

LONG BEACH HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE MEETING SUMMARY

Community Forum 01

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Zoom Webinar from 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Attended by approximately **43 members of the public**, the first Community Forum focused on presenting an overview of the Housing Element Update, understanding the current housing crisis and strategies for the City to address the Housing Crisis.

Overview

A formal presentation led by the Long Beach Development Services Team was followed by opportunities for the public to provide questions and comments through the webinar Q&A and chat functions. Additionally, poll questions were implemented throughout the presentation to engage with participants and receive input on background housing information.

During the presentation, participants were encouraged to use the Q&A and chat functions to provide feedback on the content presented and as a guide for discussion topics. During the presentation written questions and comments were directly responded to via the Q&A and chat functions. Upon completion of the presentation, written questions were responded to verbally by project team members and participants were able to ask questions and provide comments verbally as well. The polls were primarily used to gain background information on attendees and help facilitate discussions.

Notifications of the Community Forum 1 and other meetings were distributed electronically via LinkLB, the City's email notification system, to over **3,000 email addresses** for people who have signed up for notifications for latest news or initiatives and programs from Development Services, or for notifications related to general plan updates. The events were also promoted through a memo to the Mayor and City Council, and through social media via Facebook events hosted and promoted by both the City and Development Services Department's Facebook accounts. Brochures were mailed to over **25,300 addresses** in areas identified as having high housing need and high risk related to COVID10. The mailers shared information on the Housing Element update, outreach meetings and resources for individuals affected by COVID-19 in all four City languages of English, Spanish, Tagalog and Khmer.

The questions and feedback received during the workshop are categorized below:

- 1) Q&A Input
- 2) Chat Input
- 3) Poll Results

One hundred and nine (109) questions and comments were received during the digital workshop through the Q&A and Chat features. The pages below illustrate the themes and input captured.

01

Q&A Input

(52 Questions/Comments)

- Questions about Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU), micro-units and permitting.
- Several questions regarding density bonus, the percentage and areas in the City where its allowed were raised.
- Some comments were raised regarding no net loss ordinance in the City.
- Several attendees raised questions and comments about recent and potential legislation, including SB 1120 and zoning changes in Long Beach.
- Some comments and questions were expressed regarding community land trusts and other housing trusts or funding source for affordable housing.
- Several comments and questions were raised in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the need for improved code enforcement, right to counsel, rental housing division and how to address the increase in evictions.
- Several comments were raised in relation to transportation, parking and to not consider the mobility element in the housing element update.
- Many comments and questions were raised regarding SCAG and RHNA numbers, including the increase in housing needs, affordability needs, SCAG requirements and validation, shared practices, among others.
- Some participants asked questions about vacancy rates, how they're calculated, incentives for building on vacant lots and overcrowding affecting vacancy rates.
- Questions and comments were raised about rent and wages, and how those are tracked by zip code and if they are adjusted for inflation.
- Questions and comments were raised regarding increased property taxes and other taxes to pay for increased housing.
- A question was voiced about AirBnB and how that affects the housing shortage.
- Questions were raised about how other General Plan elements are coordinated with the Housing Element, including the Land Use Element.
- Outreach questions were raised regarding availability of materials and future meetings.

02

Chat Input

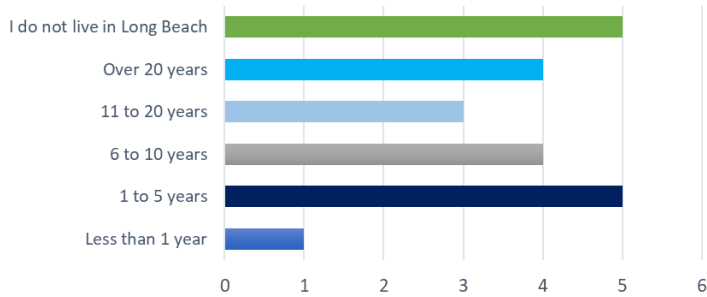
(57 Comments/Questions)

- Many comments and questions were raised regarding Community Land Trusts (CLTs) and “CLRs”. Residents suggested including CLTs in the Housing Element as a means to increase affordable housing.
- Some residents were concerned about the lack of funds in the City’s Housing Trust Fund, its income targeting, and how it helps build affordable housing.
- Questions were raised about priority for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) as means to house the homeless.
- Some residents had questions about the impacts and requirements for micro-units, and how they fit into the RHNA.
- General concerns about how the City plans to meet the RHNA target given the economic impacts of the COVID pandemic.
- Some participants expressed concerns regarding density bonus and the percentage allowed.
- Some concerns were raised regarding parking included (or excluded) with affordable housing.
- One resident asked about potential plans for north-south bike lane infrastructure.

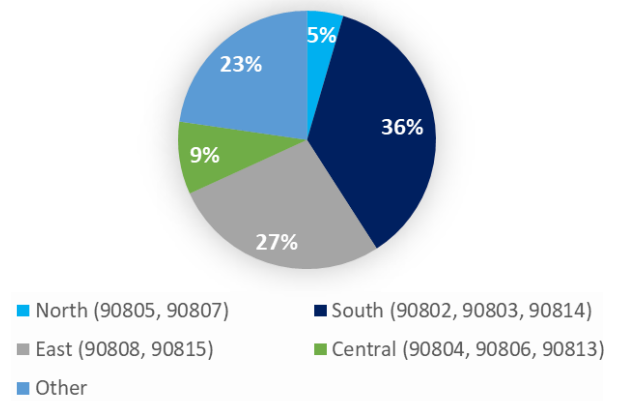
03

Poll Results

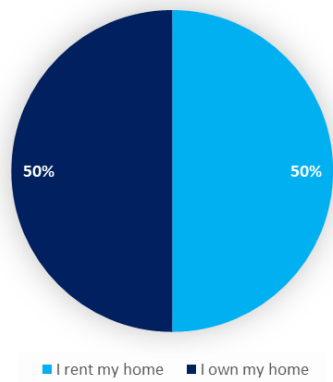
Poll #1: How long have you lived in the City?



Poll #2: Which Long Beach ZIP Code do you currently live in?



Poll #3: Do you rent or do you own your home?



Poll #4: How much of your monthly income goes to housing?

