

From: [Soto, Ricardo](#)
To: [Bernal, Sarah](#)
Cc: [McCann, Melanie](#)
Subject: FW: OC United Way Housing Element Public Comment
Date: Monday, November 09, 2020 5:25:27 PM
Attachments: [Santa Ana Housing Element 11.9.20.pdf](#)

FYI

From: Kimberly Adams <KimberlyA@UnitedWayOC.org>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2020 5:24 PM
To: New General Plan <NewGeneralPlan@santa-ana.org>
Subject: OC United Way Housing Element Public Comment

Santa Ana Planning Commission;

Attached please find Orange County United Way's public comment for tonight's Housing Element meeting, which we would appreciate being read into the record.

Thank you very much,
-Kimberly

Kimberly Adams
Housing Advocacy Program Manager, United to End Homelessness

Orange County United Way

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November 9, 2020

The City of Santa Ana
Planning Commission
City Council Chamber
22 Civic Center Plaza
Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: Housing Element

Dear Santa Ana Planning Commissioners:

United to End Homelessness supports and advocates for permanent supportive and affordable housing in Orange County in order to address the needs of the homeless and underserved in the community. Your Housing Element decisions now are critical in addressing the issue in the future, and we are appreciative of your careful attention to this matter. We hope that tonight, you will take the great need for affordable and permanent supportive housing into consideration as you conduct your planning session. It is important that the City prioritize the development of new affordable homes for very low- and low-income families within the 6th cycle Housing Element update.

Orange County United Way is committed to improving opportunities for all community members. We envision an Orange County where every person receives a quality education, is financially stable, is healthy and thriving and has a place to call home. Housing affordability is a persistent and growing challenge throughout Orange County for families, veterans, seniors, and individuals as home and rent prices continue to climb. Households have to spend over 30% of their income on housing, and a growing number are spending more than 50% of their income on housing. As incomes are decreasing and jobs are being lost, many low income families are struggling to remain housed. This is especially true for the majority of Santa Ana's low-income households that are suffering from the impacts of housing costs and economic uncertainty, particularly during this Pandemic.

We look forward to working with the City of Santa Ana to encourage positive, effective housing policies that will help provide balanced housing development and create much-needed affordable housing in our local communities. Please feel free to reach out to me at MichelleM@UnitedWayOC.org or our Housing Advocacy Program Manager, Kimberly Adams, with any questions you may have. She is available at kimberlya@unitedwayoc.org or 714.325.5303. Thank you again for your thoughtful leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Murphy".

Michelle Murphy, MSW
Director, Public Affairs

**WE FIGHT FOR THE EDUCATION, HEALTH, HOUSING AND
FINANCIAL STABILITY OF EVERY PERSON IN ORANGE COUNTY.**



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