

Resolution in Support of Housing Projects Across Santa Clara County

WHEREAS in recent years the cost of housing has increased drastically in California, the Bay Area, and especially in Santa Clara County,¹ and has caused homelessness rates and displacement to continue to grow.² We recognize that there is a housing crisis in Santa Clara County, and local governments and our county party have a unique role in helping solve it.

WHEREAS Californians of all backgrounds are finding it harder to buy or rent a space to live in the state they call home. Bay Area residents are increasingly forced to live farther and farther away from their workplace, creating longer commutes, more traffic, and a larger carbon footprint.³ Some are sadly even forced to leave California for more conservative states that have cheaper housing.

WHEREAS local governments have been increasingly used as a tool for developers and wealthy homeowners to block new housing units, causing the housing supply to not match the demand.⁴ Historically, exclusionary zoning policies have been a major cause of economic and racial segregation.⁵

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party will support candidates that have committed to allowing new housing projects to be built, whether they be apartments, condominiums, tiny homes, accessory dwelling units (ADU), social housing, or any other form of housing for their constituents, with the priority always being for affordable housing projects. Endorsed local candidates will be asked to pledge to not defy or undermine the statewide pro-housing legislation crafted by Senate and Assembly Democrats and signed into law by Governor Newsom, such as SB9⁶ and SB10.⁷

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SCCDP will support legislation, ballot measures, and other programs that

- 1) Eliminate barriers to affordable housing
- 2) Allow and encourage the building of social housing and other forms of public housing, e.g., through legislation such as AB 2053
- 3) Fund homeless shelters and drug rehab centers

Submitted by Maddon Hoh-Choi, Youth Delegate

Approved by the Youth Delegates and affirmed by the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee on July 7, 2022

Sources:

¹<https://www.siliconvalley.com/2022/06/06/bay-area-home-prices-up-again-but-experts-say-a-cooldown-is-coming/>

²<https://news.sccgov.org/news-release/county-santa-clara-and-city-san-jose-release-preliminary-results-2022-point-time#:~:text=The%20overall%20number%20of%20homeless,city%20limits%20of%20San%20Jos%C3%A9.>

³<https://www.npr.org/2020/08/06/812199726/why-sprawl-could-be-the-next-big-climate-change-battle>

⁴<https://www.deseret.com/2022/6/10/23064453/housing-market-american-dream-out-of-reach-generational-wealth-gap-millennials-baby-boomers>

⁵<https://web.archive.org/web/20220621121111/https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2022/06/zoning-housing-affordability-nimby-parking-houston/661289/>

⁶<https://cayimby.org/sb-9/> ⁷<https://cayimby.org/sb-10/>