

# CITY OF ANAHEIM

## HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE PROJECT

### COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1 MEETING SUMMARY

On Wednesday, March 24, 2021, the City of Anaheim hosted a virtual community workshop, using the Zoom platform. The workshop began at 6 pm and had a total 71 participants. The workshop was provided in two languages (English and Spanish) by conducting two simultaneous sessions. The complete recordings of both the English and Spanish workshop sessions are available on the City's Housing Element Update webpage here: [English Session](#) / [Spanish Session](#).

The first community workshop provided background information and basic education about the Housing Element Update and gathered initial feedback and input from participants. The Housing Element team provided a presentation including the following information:

- Housing Element Update Team introductions
- Background and history of the Housing Element
- Overview of the Housing Element purpose and state requirements
- Overview of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation
- Project timeline and tentative schedule for outreach

Following the presentation, the Housing Element Update Team utilized online tools, including a virtual polling survey and virtual whiteboard exercise, to facilitate community participation, discussions regarding housing, and gather feedback. All community engagement and participant feedback is summarized below:

#### VIRTUAL POLLING SURVEY - MENTIMETER EXERCISE

During the workshop the City conducted an anonymous live polling survey to engage participants, using Menitmeter.com. The poll offered five questions related to housing in Anaheim. A summary of each question and responses is below:

- *Question 1: Tell us about your housing experience in Anaheim*  
Participants were provided a blank text box for free response. Majority of participants defined their experience as expensive, noting gentrification.
- *Question 2: What are some housing challenges or needs in Anaheim?*  
Participants were provided a blank text box for free response. Participants identified lack of affordable housing and accessible housing, along with overcrowding and unbalanced opportunities as primary challenges. Overall cost of housing and affordability were also identified as one of main concerns. Additionally, participants noted lack of green spaces, parking, and recreational areas as additional challenges to increasing housing opportunity.
- *Question 3: What are your ideas for housing in Anaheim?*  
Participants were provided a blank text box for free response. Responses varied, but a large percentage of participants noted rent control, accessible units for persons with disabilities, and large-affordable housing to accommodate multigenerational housing need. Participants also noted fair housing approaches, converting motels and unused land into housing, and the need to

implement affordable and inclusionary regulations for developers. The primary focus remained the need to increase affordable housing opportunities in the community.

- *Question 4: What housing types are you interested in seeing in Anaheim?*

Participants were provided a multiple-choice question with the following options, and asked to select all that apply:

- ◆ Single-Family/Multi-Generational Housing
- ◆ Townhomes/Condos for rent
- ◆ Senior Housing
- ◆ Affordable Housing
- ◆ Apartments
- ◆ Townhomes/Condos for sale
- ◆ Accessory Dwelling Units
- ◆ Supportive or Transitional Housing

Participants were primarily interested in single family/multigenerational housing, affordable housing options, and supportive or transitional housing.

- *Question 5: Of those housing types, which would you like the City to Prioritize?*

Participants were provided a multiple-choice question with the same options as Question 4, and asked to prioritize three options in total.

Participants identified affordable housing, single family/multigenerational housing, and supportive or transitional housing as the top three housing types for the City to prioritize in development.

The complete list of the participant responses is available on the City's Housing Element Update webpage here: [English responses](#) / [Spanish responses](#)

## WHITEBOARD EXERCISE

Following the Mentimeter exercise, participants were asked to participate in a visioning whiteboard exercise. The discussion centered around four major themes related to affordable housing and how to increase affordable housing options in Anaheim. A summary of each discussion topic and responses is below:

- *Topic 1: Unique Considerations/Characteristics of Anaheim*

**What are unique characteristics about your community that you want the Housing Element Team to know?**

- ◆ Anaheim is diverse
- ◆ High senior needs
- ◆ There is a lot of tourism as it relates to Disneyland
- ◆ A lot of underused strip malls/commercial centers

- *Topic 2: Housing in the Community*

**What are some challenges to housing in your community?**

- ◆ There are too many short-term rentals
- ◆ Large population
- ◆ Infill housing in unhealthy areas
- ◆ Lack of regulatory policies to support affordable housing
- ◆ Not enough ADA accessible housing
- ◆ A large percent is unhoused
- ◆ Too many rental properties

**What are some opportunities for housing in your community?**

- ◆ Modular and tiny homes
- ◆ Solar in condos
- ◆ Affordable housing for low, very low and extremely low-income households
- ◆ Affordable Accessory Dwelling Units
- ◆ Mixed-use developments
- ◆ Eco friendly and sustainable construction
- ◆ Housing near transportation
- ◆ Allow single family residences to convert to duplexes
- ◆ Housing that considers children by design
- ◆ Community centered housing

• *Topic 3: Vision*

**What is your vision for the future of Anaheim? What do you want to see for the current and next generations?**

- ◆ Fewer short-term rentals and more regulation
- ◆ More affordable options
- ◆ Community centers in multifamily buildings
- ◆ More public transportation
- ◆ Improved schools and upward mobility
- ◆ More housing
- ◆ Programs to support first time home buyers
- ◆ Newer housing stock

• *Topic 4: New or Innovative Ideas*

**What are some creative housing ideas you have for your community?**

- ◆ 3D printed homes
- ◆ Promote more dynamic uses and multifamily/mixed use developments
- ◆ Tiny homes
- ◆ Connections to transit and including areas for bikes/scooters/skaters not just cars
- ◆ Multi-generational housing
- ◆ Accessory Dwelling units
- ◆ Up-zoning and vacancy fees for unused lots/properties
- ◆ Policies to protect long term renters
- ◆ Converting old commercial centers for residential uses
- ◆ Mixed use, more small lot homes, attainable homes, higher density, overlays encouraging residential on underutilized commercial

The complete list of the participant responses is available on the City's Housing Element Update webpage here: [English Responses](#) / [Spanish Responses](#)

## SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

A summary of questions and comments received from the public is below:

- ◆ Where and how can additional people participate in the survey?
- ◆ Are there additional opportunities to participate?
- ◆ What is the relationship between 5th cycle need and 6th cycle need?
- ◆ What strategies will the City utilize to meet the Housing Element goals and needs?
- ◆ How is the unhoused population counted in Anaheim?

Responses to the questions above is available in a fact sheet, available [here](#). The Community Workshop #1 ended approximately at 7:45 p.m.