

City of Solana Beach Housing Element Update 6th Cycle (2021-2029)

Workshop 1, Summary

Date: March 5, 2020



On Thursday, March 5th, 2020 the City of Solana Beach held a public community workshop for the 2021-2029 6th Cycle Housing Element Update. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information on the Housing Element update process and to gather input and ideas from the public that will shape the goals, policies and programs in the Housing Element. The workshop included a PowerPoint presentation as well as an interactive feedback session to answer the following questions:

- What are the biggest challenges to housing in Solana Beach?
- What types of programs or assistance could the City provide to facilitate housing?
- What other opportunities or ideas do you have to address Housing issues in Solana Beach?

A video of the full presentation and the PowerPoint slides are available on the City's website. Below are the comments and responses received at the workshop.

What are the biggest challenges to housing in Solana Beach?

1. Maintain open space balance and permeable land (for runoff)
2. Lack of freely developable property
3. Fear of the types of people who live in affordable housing
4. Cost
5. The parking requirements
6. Already dense
7. Zoning limits
8. Support appropriate setbacks but they can be a limitation
9. How to classify different types of housing?
 - a. Ex: mobile homes, tiny homes
10. High cost of materials and labor to produce housing
11. Cost of land and construction
12. Financing building and permits
13. Calling people NIMBY's does not help and only inflames fears
14. Emerging ways to build, construction changes
 - a. Example: 3D printers
15. High cost of land
16. Excessive taxation
17. Loss of private property rights mandated by the State
18. Regulations with HOA's
19. NIMBY attitudes
20. Lack of vacant land
21. Zoning- a lot of rural zoning on the east side
22. State legislation creating constraints in Cities
23. Population increases – how to accommodate growing numbers

What creative ways can Solana Beach provide housing in the future?

1. Limited and clearly delineated regulatory process

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2. Simplified ADU permitting
3. Golf course
4. ADUs
5. Multi-generational and co-housing (at the train station?)
6. Living units at businesses
7. Adding backyard limits will destroy our neighborhood, too dense, too many cars, parking on streets.
8. Reasonable expectations, cohesive positions, flexibility, education
9. On church parking lots
10. More mixed-use development with studio lofts
11. Co-housing
 - a. Varied designs
 - b. Maybe a contest when property is selected
12. Political will
13. Expedite the permitting process
14. Transit oriented development with minimum parking regulations
15. Tiny villages (Seattle)
16. Live work
17. Accelerated approvals
18. Multi-use TOD development at NCTD transit center
19. ADUs will change the character of the community
20. Utilize parking lot behind Vons for apartments (3 story ok!)
21. Tie parking for ADUs to house on property to help address parking concerns
22. Reduce/restrict short term rentals in residential neighborhoods
 - a. It limits housing for people who want to live and work full time in Solana Beach
 - b. Not against it, just need to regulate it
 - c. You could probably provide/build more housing if you saw that people were actually living full time in the City
23. Eliminate or lower fees for ADUs if deemed affordable
24. Allow single family homes to be split into multiple units
25. Rethink zoning in certain parts of community such as shopping centers near freeways, they might be able to accommodate mixed-use/live-work
26. Micro-units
27. Pre-approve certain types of buildings and plans
28. Shared parking resources
29. To provide more affordable housing we need better public transit
 - a. Frequency and additional routes

What types of programs or assistance could the City provide to facilitate housing?

1. Cohousing
 - a. Micro-units
 - b. Small units

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2. Down payment assistance – affordability issues
3. Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)/Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit (JADU) program
 - a. Example: City of Encinitas
4. Land bank/ use of existing structures and lots available
 - a. CVS area
 - b. Existing commercial
5. Vertical development
6. Mixed-use development
 - a. Incentives, planning
7. City approved auxiliary housing units
8. Fee waivers or reduction for ADUs deed restricted affordable
9. Annex and subdivide Rancho Santa Fe
10. Financing for building/splitting to increase density if units are publicly available (not for within family)
11. P3 ground lease any viable empty city property
12. Research and educate on
 - a. Building plans for ADUs
 - b. 3D printers
 - c. Architects builders etc.
13. City can use incentives (go to the front of the line, etc)
14. Limit affordable housing to people who serve Solana beach such as fireman, police, medical personnel, and teachers for instance

What other opportunities or ideas do you have to address Housing issues in Solana Beach?

1. New development should maintain community character (bulk, scale, and maintain buffers/setbacks between property)
 - a. Relax standards within reason
2. HOA issues – Park Del Mar
3. Educate community on new regulations and options
 - a. Architects
 - b. Land owners
 - c. Fliers at hardware stores
 - d. Etc.
4. Funding
 - a. Hold contests
 - b. Promotional
5. Educate community on funding opportunities for ADUs etc
6. Use church parking lots