

Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Housing Opportunities Committee Meeting April 9, 2025

Agenda

- 1. 2025 Housing Opportunities Committee Action Plan Judson Brown, Chair and January Johnson, Vice Chair
- 2. CoC Strategic Plan Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination; Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination; Judson Brown, Chair, and January Johnson, Vice Chair
- **3.** Project-Based Housing Updates
 - a. OC Housing Finance Trust Update Adam Eliason, OC Housing Finance Trust
 - b. Project-Based Voucher Pipeline Public Housing Authority (PHA) Representatives
- 4. Tenant-Based Housing Updates
 - a. Special Purpose Voucher Updates PHA Representatives
 - b. CalAIM Update Mia Arias, CalOptima Health
- 5. Funding, Program, and Policy Updates
 - a. Federal and State Legislation Updates Cesar Covarrubias and Matthew Kempfer, The Kennedy Commission
- 6. Continuum of Care (CoC) Updates Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
- 7. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Updates Daniel Garcia, CES Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 11, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at OCHA Conference Room A, 1501 East Saint Andrew Place, 1st Floor Santa Ana, CA 92705.

Public Comments

2025 Housing Opportunities Committee Action Plan Judson Brown, Chair and January Johnson, Vice Chair

2025 Housing Opportunities Committee Action Plan

Developed through the vision-setting discussion at the February 25, 2025, committee meeting:

- 1. Expand participation at the Housing Opportunities Committee meetings
 - a. Invite the four Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), local service providers, and other relevant stakeholders, with a clear purpose and reason for attending.
 - b. Clearly define priorities of the committee.
- Provide high-level updates on the Orange County Housing Funding Strategy
- 3. Conduct a simple housing landscape analysis, presenting clear and concise figures that reflect funding allocations and resource distribution.
- 4. Ensure public accessibility and transparency by offering a virtual Zoom meeting option
- 5. Engage in collective discussion about how to respond to the impact of Federal budget cuts to PHA's and residents served.
- 6. Acknowledge and celebrate successes
 - a. Recognize system achievements such as successful project completions and utilization rates.

Public Comments:

Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on Item 1 within this agenda of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

CoC Strategic Plan

Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination; Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination; Judson Brown, Chair, and January Johnson, Vice Chair

CoC Strategic Plan

- The Orange County CoC Board formed a CoC Leadership Vision Ad Hoc (Vision Ad Hoc) to collaborate with AC Strategies and the Office of Care Coordination to develop a strategic plan framework for implementing the CoC's vision.
- On **December 18, 2024**, the CoC Board **approved** the <u>CoC Strategic Plan</u>, which includes the *Strategic Aims, Objectives, Strategies*, and *Action Steps*.
 - The plan will serve as a living framework, with a six-month review at both the CoC Board and Committee Levels before full implementation in July 2025.
- While the *Strategic Aims* and *Objectives* are fixed as part of the framework, the *Strategies* and *Actions* can be adjusted based on feedback during the implementation planning process.
- At the Housing Opportunities Committee meeting on February 25, 2025, the committee reviewed
 Objective 1C from the CoC Strategic Plan for a focused discussion.
 - Please note that this is not the full CoC Strategic Plan, but rather an exercise designed to outline actions closely aligned with the Housing Opportunities Committee that will help advance the *Strategic Aims* and *Objectives*.

CoC Strategic Plan

- The ideas and changes discussed collectively were analyzed and incorporated by the Office of Care Coordination in **Attachment A** for review and consideration by the Housing Opportunities Committee, some key ideas included;
 - Fostering greater collaboration among Public Housing Authorities,
 - Promoting more intentional coordination with housing developers,
 - Increasing the utilization of existing housing stock, and
 - Exploring new strategies for coordinating with non-CoC housing resources.
- There were several key suggestions identified during the conversation that could be included as new action items or strategies within **Strategic Aim 1, Objective C**, these suggestion included:
 - Establishing long-term funding streams for vulnerable populations,
 - Advocating for an Orange County Affordable Housing Bond,
 - Developing an Affordable Housing Access Platform,
 - Expanding language to include diverse populations (e.g. families)
 - Placing emphasis on the development of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units
- These proposed actions align with the goals of the CoC Strategic Plan and are critical to advancing efforts to improve affordable housing access for all populations.

Item 2. Attachment A

Strategic Aim 1: Improve and expand the homelessness response system to permanently house <u>people</u> experiencing homelessness equitably, efficiently, and with dignity.

Objective 1C: Collaborate with partners throughout Orange County that provide non-CoC housing resources and services

	Strategy	Action
1.	Collaborate and	Advocate with PHAs to increase flexibility of documentation/program requirements
	coordinate efforts	Develop a strategy to expand Access to Housing Choice Vouchers
	with Public Housing	Develop a shared strategy to provide ongoing supportive services to ensure housing stability.
	Authorities (PHAs)	
		4. Increase Special Purpose Voucher (SPV) utilization to align with HUD performance measures.
		5. Reduce requirements for clients with adverse experiences (i.e. justice involvement) to obtain housing.
2.	Coordinate and collaborate with others who provide non- CoC housing resources	4.6. Develop and implement a strategy of engagement and collaboration to support quick and sustainable housing for people experiencing homelessness with: Orange County Housing Finance Trust Affordable housing developers Landlords Other housing partners
		7. Expand housing navigation and landlord incentives for Special Purpose Vouchers (SPV) and regular vouchers.
3.	Collaborate with Housing Developers	 8. Advocate for new housing complex developments to not only meet the ADA requirement of accessible units but to exceed it as the population of seniors and people with disabilities continues to grow. 5.9. Ensure that accessible units are prioritized for individuals with disabilities and older adults who need them, rather than being assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. 10. Advocate for deeper affordability levels for families, special needs populations and PSH units.additional 6.11. Advocate for housing developers to partner with Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) when housing development is being built, to ensure that there is a new bus stop within ¾ miles radius so that ACCESS is available for those who need it.

Please be aware that there have been revisions to Actions 4, 7, and 10 that differ from what is showcased within the agenda packet.

CoC Strategic Plan

Discussion

- Are the revised Strategies and Actions reflective of the feedback provided at the February committee meeting?
- Is there anything additional feedback on how to incorporate the additional ideas shared? Listed below:
 - Establishing long-term funding streams for vulnerable populations,
 - Advocating for an Orange County Affordable Housing Bond,
 - Developing an Affordable Housing Access Platform,
 - Expanding language to include diverse populations (e.g. families)
 - Placing emphasis on the development of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units

Next Steps

- Office of Care Coordination to compile feedback and notes from discussion.
- Prepare insights and feedback to be shared at future CoC Board meeting and working session as implementation planning continues.

Public Comments:

Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on Item 2 within this agenda of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

Project-Based Housing Updates

OC Housing Finance Trust Update

Adam Eliason, OC Housing Finance Trust

Project-Based Voucher Pipeline

Public Housing Authority (PHA) Representatives

Background

- Four PHAs in Orange County administer the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program (also known as Section 8) to help qualified tenants afford permanent housing in the private market:
 - Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA)
 - Anaheim Housing Authority (AHA)
 - Santa Ana Housing Authority (SAHA)
 - Garden Grove Housing Authority (GGHA)
- Each PHA can "project-base" up to 20 percent of the HCVs to develop affordable and permanent supportive housing.
- PHAs may also project-base an additional 10 percent of their Annual Contributions Contract (ACC)
 authorized units above this program limit, provided these units fall into one of the eligible exception
 categories:
 - Units Made Available to House Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness
 - Units Made Available to House Veterans
 - Units Providing Supportive Services
 - Units Located in a Census Tract with a Poverty Rate of 20 percent or less; or
 - Units Made Available to Foster Youth Utilizing Family Unification Program (FUP)/Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Awards

Background

- The Project-Based Voucher (PBV) program is a discretionary component of the HCV program.
 Under the PBV program, the PHA enters into a long-term Housing Assistance Payments
 Contract with the owner for a specified number of units for up to a 20-year term, with the option for an additional 20-years.
- Eligible persons are referred from the CES for permanent supportive housing (PSH) units created with PBVs.
- CES will prioritize individuals and families with the longest length of homelessness in the community and highest service needs determined by CES assessment tools and case conferencing.
- Tenants residing in project-based units pay 30 percent of their income for rent and utilities, and the balance of their housing costs are paid by the PHA. Tenants in project-based units are assisted as long as they live in the unit and continue to qualify for the program.

Project-Based Voucher Pipeline – Orange County Housing Authority

Ducio et Nove	Cian	PSH Units					Non-	Total	Estimated
Project Name	City	MHSA Units	NPLH Units	VASH PBV Units	PBV Units	Other PSH Restricted	PSH	Units	Completion
Pelican Harbor formerly HB Senior Housing	Huntington Beach	21			12		10	43	01/20/2025
Orchard View Gardens	Buena Park	8					58	66	02/10/2025
Salida del Sol formerly Paseo Adelanto	San Juan Capistrano	24		10	6		10	50	05/5/2025
Cartwright	Irvine	8					52	60	10/01/2025
HB Oasis	Huntington Beach				62		2	64	10/01/2025

Project-Based Voucher Pipeline – Orange County Housing Authority

Dusingt Name	City	PSH Units					Non-	Total	Estimated
Project Name		MHSA Units	NPLH Units	VASH PBV Units	PBV Units	Other PSH Restricted	PSH	Units	Completion
1400 Bristol	Costa Mesa			10	38		30	78	12/23/2025
Orion	Orange	5			3		158	166	12/01/2025

Project-Based Voucher Pipeline – Anaheim Housing Authority

Duniant Name	City	PSH Units					Non-	Total Units	Estimated
Project Name		MHSA Units	NPLH Units	VASH PBV Units	PBV Units	Other PSH Restricted	PSH	Excluding Manager unit	Completion
Miraflores	Anaheim	8						85	March 2025
Azure Apts. (Studio 6)	Anaheim				87			87	Mid- September 2025

Project-Based Voucher Pipeline – Santa Ana Housing Authority

Duringt Name	City		PSH Units					Total	Estimated
Project Name		MHSA Units	NPLH Units	VASH PBV Units	PBV Units	Other PSH Restricted	PSH	Units	Completion
Crossroads at Washington	Santa Ana						15 PBV	86	Completed September 2024 Fully Leased
Estrella Springs	Santa Ana	14		34	37	4 (VHHP)		89	Completed September 2024 Fully Leased
Archways	Santa Ana				26 (MVP)			85	Completed August 2024 Fully Leased
WISEPlace	Santa Ana	14			25			47	March 2025
FX Residences	Santa Ana				3	13		16	March 2025

Updated: 3/17/25

Project-Based Voucher Pipeline – Garden Grove Housing Authority

	Project Name	City.		PSH Units				Non-	Total	Estimated
		City	MHSA Units	NPLH Units	VASH PBV Units	PBV Units	Other PSH Restricted	PSH	Units	Completion
	Stuart Drive Apartments	Garden Grove					8	2	10	PSH Units Completed August 2022

No upcoming Projects.

Public Comments:

Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on Item 3 within this agenda of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

Tenant-Based Housing Updates

Special Purpose Voucher Updates PHA Representatives

Background

PHAs can set aside HCVs to address homelessness.

The four PHAs in Orange County can also apply for and receive Special Purpose Vouchers from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to serve people experiencing homelessness including:

Mainstream Vouchers

- Mainstream Vouchers (MS5) assist non-elderly persons with disabilities. Aside from serving a special population, Mainstream Vouchers are administered using the same rules as other housing choice vouchers.
- The 2017, 2018, and 2019 Appropriations Acts provided funded for new Mainstream Vouchers. Since 2018, HUD has awarded over \$500 million in funding to PHAs to support 50,000 new Mainstream Vouchers.

Background

The four PHAs in Orange County apply for and receive Special Purpose Vouchers from HUD to serve people experiencing homelessness including:

- Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers
 - The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines HUD's Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).
 - Referrals come from the VA Medical Center of Long Beach.

Background

The four PHAs in Orange County apply for and receive Special Purpose Vouchers from HUD to serve people experiencing homelessness including:

- Family Unification Program and Foster Youth to Independence Vouchers
 - The Family Unification Program (FUP) is a program under which HCVs are provided to two different populations:
 - 1. Families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in:
 - a. The imminent placement of the family's child or children in out-of-home care, or
 - b. The delay in the discharge of the child or children to the family from out-of-home care.
 - 2. Eligible youth who have attained at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age and who have left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan and is experiencing homelessness or is at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older.
 - PHAs administer the FUP and/or Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers in partnership with Public Child Welfare Agencies (PCWAs) who are responsible for referring FUP families and youths to the PHA for determination of eligibility for rental assistance.
 - Referrals come from the Orange County Social Services Agency.

Voucher Summary Chart

Voucher Type (Tenant-Based)	Orange County Housing Authority	Anaheim Housing Authority	Santa Ana Housing Authority	Garden Grove Housing Authority
Homeless Set-Aside		X	X	
Mainstream Voucher (MS5)	Х	X	X	X
Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Voucher (VASH – Tenant-Based)	X	X	X	
Family Unification Program (FUP) Voucher	X			
Foster Youth Independence (FYI) Voucher	X		X	
CoC Tenant Based Rental Assistance (CoC TRA)	X			
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS		X		
Non-Elderly Disabled	X	X	X	

Special Purpose Voucher Updates – Orange County Housing Authority

Voucher Type	Allocation	In The Pipeline	Vouchers Searching	Leased
Mainstream Voucher (MS5)	251	12	33	196
Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH – Tenant- Based)	913	63	48	677
Family Unification Program (FUP)	325	0	10	293
Foster Youth Independence (FYI)	25	2	0	23

Special Purpose Voucher Updates – Anaheim Housing Authority

Voucher Type	Allocation	In The Pipeline	Vouchers Searching	Leased
Mainstream Voucher (MS5)	397	0	21	351
Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH – Tenant- Based)	104	4	6	88

Special Purpose Voucher Updates – Santa Ana Housing Authority

Voucher Type	Allocation	In The Pipeline	Vouchers Searching	Leased
Mainstream Voucher (MS5) (Tenant-Based)	231	0	9	212
Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH – Tenant- Based)	171	1	8	135
Foster Youth Independence (FYI)	100	11	16	73

Updated: 3/17/25

Special Purpose Voucher Updates – Garden Grove Housing Authority

Voucher Type	Allocation	In The Pipeline	Vouchers Searching	Leased
Mainstream Voucher (MS5)	75	2	2	69

Special Purpose Voucher Updates – Orange County Totals

Voucher Type	Allocation	In The Pipeline	Vouchers Searching	Leased
Mainstream Voucher (MS5)	954	14	65	828
Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Voucher (VASH – Tenant-Based)	1,188	68	62	900
Family Unification Program (FUP) Voucher	325	0	10	293
Foster Youth Independence (FYI) Voucher	125	13	16	96
TOTALS	2,592	95	153	2,117 (82%)

CalAIM Update

Mia Arias, CalOptima Health

Public Comments:

Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on Item 4 within this agenda of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

Federal and State Legislation Updates Cesar Covarrubias and Matthew Kempfer, The Kennedy Commission

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2025 Legislative Updates

04/09/2025



Federal Updates

- Continued Resolution
- Actions from HUD
- DOGE Cuts to HUD
- The Impact of Tariffs
- The Impact of Immigration Policy
 Changes







Continued Resolution

Overview

- The budget bill funds the government through the end of September
- Funding is largely the same from the 2025 fiscal budget around \$1.7 trillion
 - Reduces non-defense spending by ~ \$13 billion, and increases defense spending by ~ \$6 billion

Impact on Housing

- Provides increased funding to some HUD programs including:
 - A \$3.65 billion increase for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program total: \$32.14 billion
 - A \$480 million increase for Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) program toal: \$16.49 billion
 - o An \$18 million increase for Section 202 for the Elderly total: \$931.4 million
 - A \$48.7 million increase for Section 811 for Persons with Disabilities total: \$256.7 million
- Effectively decreases funding for a number of areas including:
 - \$3.29 billion cut for HUD's Community Development Fund total: \$3.43 billion
 - Most of the money lost is due to earmarks for community development projects
 - An expected loss of \$168 million towards homeless assistance programs
 - While the Housing Choice Vouchers apart of the TBRA program did increase in funding, it likely will not be enough to cover the full cost estimated 32,000 vouchers could be lost



Actions from HUD

Overview

- Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Scott Turner was confirmed by the Senate in February
 - o In his hearing, he stressed the need for "millions of homes"
 - Seeks to expand Opportunity Zones
 - Terminated the Green and Resilient Retrofit Program
 - o Terminated the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule

Green and Resilient Retrofit Program

- Passed apart of the Inflation Reduction Act in 2022, the \$1 billion program focused on energy-efficient improvements to improve long-term livability for aging affordable apartment units around the country
- Program already awarded money that would upgrade at least 25,000 affordable units

The Termination of the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

- The rule aimed to promote fair housing choice and eliminate disparities in housing
- Under the rule:
 - o Program participants submitted an equity plan to HUD every five years along with progress evaluations
- The rule was terminated to return zoning to the local level and to cut "costly red tape"
 - Localities still must abide by the 1968 Fair Housing Act



DOGE Cuts to HUD

Overview

• The 2nd Trump Administration, through the work of DOGE, has made massive cuts to several federal agencies, including HUD

Staffing Cuts

- Around 780 employees have been cut from HUD so far with plans to release around 4,000 total
- Leaked documents have shown potential plans to cut half of the agencies federal employees
 - Those supporting disaster relief, rental subsidies, discrimination investigations, and first-time homebuyers are the employees being primarily targeted
 - HUD spokesperson has stated that staffing is being evaluated and the documents "should not be taken as final"
- A federal judge ordered the return of probationary employees back to HUD, however, the Supreme Court halted that order

Contract Cuts

- \$60 million in funding, primarily for affordable housing, has been stalled
 - Money was intended for small nonprofits through the form of grants
- Canceled Section 4 contracts for affordable housing organizations



The Impact of Reported Staffing Cuts

Massive Staffing Cuts at HUD Will Impact the Ability to:

- Provide rental assistance for low-income households
- Build and preserve affordable rental housing
- Address and prevent homelessness
- Operate and maintain public housing
- Revitalize neighborhoods, promote economic development, and improve community facilities
- Reform restrictive zoning and land use regulations
- Investigate and enforce fair housing and civil rights laws
- Rebuild housing and infrastructure following natural disasters

Information from the National Low Income Housing Coalition*



Cont.

DOGE Staffing Cuts to HUD by Office:

- The Office of Community Planning and Development by 84%
 - Leads work in homelessness, affordable housing, veteran housing, disaster recovery, and community development
 - Administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- The Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity by ~77%
 - Leads work in eliminating housing discrimination
- The Office of Public and Indian Housing by 50%
 - Leads work in administering the Housing Choice Voucher, public housing, and Native American programs
- The Office of Policy Development and Research by an unknown amount
 - Leads work in researching and discovering policy solutions for housing needs, market conditions, and community development issues
- The Federal Housing Administration by 40%
 - o Provides mortgage insurance on loans and provides assistance to first-time homebuyers
- The Office of Housing by 44%
 - HUD's largest office and administers Project-Based Rental Assistance programs



Legal Aftermath - Grant Cuts

Overview

- Four housing discrimination groups have sued DOGE and HUD following the rescission of \$30 million in congressionally approved grant funding
- A federal judge in Massachusetts ordered HUD to release the \$30 million to the nonprofit organizations and prohibited the department from canceling any other grants that were approved

What Does This Mean?

- In short, this means that HUD is barred from canceling congressionally approved grants without the approval of congress, in a way that abides by the Administrative Procedure Act, terms and conditions of the grant, or through a judge's approval
- The judge's ruling should have a wide scope and prohibit HUD from taking similar actions to nonprofit organizations that develop affordable housing



HUD/DOI Announcement

Overview

- Department of Interior Secretary Doug Burgum and HUD Secretary Scott Turner announced a Joint Task Force on Federal Land for Housing
- The goal will be similar to an excess sites/surplus land program where they will identify underutilized federal land suitable for residential development

<u>Details</u>

- The Department of Interior oversees over 500 million acres of federal land
 - Around 46 million acres in California with the Bureau of Land Management overseeing ~ 15 million acres
- HUD will identify where housing needs are immediate and transfer or lease the land to states or local governments
- Interior will seek to cut the red tape that is associated with building on federal land
- Environmental Impacts and land-use restrictions will be accounted for

Impact

- Much of the land the Department of Interior oversees is open space, desert, mountain, and land with subsurface minerals
 - This makes it difficult to have a major impact on residential areas such as Orange County and much of Southern California
 - o In the joint announcement, rural and tribal communities will be "a focus of this joint agreement"
 - It is unclear how big of a focus those areas will be



The Impact of Tariffs

Overview

- The United States has put tariffs on nearly the entire globe, including our three closest trading partners
 - o 10% baseline for all imported good (outside of Mexico and Canada)
 - A 90-day pause in reciprocal tariffs has been placed on all countries outside of China
- Tariffs against Mexico and Canada apply to all non-USMCA compliant goods

<u>Canada</u>

- Nearly 70% of US imports of softwood lumber come from Canada a material essential for housing construction
 - The product now faces a 39.5% tariff and could reach over 50% later this year
- Steel and aluminum are used in the construction of housing with the a majority of aluminum imports and nearly a quarter of total steel imports arriving from Canada
 - Both products now face a 25% tariff

Mexico

- 71% of gypsum (used in drywall, plaster, and cement) imports come from Mexico
 - The product now faces a 25% tariff

China

- 27% of building materials imported to the US came from China in 2023 the most from any country
 - The country now faces a 125% tariff rate on imported goods



The Impact of the Change in Immigration Policy

Overview

- The Trump Administration hopes to achieve the largest deportation effort since the Eisenhower Administration in the 1950s
- Trump is expected to invoke the Alien Enemies Act of 1798
 - Has only been invoked during the War of 1812, and World War 1 & 2
 - Claims that he will use it to "dismantle migrant criminal networks operating on American soil" but there are fears of much broader usage
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is nearing a deal with the IRS to share information with each other

Impact on Housing

- Nearly a quarter of all construction workers in California are undocumented
 - o Over 3% of the state's entire workforce is employed in homebuilding
 - o In 2022, it was reported that the state needs 100,000-200,000 workers to meet housing goals
- With a need for more workers, and a lionshare of California construction workers living under the threat of deportation: future housing production is in trouble

State Updates

- State Budget
- Bond Measures
- CEQA Reform
- Excess Sites Program
- Bill to Look Out For







State Budget FY 25-26

Overview

- Newsom's January state budget proposal features a balanced budget with goals to increase reserves and make government leaner
- The budget proposal is \$322.3 billion dollars with \$228.9 billion going towards general fund spending

Key Points

- No Deficit
 - The budget is fully balanced with a projection of \$16.5 billion in additional revenue above expectations over the next three fiscal years
- Cutting Spending
 - The governor's proposal includes eliminating vacant jobs, cutting the state travel budget, printing, and IT modernization to save nearly \$5 billion in taxpayer dollars over the next two years
- Investments in Savings
 - The budget proposal provides nearly \$17 billion to deepen California's reserves
 - Around \$11 billion to the state's Rainy Day Fund
 - \$4.5 billion in discretionary money to the Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties
- A New Housing and Homelessness Agency



Impact on Housing

<u>Overview</u>

- The proposed budget's focus on housing is to reduce costs, enhance accountability, and align housing and transportation goals
- There will be no new funding for any core housing programs including:
 - State Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)
 - Multifamily Housing Program
 - Homeless, Housing Assistance Program (HHAP)
 - o Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program
 - CalHome

Reducing Costs

- Streamlining processes and addressing development barriers such as approvals and permitting
- Pursue policies that lower costs and address current policies that increase them

Enhance Accountability

- Strengthening mechanisms to ensure localities meet housing obligations
 - Housing Accountability Act and Permit Streamlining Act

Align Housing and Transportation Goals

Advancing policies that align housing and transportation planning



California Affordable Housing Collective Proposal

Proposed Funding Levels:

- State Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC): \$1 billion
- Multifamily Housing Program: \$400 million
- Homeless, Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP): \$1 billion
- Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program: \$100 million
- CalHome: \$400 million



Impact on Homelessness

Overview

Newsom wants increased accountability from jurisdictions to ensure that targets are met - funding will depend on this

Increased Accountability

- Localities must have a compliant Housing Element and encampment policy to be eligible for funding
- Allows for reallocation of funds for localities that fail to meet requirements or show progress
- California Department of Housing and Community Development will require that localities show progress on implementing activities funded by HHAP before additional funding is dispersed
- Jurisdictions with Pro-Housing Designations will be prioritized

Local-State Review Partnership

• State will partner with various local governments to review their housing and homelessness programs

Regional Convenings

HCD will hold regional covenings with HHAP regions to strengthen data reporting and improve construction of MOUs

Enforcements

• The Housing and Accountability, Results, and Partnerships Unit will review HHAP Rounds 5 and 6 and regional MOUs to ensure localities are following through on commitments and acting in a coordinated effort



A New Housing & Homelessness Agency

<u>Overview</u>

- A new housing and homelessness agency will be created to separate housing from the current Department of California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency
- Hopes to streamline efforts in the inter-related issues and push for jurisdiction compliance on housing elements and encampment policy

Offices Under the Proposed Agency

- California Interagency on Homelessness
- California Housing Finance Agency
- Housing Development and Finance Committee
 - Will oversee funding programs, approve program guidelines, provide oversight for the multifamily housing programs, recommend award allocations
- Civil Rights Department
- Department of Housing and Community Development
 - Focus on government-to-government financing, federal financial assistance, policy, planning, and accountability, fair housing enforcement, and codes and standards





Overview

 AB 736 and SB 417 are joint legislation that, if passed by voters in 2026, would authorize \$10 billion in general obligation bonds to provide funding for affordable rental housing for low-income families, home ownership opportunities, and supportive housing for those experiencing homelessness

Expected Impact

- Build and preserve over 135,000 affordable homes,
 including those for farmworkers and tribal communities
- Create over 35,00 new homes for low-income and very-low income families
- Help over 13,000 families become homeowners
- Create tens of thousands of high-paying jobs

Bond Allocation

- \$5.25 billion to the Multifamily Housing Program
 - (SB 417 only) Funds would also go to the Infill
 Infrastructure Grant Program
- \$1.75 billion to supportive housing
- \$800 million to the Portfolio Reinvestment Program
- \$500 million to the Community Anti-Displacement and Preservation Program
- \$1 billion to homeownership assistance
- \$250 million to the Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing
 Grant Program for farmworker housing
- \$250 million to the Tribal Housing Grant Program
- \$200 million to energy efficiency for affordable housing (AB 736 only) or funds would go towards rental assistance in markets impacted by wildfires (SB 417 version)



CEQA Reform

Overview

- The California Environmental Quality Act has long been used as a tool for delaying and deterring development from being built, including affordable housing
- CEQA reform has been on Newsom's agenda for years, and legislation has been introduced that would limit the power it has on damaging developments

SB 607

- Exempt a rezoning that is consistent with an approved housing element from CEQA
- If a project fails one aspect for a CEQA exemption, a full environmental inspection report will not required
 - Would only require an EIR on the failed requirement
 - Limits emails required for an EIR to only core members involved with the project
 - o Strengthens "negative declarations" by granting them the same legal standards as EIRs

AB 609

- Exempts housing developments from CEQA requirements for most development projects and has local agencies complete Phase 1

 Environmental Reviews
- Would essentially end the ability to sue over environmental concerns for most housing developments



Excess Sites Program

Overview

- In 2019, Governor Newsom issued an executive order that called on Housing and Community Development and the Department of General Services to identify underutilized state sites for the development of affordable housing
- In January, HCD announced its update on that executive order
- In February, Newsom expanded and revamped the program

HCD's Announcement

- HCD received Local Government Matching Grants in the amount of over \$63 million
- The agency identified over 975 affordable homes
 - Development has begun for around 4,300 housing units on excess state land to and has the funding to deliver around 5,500 units to house nearly 14,000 individuals
- HCD identified ten sites, including two in Southern California
 - No sites were identified in Orange County

Expansion

- Newsom expanded the program to include 23 additional sites available for development that can create at least 2,000 more homes
- Features a new web portal to allow developers to view all sites available



Bills to Look Out For

SB 92 (Blackspear): Requires projects that seek density bonuses to meet certain residential unit requirements (including affordable)

AB 1055 (Boerner): Authorizes local agencies to require proof of residential occupancy for streamlining of ADUs

SB 262 (Wahab): Adds to the list of prohousing policies that award localities additional points in scoring applications

AB 609 (Wicks): Exempts certain housing developments in urban areas from CEQA requirements AB 712 (Wicks): Establishes remedies against public agencies that are found by a court to have violated the rights of an applicant for a housing development

AB 670 (Quirk-Silva): allows
persevered natural occurring
affordable homes (NOAHs) to
account for up to 25% of a localities
RHNA



2025 Affordable Housing Roundtable Priorities

- Federal housing programs and funding
- State housing programs and funding
- Insurance solutions
- PSH property management
- Education and data on Orange County's affordable housing needs and progress
- Key stakeholder engagement and outreach
- Local and regional AH funding
- Establishing Orange County as a separate region for AHSC
 Funding like San Diego
- OC Advocacy to protect bond and tax credit allocation formulas
- Ensure regional allocation for OC is included in proposed bond measure
- Support for an earmark request for OC Housing Finance Trust

Public Comments:

Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on Item 5 within this agenda of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

CoC Updates Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

OC Same Day Solutions Fair

- The Office of Care Coordination hosted the **OC Same Day Solutions Fair**, **Thursday**, **March 27**, **2025**, from **9:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.** at the **Second Baptist Church**. It provided support and assistance in a convenient, accessible manner as a result of bringing multiple resources together in one location.
- This collaborative effort provided immediate on-site support to individuals experiencing homelessness by offering a range of services such as legal and document assistance, healthcare, housing resources, and workforce development.
- Furthermore, this event helped bridge connections to longterm solutions such as case management, rehabilitation services, and legal avenues for resolving outstanding issues.



FY 2024 CoC Program Award Announcement

- On Friday, January 17, 2025, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced nearly \$3.6 billion in homeless assistance funding to communities nationwide. HUD noted that the awards were the first of two FY 2024 CoC Program funding award announcements.
- On March 28, 2025, HUD announced the second round of CoC Program funding awards for over \$53.1 million. As a result of HUD extending application deadlines for disaster impacted areas, this is the second round of awards made under the FY2024 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The states included in the second round of awards are Florida, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.
- The Orange County CoC projects awarded funding in FY 2024 include:
 - 21 renewal housing projects
 - 2 joint transitional and rapid rehousing (Joint TH-RRH) projects
 - 2 rapid rehousing (RRH) projects
 - 17 permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects
 - 1 renewal Supportive Services Only Coordinated Entry (SSO-CES) project
 - 1 Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) project
- The Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant, will conduct an analysis in order to understand the impact of the renewal projects in Tier 2 that were not funded.

HHAP Program Round 6 Changes and Updates

- On Monday, February 24, 2025, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) announced the release of the HHAP Round 6 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), making available \$760 million to strengthen regional housing solutions.
- HHAP Round 6 Allocations for the Orange County Region are included below:
 - County of Orange \$8,355,062.07
- Orange County CoC \$8,923,349.94
 - City of Anaheim \$5,947,854.53
 - City of Irvine \$5,947,854.53
 - ❖ City of Santa Ana \$5,947,854.53
- Application Deadline: August 29, 2025

HHAP Program Round 6 Changes and Updates

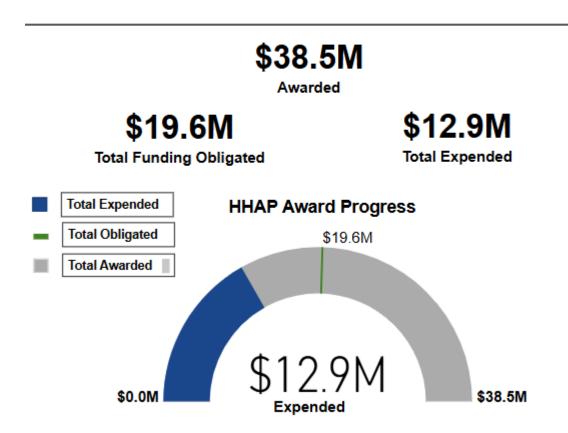
Notable Changes in Round 6 NOFA include:

- Every proposed HHAP 6 funding activity must be included under the System Performance Measures and Improvement Plan as a key action
- **Purpose and Program Objectives**: Ensure all cities and counties in the region are addressing existing unsheltered homelessness, including encampments, and preventing future homelessness
 - Jurisdictions must adopt compliant housing elements and implement their respective housing element programs, resolve and avoid state housing law violations, and implement practices to utilize surplus land for the production of affordable housing.
- Regional Partner's Roles and Responsibilities: Identify the number of encampments identified within the region, with specific plans to address these encampments.
- **Housing Element**: Indicate that each city and county Eligible Applicant has implemented all programs in their adopted housing element on the timelines identified in the housing element, or if they have not, provide a timeline and plan to implement the past due programs.
- Annual Progress Report: Indicate that each Large City and county Eligible Applicant has submitted a timely and complete annual progress report for, at a minimum, the previous two years.

HHAP Program Funding Updates

- The HHAP Dashboard reflects the progress of grantees on their HHAP awards.
- Each jurisdiction must submit monthly reports that require them to self-report total obligations and expenditures against their HHAP awards. These reports are cumulative and represent all fiscal activity within each round of HHAP.
- The HHAP dashboard can be accessed at:
 https://www.hcd.ca.gov/planning-and-community-development/housing-open-data-tools/hhap-data-dashboard-and-downloads

Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County CoC



Upcoming Meetings

- Commission to Address Homelessness: Wednesday, April 16, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.
 - Location: CAS County Conference Center, 425 West Santa Ana Blvd., Room 104/106, Santa Ana, CA 92701
- **CoC Board Meeting:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
 - Location: County Administration South (CAS) County Conference Center, 425 West Santa Ana Blvd., Room 104/106, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Public Comments:

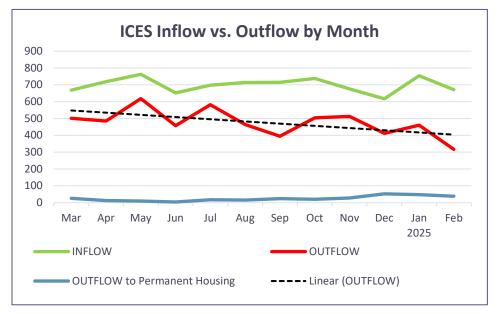
Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on Item 6 within this agenda of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

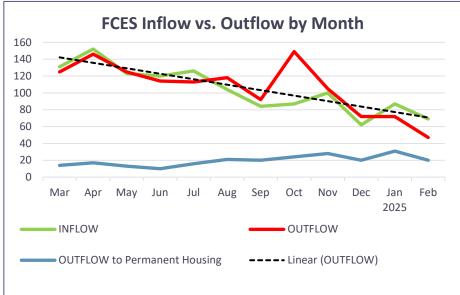
Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

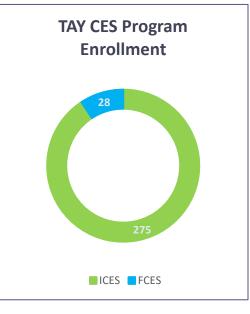
CES Updates

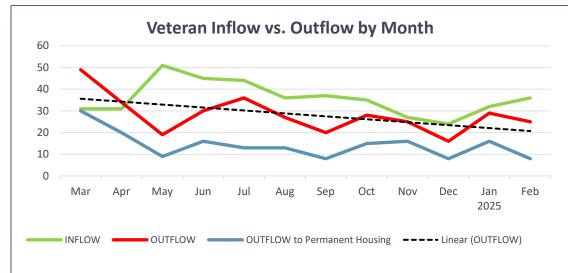
Daniel Garcia, CES Administrator,
Office of Care Coordination

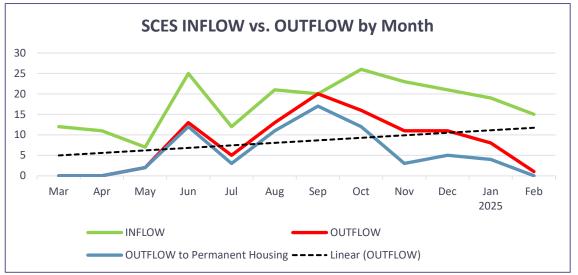
CES Inflow and Outflow











CES Subpopulation Dashboards

Subpopulation	Households on the Community Queue	Chronically Homeless Households on the Community Queue	Households Pending (matched)	Households Housed (3/2024-2/2025)
Individual CES (ICES)	3,641	1,728	233	294
Family CES (FCES)	314	55	9	234
CES for Survivors (SCES)	46	27	66	69
Veteran Registry	100	39	17	172
Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Registry	155	39	7	75

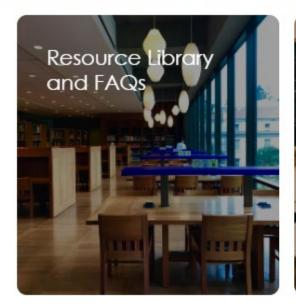
As of 02/28/25

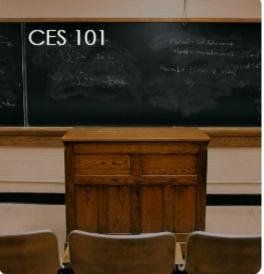
OC Coordinated Entry System (CES) Academy

- On March 11, 2025, the Office of Care Coordination as the Orange County CES Lead, announced the launch of the OC CES Academy, a training platform, and the launch of the CES 101 training module.
- The CES 101 training module is an introductory course that will provide an overview of CES.
- The OC CES Academy will continue to evolve over time to include training modules for Access Points and Housing Providers that will focus on specific CES processes and procedures, as the need arises for additional CES tools and resources, and when CES policies and practices change.
- To view OC CES Academy, visit
 https://egovoc.com/ces-training/, where you can register to create an account or continue as a guest.



PROMOTED COURSES





Public Comments:

Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on Item 7 within this agenda of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 11, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
At OCHA Conference Room A,
1501 East Saint Andrew Place, 1st Floor Santa Ana, CA 92705

CoC Board and CoC Committee Materials can be found on the CoC webpage located at:

https://ceo.ocgov.com/continuum-care

For other inquiries, please contact the Office of Care Coordination at CareCoordination@ocgov.com

