



City of La Verne

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Maia McCurley, Community Development

Telephone: (909) 596-8706

La Verne Residents Encouraged to Provide Insight for City's 2021-2029 Housing Element Update

LA VERNE, CA – This week the City of La Verne launched a [virtual workshop](#) as a part of the City's process to update its Housing Element for 2021-2029. La Verne residents can "attend" and watch the workshop until Thursday, December 20, 2020. During the workshop, residents will be able to provide feedback and insight on the community's housing priorities through two surveys. The City will incorporate this feedback while drafting its Housing Element Update, which will be ready for public review in May 2021. The City's goal is to submit a final draft of the Housing Element Update to the State well before the October 15, 2021 deadline.

"The purpose of the Housing Element of the General Plan is to ensure that the community's housing needs in terms of affordability and accessibility are able to be met," said La Verne Associate Planner Maia McCurley. "To do so, we want the community to be engaged in the process so that the Housing Element Update fully reflects and addresses the housing needs and priorities of the community."

The State of California requires local governments to periodically update the Housing Element of their Comprehensive General Plan once every four, five or eight years. As part of the Housing Element Update, local governments review their existing Housing Element to gauge its effectiveness as well as evaluating newfound constraints to housing in the community. At each step of the process, the City hopes to receive public comment on how the City can improve its future Housing Element.

In addition to addressing regional and local housing needs with effective policies, the final Housing Element will also identify specific locations for additional housing development. The City has received a draft Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Allocation from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) identifying La Verne's "fair share" of the region's overall housing need, which is based on the California Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) projected growth for the SCAG region. The City plans to conduct stakeholder interviews to gather information to help determine development location opportunities to accommodate the City's housing needs.

"The La Verne community has an exciting opportunity to shape the future of housing and City development priorities by contributing their insights at this virtual workshop and throughout the Housing Element update process," said La Verne City Manager Bob Russi. "Although this process will be virtual this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we look forward to engaged residents providing useful insights for our community and its future."



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In the City's last Housing Element Update in 2014-2021, the City identified specific flood hazard zones and analyzed the best use of land and infrastructure needs in nearby unincorporated communities, such as areas in Northeast La Verne. The City also addressed housing needs for special needs groups in La Verne. The City will continue these accessibility efforts as well as other endeavors to support additional housing units in the community.

For any questions about the virtual workshop or the City's Housing Element Update, please contact the City's Community Development Department by calling (909) 596-8706.

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