APPEAL OF THE LOS ALTOS RHNA ALLOCATION

Friday, October 22, 2021, 9:00 am

Jon Biggs, Community Development Director





Los Altos is seeking a 50% reduction in its RHNA allocation based on the grounds cited in it July 8, 2021, appeal letter, which include:

- Jobs / Housing Relationships
- Infrastructure Constraints
- Availability of Suitable Land
- Greenhouse Gas Targets
- Anomalies in Applying Draft RHNA Allocation
- Historically Low Population Growth



JOBS / HOUSING RELATIONSHIPS

- Los Altos is a net provider of housing
- Jobs to housing ratio is 1.2
- This is expected to decrease in future

INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRAINTS

- RHNA allocation is an 18% growth in housing
- This growth not anticipated in wastewater treatment plans
- Water demand projections are 6.6%, not that needed for RHNA allocation



AVAILABILITY OF SUITABLE LAND

- Los Altos is a built-out community
- Very little suitable land for higher density housing
- Limited amount of land with commercial designations
- Reliance on commercial lands for revenue
- Flood zones (along four creeks that traverse the City) constrain amount of available land

GREENHOUSE GAS TARGETS

- Proposed RHNA allocation will add 10,500 daily trips or 65,000 vehicle miles traveled to circulation system
- These negate City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Anomalies in Applying Draft RHNA Allocation

- Challenging to validate RHNA methodology
- Validation of assumptions and methods that contributed to adjusting factors not possible

HISTORICALLY LOW POPULATION GROWTH

- Demographics show a flattening in the population growth curve
- Vacancy rate assumptions need to revisited with assumptions explained and discrepancies corrected



CONCLUSION

- Los Altos remains committed to providing its fair share of housing across all income levels.
- The RHNA allocation for Los Altos is not supported as indicated in its July 8, 2021 appeal letter
- Los Altos is seeking a 50% reduction in its RHNA allocation



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

QUESTIONS?