



Updating the Housing Element

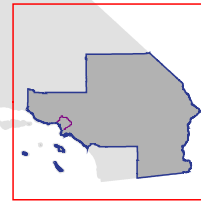
What to expect and how you can help!

What is the problem and why is the City updating its Housing Element?

Every eight years the State requires Santa Monica to update its Housing Element. This update period (2021-2029) comes when California faces a major statewide housing shortage. This shortage is impacting all Californians by raising the cost of housing and increasing homelessness. To combat this, the State has passed new laws in 2020 to support more housing, which the City will incorporate into the new Housing Element.

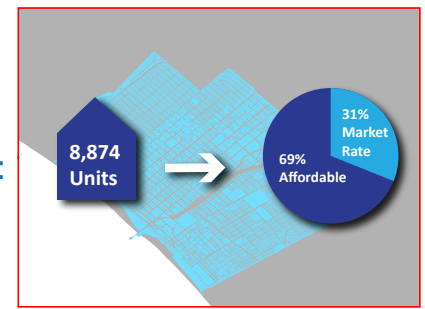


The State sets the total number of units that each region in California must build.



The SoCal region has to plan for over **1.3 million** units.

From that 1.3 million, **Santa Monica** received:



How will Santa Monica plan for these housing units?

The City must update its Housing Element with a new growth strategy to plan for 8,874 units: *where should housing go and how should it be approved?*

The City will plan using the two guiding principles of protecting existing neighborhoods and prioritizing affordable housing.

What goes into the 'Growth Strategy' for Santa Monica?

- Encourage Housing: What are the barriers and how do we encourage affordability?
- Identify Areas that can Accommodate Housing: Where should housing go and where should it not?
- Assess the City's Housing Capacity: What does our zoning allow and what has to change to meet the target?

How to get involved:

This can only be done with your help! Be a part of this plan and sign up to receive notices on future events and all opportunities to stay involved. Email or visit us at:

HousingUpdate@smgov.net | www.santamonica.gov/Housing-Element-Update