

### Laying the groundwork

# **2021 POLICY PRIORITIES**

#### MAPPING CALIFORNIA'S FUTURE

California has long been a place where people come to build their future. That opportunity — to create the lives that we want for ourselves and our families — represents the promise of how great our state can be. Opportunity starts at home, where we find safety, shelter and community — ever more important as our state faces mounting challenges.

All of this is in jeopardy for millions of Californians, especially for Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and people of color who are most at risk of being left out of the recovery. For tens of thousands of our neighbors, the promise of a better life has been pushed out of reach by decades of racist housing policies. If we do not protect

this promise, we will lose the very thing that draws people and their talents from around the world to our state.

But we have a chance to bring opportunity into focus by investing our resources more equitably and sustainably. We all benefit when everyone has access to stable, affordable homes in thriving communities. Whether it's building stronger pathways to equity, protecting our environment, improving our overall health, increasing the quality of our children's education, or strengthening our economy, it all starts with a home. The decisions we make **today** will determine California's **future** for generations to come.

#### WHAT IS CALIFORNIA'S ROADMAP HOME 2030?

**Launching in March,** the Roadmap HOME 2030 is a comprehensive framework of equity-centered, evidence-based policy solutions to create structural change in how California addresses housing and homelessness over the next decade, with clear mileposts for success.

VISION: The Roadmap HOME will demonstrate how, over the next ten years, the state can end homelessness, create affordable homes for those struggling the most, ensure that Californians can stay in their homes, and advance racial equity — creating a California where everyone can thrive.

PARTNERS: Co-led by Housing California and California Housing Partnership with significant contributions by the California Budget and Policy Center, the Roadmap HOME has been developed over the past year by a diverse coalition and is rooted in the belief that we are all stronger when every Californian has a safe, stable, affordable place to call home.

**FRAMEWORK:** We call on our state leaders to build on recent legislative and programmatic efforts to address the housing and homelessness challenges in California and embrace the need for bold systems reform and **structural change**. This will require greater accountability at both the local and state level to implement equitable solutions in five core arenas that advance racial equity and create homes for all:



## INVEST IN OUR VALUES

by prioritizing housing resources for those struggling the most, especially Black, Latinx, Indigenous and people of color



#### PROMOTE FAIRNESS

by restructuring tax and finance systems to undo racial inequities



#### PROTECT PEOPLE

by updating and enforcing the rules that safeguard Californians struggling to afford a home and facing discrimination



#### **REIMAGINE GROWTH**

by transforming how we use land to create affordable homes and access to opportunity



### CREATE EFFICIENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

by designing seamless, coordinated housing and homelessness systems to close racial equity gaps and create homes for all.







#### WHAT ARE THE ROADMAP HOME'S GOALS OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS?

- Create 1.2 million new affordable homes for lowincome Californians, including for those experiencing homelessness.
- Protect 1 million low-income renter households from losing their homes, including more than 300,000 who face eviction each year.
- End homelessness for more than 150,000 Californians who are unhoused every night and over 400,000 who are unhoused throughout the year.
- Close racial equity gaps in housing and homelessness.

#### WHAT ARE THE SOLUTIONS?

To get to our destination, the journey must start today. Here, we include an **initial package** of 12 solutions to urge our state leaders to take swift action during the 2021-22 legislative session.

By 2030, this initial package of solutions would create or preserve 245,000 affordable homes,\* preserve 90,000 unsubsidized affordable homes, and provide housing and related services to over one million people per year.



1



Initiate a \$10 billion statewide housing bond to fund five more years of affordable housing for low-income families and people experiencing homelessness.



80,000 new affordable rental homes and 60,000 first-time homebuyers



406,000 people served per year





<sup>\*</sup> This figure is lower than the sum of individual impact estimates because it accounts for interaction and overlap between them.



2





Fund the conversion of commercial properties and rental properties occupied by low-income households currently on the private market into affordable homes, building on the success of Project Homekey. Give tenants and affordable housing organizations the first right of offer on rental homes that are offered for sale.





261,000 people served per year

3



Shift savings from planned and future state prison closures to fund housing and services for formerly incarcerated Californians experiencing homelessness.



Savings will total several hundred million dollars in the near term and around \$1.5 billion annually by 2024-25

4



Make permanent the \$500 million expansion of the state Low Income Housing Tax Credit to increase affordable housing production through public-private partnerships.



70,000 new affordable homes



203,000 people served per year

5





Permanently fund a flexible range of homelessness solutions, including rental assistance, interim housing and permanent housing and services, by recapturing \$2.4 billion per year lost through corporate tax loopholes and reductions through the Bring CA Home campaign (bringcahome.org).



48,000 new affordable homes



Housing and services for 168,000 people experiencing homelessness each year











Empower voters to support building affordable homes locally by lowering the supermajority approval threshold required for housing ballot measures to 55% (the same requirement for educational facilities), generating approximately \$3 billion in local revenue over the coming decade.





84,000 people served per year

7



End exclusionary and racially discriminatory zoning in opportunity-rich neighborhoods by supporting and holding local governments accountable to implement current land use laws and by allowing increases in building height and density for mixed-income and affordable housing developments.



125,000 new affordable homes at no public cost and 500,000 new market-rate homes



344,000 people served per year (affordable homes only)

8



Allow new apartment and condominium developments to be built in commercial and mixeduse zones when at least 20% of the homes are affordable to low-income households.





Speed up affordable housing production and eliminate inequitable misuses of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by exempting new housing developments, including Project Homekey hotel conversions, that are 100% affordable to low-income households, while continuing to address environmental justice concerns.





10





**Provide ongoing eviction protections and assistance to renters** by creating a standing state-of-emergency Renter and Small Landlord Resiliency Emergency Program that launches upon declaration of a crisis, based on lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and major wildfires.

11



Increase the speed and efficiency of the delivery of emergency housing assistance by creating a revolving state fund to bridge the timing of disaster relief.



17,000 homes rebuilt several years faster



48,000 people served per year

**12** 



Speed the construction of affordable homes and reduce uncertainty and costs by streamlining the award of state funding for affordable housing developments receiving financing from four different state agencies into one decision-making process.



46,000 new affordable homes



133,000 people served per year

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Sign up for updates and action alerts at roadmaphomeca.org
- Call or email your legislators. Ask them to take bold action by supporting Roadmap HOME 2030 solutions
- Join the conversation on social media #RoadmapHOME
- Stay tuned for the full Roadmap HOME 2030 in March

