://www.newporttogether.com>. The workshop provided an overview of inclusionary housing, accessory dwelling units, and housing overlays. Staff also introduced a revised housing production scenario that would be shared with City Council for feedback the following night.
- **Property Owner Outreach** – The City provided direct contact to all property owners with sites identified in the draft Sites Inventory. There were two rounds of mailers that were sent out to registered owners of properties. In instances where a property owner expressed disinterest in participating, those sites were removed from consideration.
- **Planning Commission Study Session** –The City held a Planning Commission Study Session on March 22nd, 2021. During the study session, the project team provided a presentation with an overview of the Public Review Draft Housing Element and Housing Element update process to date. Community members had the opportunity to give public comments.
- **City Council Study Sessions** –The City held eight City Council Study Sessions on April 27th, June 8th, June 22nd, July 13th, September 14th (inclusionary), October 26th, November 16th, 2021 and January 25, 2022 to discuss the draft Housing Element, the City Council review draft RHNA accommodation scenarios and provided input and direction in consideration of community comments received.
- **Housing Element Update Advisory Committee (HEUAC) Meetings** – The City established a Housing Element Update Advisory Committee to:
 - Ensure there is sufficient public outreach and stakeholder input regarding the update to the Housing, Land Use, and Circulation Elements of the Newport Beach General Plan and any other Elements deemed necessary.
 - Review responses to the Request for Proposal for services to update the Housing, Land Use, Circulation, and other Elements deemed necessary.
 - Make recommendations to the City Council regarding the selection of consultants to assist in the update of the Housing, Land Use, and other Elements deemed necessary.
 - Provide guidance to City staff and the consultant through the outreach process.
 - Provide guidance to City staff, and the consultant, on goals and policies related to the update of the Housing, Land Use, and any other Elements deemed necessary by the Committee or City Council.

- Make other recommendations to the City Council regarding the update of the General Plan, as necessary.

The HEUAC meeting agendas, minutes, and videos are available on the City's webpage at: <https://ecms.newportbeachca.gov/Web/Browse.aspx?startid=2503780&cnb=BoardsCommissions>. Nine Newport Beach residents were appointed by the Mayor and Confirmed by the City Council to be part of the committee.

- **Housing Element Update Website** – A website was developed for public consumption and can be accessed at <https://www.newporttogether.com/housing>. The website provided relevant information about the update process, key features of the housing element, project timeline and a calendar of events for outreach activities. The website also provided a link to the community survey tool, past recorded meetings and summaries, as well as the contact information of the City for residents and community members to send additional comments or request additional information.
- **Targeted Outreach** –From the time the City kicked off an update of the General Plan in 2019, there has been an extensive broad-sweeping outreach and engagement effort. To get the whole community involved, the City published materials in the local newspaper (*The Daily Pilot*), provided inserts in utility bill mailers, posted on social media, distributed flyers, and relied upon word-of-mouth through City council announcements and neighborhood conversations. [As part of the analysis of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, the City conducted a variety of informal meetings with internal city staff and stakeholders to provide anecdotal evidence supporting the requisite analysis contained in Chapter 3 of this Housing Element.](#)
- **Planning Commission Public Hearing** –On December 9, 2021, the City held a duly noticed Public Hearing to recommend adoption of the Housing Element to the City Council. The Planning Commission received public comments, made findings pursuant to CEQA and adopted Resolution PC2021-034 recommending adoption of the General Plan Amendment No. GP2021-005 for the 2021 6th Cycle Housing Element.
- **City Council Public Hearing** –On February 8, 2022, the City held a duly noticed Public Hearing to adopt of the Housing Element to the City Council. The City Council received public comments, made findings pursuant to CEQA and adopted Resolution No. 2022-14 adopting the General Plan Amendment No. GP2021-005 for the 2021 6th Cycle Housing Element.

For all community engagement events, staff contacts in Spanish were provided to community members who required language assistance. The City's website provided links for assistance to those needing Spanish language services. No Spanish translation services requests were made by the public at any Workshop, Study Session or community activity.

In addition, a centralized website (www.NewportTogether.com) was created to act as an accessible, interactive landing point for all those interested in learning more about the City's



efforts. It is important to know that contact information was provided in case there is any trouble reviewing the information or translation services were required. Hard copies of draft Housing Element updates were also made available at City Hall for review for those who may not have digital access capabilities.

Newport Beach has been named a “deaf-friendly city” and Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and non-English speakers now have access to tablets that allow them to connect to interpreters who help translate information regarding city services at libraries, City Hall, and other facilities.

The City distributed meeting flyers/event notices for all public outreach activities to a variety of local and County services agencies, interest groups, universities, private/public services agencies, advocacy organizations that support and advocate for extremely-low and low-income households in Orange County. Many of these groups actively participated and provided comments at the Workshops, HEUAC and Hearings before the Planning Commission and City Council. There comments area summarized in the meeting summaries provided in this **Appendix**.

An email registration sign up was offered, that provided regular updates to local residents, agencies and organizations who desired continued participation in the process. Registrants were regularly informed of outreach and engagement activities throughout the planning process.

Through the City’s website and the project website, interested individuals have been able to sign up for newsletter updates and alerts about upcoming activity. In this manner, nongovernmental organizations have been able to stay informed. In addition, workshop notices were included in the Kennedy Commission (local nonprofit housing organization) newsletters that are sent via electronic mail to a wide variety of housing stakeholders in the Orange County area.

At the City’s Housing Element workshops, representatives of YIMBY Law, the Kennedy Commission, and other nongovernmental organizations attended. Comments are provided during the workshop discourse and are always included in the prepared summary for consideration as the update continues.

Also, the Chair of the Housing Element Update Advisory Committee (HEUAC) invited Kennedy Commission’s Executive Director Cesar Covarrubias to make a presentation to the HEUAC at its October 21, 2020 meeting.

The City has made every attempt to engage a broad cross representation of residents in the development of housing policy. Individuals and organizations were invited to participate and comment throughout the development of the draft Housing Element. Many of these organizations also outreached to their own constituents informing them of the opportunity. Those invited and encouraged to participate through the means described above and/or were active participants in the creation of the Housing Element included:



- Kennedy Commission
- Public Law Center
- Campaign for Fair Housing
- YIMBY Law
- People for Housing
- SPON
- Jamboree Housing
- Trellis, Homeless outreach
- St. James Episcopal Church
- Serving People in Need
- [Be Well Orange County](#)

As required by Government Code Section 65585(b)(2), all written comments regarding the Housing Element made by the public have previously been provided to each member of the City Council.

This Appendix contains a summary of all public comments regarding the Housing Element received by the City at scheduled public meetings, and the Appendix has been provided to the City Council.



C.1 Community Workshop 1 Materials

This section contains all the related materials from the virtual Community Workshop 1. This includes the outreach flyer, materials provided to participants, and the workshop summary. Comments were received in the chat box, polling questions, and open-ended questions with types responses. Video recording of the workshop and verbal comments are available at <https://www.newporttogether.com/>.



C.2 Community Workshop 2 and 3 Materials

This section contains the summary and chat responses from the virtual Community Workshop 2/3. Comments were received in the chat box and verbally during the meeting. Video recording of the workshop and verbal comments are available at <https://www.newporttogether.com/>.



C.3 Community Workshop 4 Materials

This section contains the summary and chat responses from the virtual Community Workshop 4. Comments were received in the chat box and verbally during the meeting. Video recording of the workshop and verbal comments are available at <https://www.newporttogether.com/>.



C.4 Community Workshop 5 Materials

This section contains the summary and chat responses from the virtual Community Workshop 5. Comments were received in the chat box and verbally during the meeting. Video recording of the workshop and verbal comments are available at <https://www.newporttogether.com/>.



C.5 Community Workshop 6 Materials

~~This section contains the summary and chat responses from the virtual Community Workshop 6. Comments were received in the chat box and verbally during the meeting. Video recording of the workshop and verbal comments are available at <https://www.newporttogether.com/>.~~





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C.56 Planning Commission Study Session

~~This section contains the meeting minutes and materials provided at the study session.~~ All recordings, agendas, and minutes can be found on the City's website at <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/data-hub/agendas-minutes>.

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C.67 City Council Study Sessions

All recordings, agendas, and minutes for City Council Study Sessions occurring on the following dates can be found on the City's website at <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/data-hub/agendas-minutes>.

April 27, 2021

June 8, 2021

July 13, 2021

September 14, 2021 (Inclusionary Housing)

October 26, 2021

November 16, 2021

January 25, 2022

April 26, 2022

This section contains the summary presentations and minutes for Study Sessions before the City Council occurring in 2021. All recordings, agendas, and minutes can be found on the City's website at <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/data-hub/agendas-minutes>.



C.78 HEUAC Meetings

This section contains the meeting minutes and public comments for each meeting held up to March 31st, 2021. All recordings, agendas, and minutes can be found on the City's website at <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/data-hub/agendas-minutes/housing-element-update-advisory-committee>. ~~Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.~~



C.89 Public Comments

~~This section contains all the public~~Public comments received regarding the Housing Element Update. Personal addresses and contact details have been redacted for privacy.

A summary matrix of public comments to the Draft Housing Element is provided in this section.