

Municipalities and Counties: Affordable Housing Plans

General Plans

- By December 1, 2019, counties and certain municipalities must plan for moderate income housing.
- Recommended general plan must include:
 - long-term goals and the proposed extent and location of land for various income housing;
 - location and extent of proposed freeways, collector streets, public transit, active transportation facilities, and other modes of transportation;
 - the municipality's/county's plans for residential and commercial development, including around major transit investment corridors, to improve connections between housing, employment, education, recreation, and commerce; and
 - a transportation and traffic element that correlates with population and employment projections.
- A planning commission must consider regional transportation plans developed by the regional metropolitan planning organization or the Department of Transportation.

Moderate income housing strategies

- A municipality/county shall (towns may) include in its general plan:
 - an analysis of how it will provide opportunities to develop moderate income housing within the next five years; and
 - a recommendation to implement three or more of the listed moderate income housing strategies.
- A municipality/county shall annually review its moderate income housing plan elements and report on the findings to the Department of Workforce Services, association of governments, and the appropriate metropolitan planning organization.

Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund

- Added to the board one member with expertise in transit-oriented developments and one representing rural interests.
- The board must hold biannual meetings, including at one rural location, to provide information, and receive input, on state housing policies.
- The executive director may use fund money to purchase land for low-income housing units.

Transportation

- A local government submitting a transportation capacity project request to the Transportation Commission must describe how the project, as part of the state highway system or a public transit project, will improve access to moderate income housing as described in the local government's general plan.
- With limited exceptions, the executive director of the Department of Transportation may not use Transportation Investment Fund or Transit Transportation Investment Fund money within a municipality/unincorporated county if:
 - the municipality/county fails to adopt a moderate income housing plan as part of a general plan; or
 - based on the Department of Workforce Services review of the municipality's/county's moderate income housing report, fails to implement the requirements of the moderate income housing plan.