



The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol, Room 5019
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol, Room 127
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Budget Request: \$18.5 Million to Support Bay Area Affordable Housing Pilot Programs

Dear Senator Skinner & Assemblymember Ting:

The Bay Area Housing For All (BAHA) is a diverse coalition of Bay Area organizations, elected officials, and private sector partners who have come together to ensure we seize this critical moment and address the affordable housing crisis by securing the funding necessary to fill the affordable housing gap throughout our region.

As you well know, the Bay Area's housing crisis isn't just a San Francisco problem, an Oakland problem, a Silicon Valley problem, or a North Bay problem; it's a regional crisis that requires regional coordination and resources to make a change at scale. This was the rationale for the establishment of the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority by AB 1487 (Chiu) in 2019. The bill authorizes BAHFA—which is jointly governed and staffed by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments—to provide technical assistance and coordination to local jurisdictions to meet their housing needs and enables regional ballot measures to help fund housing affordability and stability across the 3Ps of tenant **protection**, **production**, and **preservation**.

We, the undersigned members of the Bay Area Housing for All (BAHA) coalition, support the request by MTC and ABAG for \$18.5 million in this year's FY 2021-22 State Budget. While we are aware that the current surplus in the General Fund is considered one-time in nature, this modest amount of funding is a small down payment that will pay significant dividends in just a few years. While BAHFA had hoped to place a measure on the ballot last November,

the pandemic moved voter support short of the two-thirds margin necessary for a successful regional housing measure. As a result, the Bay Area may have to wait until 2022 or 2024 before voters will have the opportunity to approve significant new housing funds regionwide.

Despite this delay, we can empower the Bay Area to break ground on the transformative regional housing approach made possible with BAHFA, today. MTC and ABAG have identified five pilot programs that will enable the region to address urgent housing challenges facing Bay Area residents, such as the risks of displacement due to rent increases while helping to ready the region to effectively and equitably deploy significant capital from a future regional ballot measure. A seed investment of \$18.5 million to launch the five pilot programs will work to sustain the momentum of grassroots support and philanthropic interest in BAHFA and begin to develop the programs and strategies that will ultimately be funded by a regional measure. The program could be funded by a modest contribution from the General Fund or other funding sources available for affordable housing.

Sincerely,

Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California (NPH)
Enterprise Community Partners
All Home
San Francisco Foundation
The City of Oakland
The City of San Jose
MidPen Housing Corporation
Burbank Housing
The San Francisco Housing Accelerator Fund
SPUR
Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County
SV@Home
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
Monument Impact
East Bay Housing Organizations (EBHO)
Bay Area Council
Council of Community Housing Organizations (CCHO)
Northern California Land Trust
California YIMBY
Public Advocates
Urban Habitat
Tech Equity
Generation Housing
TransForm
Destination Home
Housing Choices
Working Partnerships USA
East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation (EBALDC)