



Chapter 8: Housing Element

Introduction

PURPOSE

The Housing Element of the Riverside County General Plan identifies and establishes the County’s policies with respect to meeting the needs of existing and future residents in Riverside County. It establishes policies that will guide County decision-making and sets forth an action plan to implement its housing goals in the next seven years. These commitments are in furtherance of the statewide housing goal of “early attainment of decent housing and a suitable living environment for every California family,” as well as a reflection of the concerns unique to the County of Riverside.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

The California Government Code requires that local governments make diligent efforts to solicit public participation from all economic segments of the community, especially low-income persons, in the development of the Housing Element. During the preparation of this Housing Element update, public input was actively encouraged in a variety of ways. The public participation effort included:

- 2 series of Community Workshops held in four locations around the county (8 workshops total)
- Workshops held by the County Housing Technical Advisory Committee
- Workshops held by the General Plan Advisory Committee
- Study sessions by the County Planning Commission
- Public Hearings held before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors

Notice of all public workshops and hearings was provided to the County’s list of interested parties, which included representatives of low-income and special needs groups, non-profit and for-profit housing developers, community organizations, and other governmental agencies. In addition, to accommodate the needs of Spanish-speaking residents, the County provided the services of qualified translators at community workshops.

The Draft and Final Housing Element were also provided to the Department of Housing and Community Development for review and comment, as required by law. Efforts to involve the public in the preparation of the final element included Spanish radio public service announcements, newspaper notices for community meetings in both English and Spanish, direct mail notices to for-profit and non-profit affordable housing developers and other interested housing advocates.