Antioch Hillcrest Terrace in Antioch. Photo courtesy of Christian Church Homes.

# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S HOUSING EMERGENCY UPDATE

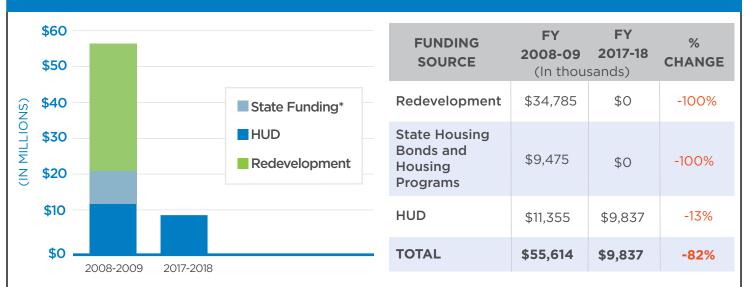


California Housing Partnership California's Experts on Affordable Housing Finance, Advocacy & Policy

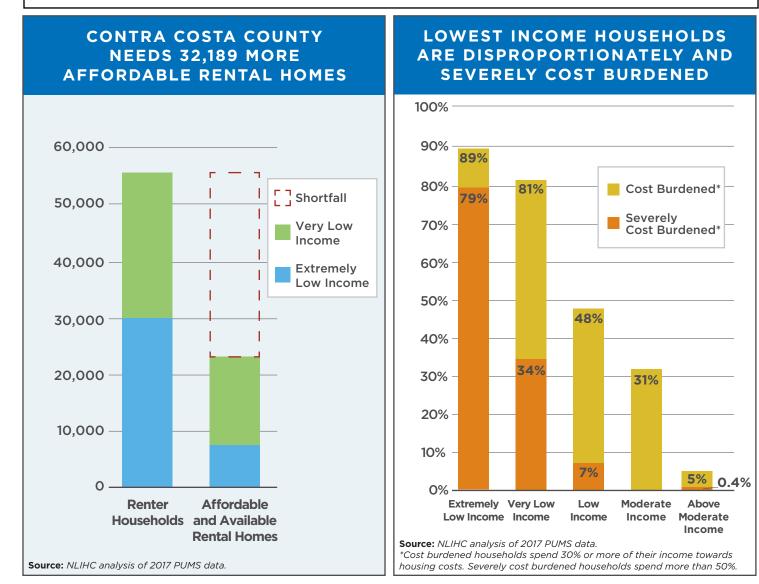
## **KEY FINDINGS**

- Low Income Housing Tax Credit production and preservation in Contra Costa County declined by 70% overall from 2016 due to Federal tax reform.
- Cuts in Federal and State funding have reduced investment in affordable housing in Contra Costa County by nearly \$46 million annually since 2008, an 82% reduction.
- Contra Costa County needs 32,189 more affordable rental homes to meet current demand.
- Renters in Contra Costa County need to earn \$43.96 per hour - nearly 3 times the local minimum wage - to afford the median monthly asking rent of \$2,286.
- 79% of ELI households are paying more than half of their income on housing costs compared to 0% of moderate income households.

#### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LOST 82% OF STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING FOR HOUSING PRODUCTION AND PRESERVATION FROM FY 2008-09 TO FY 2017-18



**Source:** California Housing Partnership analysis of 2008-2009 annual Redevelopment Housing Activities Report; 2008-2009 and 2017-2018 Annual HCD Financial Assistance Programs Reports; 2008-2009 and 2017-2018 HUD CPD Appropriations Budget Reports. \*FY 2017-2018 does not include No Place Like Home Funding (NPLH) and no funds for the Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program were awarded.

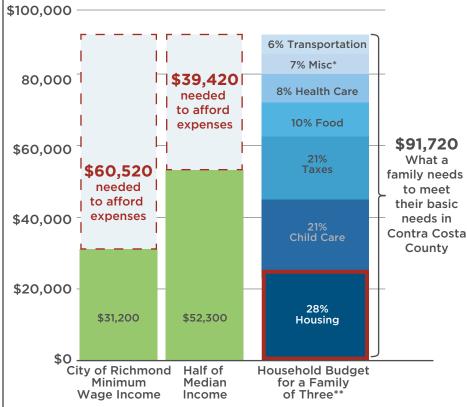


### RENTERS NEED TO EARN 2.9 TIMES LOCAL MINIMUM WAGE TO AFFORD THE MEDIAN ASKING RENT IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY



Source: Paul Waddell, Urban Analytics Lab, University of California, Berkeley, retrieved from analysis of online Craigslist listings in February 2019. Bureau of Labor Statistics Median Annual Wage Data for CA Occupations, 2018.

#### HOUSING PRICES ARE DRIVING COSTS OF LIVING OUT OF REACH FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY



**Source:** The above budget is a preview of United Way's forthcoming data release on the Real Cost Measure. Please visit https://www.unitedwaysca.org/realcost for more information about what it takes to meet basic needs in Contra Costa County.

\*The "miscellaneous" budget category includes all other categories not defined.

\*\*The household budget for a family of three uses a population weighted average to estimate the costs associated with one working adult and two children (one school-aged child and one toddler). Each percentage represents how much a family's annual budget is captured in each cost category (housing, child care, etc.).

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT PRODUCTION AND PRESERVATION DECREASED 70% FROM 2016-2018

STATEWIDE				
ТҮРЕ	2016	2018	% CHANGE	
New Construction	9,285	9,373	1%	
Acquisition & Rehab	15,032	9,430	-37%	
All	24,317	18,803	-23%	

#### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

ТҮРЕ	2016	2018	% CHANGE
New Construction	778	191	-75%
Acquisition & Rehab	925	312	-66%
All	1,703	503	-70%

**Source:** California Housing Partnership analysis of 2016-2018 California Tax Credit Allocation Committee data.

**Note:** The data does not include manager or market rate units created through the LIHTC program.

The California Housing Partnership calls on State leaders to take the following actions to provide relief to low income families struggling with the high cost of housing:

- » Replace Redevelopment funding for affordable housing with at least \$1 billion annually to help local governments meet their State-mandated production goals.
- » Expand the State's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program by \$500 million per year to jumpstart affordable housing production and preservation.
- » Create a new California capital gains tax credit to preserve existing affordable housing at risk of conversion and to fight displacement pressures in Opportunity Zones.
- » Reduce the threshold for voter approval of local funding of affordable housing and infrastructure from 67% to 55% as was done for educational facilities in 2000.

## **REGIONAL** AND LOCAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

#### **Regional Recommendations**

- » Condition discretionary transportation funds to cities on progress in providing affordable housing and preventing displacement.
- » Ensure that all cities and counties in the Bay Area are accountable to produce their fair share of affordable housing through the region's next Regional Housing Need Allocation.

#### Local / County Recommendations

#### **Expand Funding for Affordable Housing**

- » Pass a countywide measure to fund affordable housing production/preservation.
- » Establish or increase city business taxes on rental property to fund the creation and preservation of affordable rental housing.

#### **Protect** Tenants from Displacement

- » Limit annual rent increases and prohibit eviction of renters without good cause.
- » Provide legal resources for tenants facing eviction.

#### **Preserve Existing Affordable Housing Resources**

» Limit the loss of rental housing by regulating condominium conversions, unhosted short-term rentals and conversion of single-room occupancy hotels.

#### Incentivize Production of Affordable Housing

- » Adopt or increase inclusionary housing requirements, housing impact fees and commercial jobs/ housing linkage fees.
- » Require inclusion of affordable homes as a condition of rezoning, relaxing development standards or reducing parking requirements.
- » Dedicate public land not needed for governmental use for development of affordable housing.

#### This report was produced by the California Housing Partnership.

Local policy recommendations provided by: East Bay Housing Organizations (EBHO) Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California (NPH)

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