

Association of Bay Area Governments
General Assembly

June 18, 2026

Agenda Item 9.b.

Potential for Regional Collaboration and Technical Assistance
to Support Local Housing Elements

Subject:

Moderated discussion with staff from local jurisdictions will highlight effective strategies for developing and implementing local Housing Elements

Background:

Panelists Jennifer Carman, Development Services Director, City of Morgan Hill and Leelee Thomas, Deputy Director of Housing, Community Development Agency, County of Marin, will join moderator Lisa Motoyama, ABAG Housing Committee Vice Chair and City of El Cerrito Councilmember, to share their communities' experience with strategic collaboration to develop and implement Housing Elements.

Jennifer Carman, Development Services Director, City of Morgan Hill

Jennifer Carman has more than 30 years of professional planning and community development experience in local governments in California, Washington and Alaska. She is in her tenth year of service with the City of Morgan Hill. In this role, she has represented the city on major housing, environmental and economic development projects, working closely with local, regional and state agencies to advance community planning objectives and regulatory compliance. Prior to joining Morgan Hill, Jennifer served as Planning and Environmental Services Director for the City of Goleta, where she led comprehensive planning, environmental review, housing and development initiatives. Throughout her career, Jennifer has overseen complex land use, environmental and growth management programs, helping communities balance economic development, housing needs, environmental stewardship and quality of life objectives.

**Leelee Thomas, Deputy Director of Housing & Community Grants Division
Community Development Agency, County of Marin**

Leelee Thomas supports the development of affordable housing policy within the unincorporated area of the County of Marin and oversees programs which provide funds for affordable housing and local community services. She oversees implementation and monitoring of the Housing Element of the Countywide Plan, the Housing Trust Fund and facilitation and funding of affordable housing projects. She works with Marin cities and towns on housing equity and housing and anti-displacement policies. Leelee also serves on the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority Advisory Committee.

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Recommended Action:

Information

Reviewed:



Andrew Fremier