

**October 28, 2022**

## **DEAR AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE MEMBERS,**

**In order to promote a more equitable distribution of housing choices across all jurisdictions, we, the Community Partners Table of the Affordable Housing Committee, uplift our support for Option 3 as the best allocation method to strive towards when determining jurisdictional need.** Option 3 strongly addresses the current inequities and deficiencies in each jurisdiction's housing options available to community members when trying to look for a place to live.

Option 3 is better with the weighted factors that increase housing choice in places:

1. with fewer affordable housing options,
2. with fewer income - restricted housing options,
3. with a greater imbalance of low - wage workers to low - wage jobs.

For many communities in the County, people experience family separation because they cannot live in the community where they work due to many factors including economic barriers and limited/no availability of affordable options.

**The Community Partners Table also wants to uplift the messages shared by Chair Balducci and Michael Ramos at the last Affordable Housing Committee meeting on September 29.**

- This is a collective effort that is striving to emphasize the needs faced by people looking for housing every day. The allocation targets are not punitive and help to understand where to target efforts. There are partnerships and discussions ahead that can and will help.

- Any decision made by the Affordable Housing Committee should be rooted in an anti-racist, displacement, and homelessness framework. These principles support policies and ideas that produce and normalize racial equity outcomes.

The County has proposed 3 key principles to evaluate the allocation methods, and two are anti-racism principles:

- Increase housing choices for low- and moderate-income households in areas with fewer affordable options currently.
- Promote a more equitable distribution of housing choices across all jurisdictions.

Option 3 aligns with both principles.

**What to expect in the next report from the Community Partners Table:**

After meeting monthly since January, the Community Partners Table attended a hybrid retreat on October 24 where they met in person and virtually. The Table discussed their recommendations for how the Affordable Housing Committee can incorporate community voice in activities after 2022. The Community Partners will share a report with their feedback for the December 9 AHC meeting.

SINCERELY,

The Community Partners Table: Angie Hinojos (Centro Cultural Mexicano), Bree Nicolello (African Community Housing & Development), Brittany Blue (Sound Generations), Ebo Barton (Lavender Rights Project), Ginger Kwan (Open Doors for Multicultural Families), Harold Odom (Lived Experience Coalition), Nanda Tewari and Dr. Pran Wahi (Indian American Community Services)