



CITY OF AGOURA HILLS 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

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CITY OF AGOURA HILLS
DRAFT 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Located in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains in the Conejo Valley, Agoura Hills is characterized by rolling hills and a blend of semi-rural and suburban style development. The City, which encompasses nearly 7 square miles, straddles the Ventura Freeway, and is situated approximately 36 miles west of downtown Los Angeles. Agoura Hills is known for its distinct neighborhoods, beautiful natural landscape, and array of recreational resources. The Department of Finance estimates there were 7,639 dwelling units in Agoura Hills in 2020, housing a population of 20,566 residents.

Basic land use patterns are well established in Agoura Hills. Residential neighborhoods are fully developed, with opportunities for infill primarily limited to Old Agoura, a semi-rural neighborhood characterized by an eclectic mix of old and new houses on large lots. Agoura Hills' residential neighborhoods are viewed as one of the community's most desirable features, and preservation of these neighborhoods remains a primary goal of the Housing Element.



The 135-acre Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP), originally adopted in 2008 and planned as a focal point for future mixed use development, is currently being updated to reflect current market conditions and a new set of guiding principles. The emphasis of the AVSP is shifting from residential being a secondary use to residential being a primary use, with housing unit capacities increasing from 293 to over 650 units.

The Agoura Hills 2035 General Plan, adopted in 2010, further expanded opportunities for mixed use. The nine-acre North Agoura Road Planning Area (PD 5) is identified as a future Mixed Use Center, with the goal of promoting the cohesive redevelopment of vacant and underutilized properties into a center of community commerce and living. The General Plan also introduced a new Commercial Shopping Center/Mixed Use (CS-MU) district to accommodate a mix of community-serving retail commercial uses with housing development.

While Agoura Hills is a predominately upper income community, the City does have its share of lower income households, with 24 percent of households earning less than 80 percent of the County median. In addition, many of the workers who make up Agoura Hills' workforce earn modest incomes, making it challenging to afford to live and work in the City. The median two-bedroom apartment rents for \$2,800 and the median home value is over \$1.1 million, both well above the levels affordable to low- and moderate-income households. The Housing Element sets forth a variety of programs to offer a range of housing opportunities for all economic segments of the community, including a new Affordable Housing Overlay to provide meaningful incentives to integrate affordable units within market rate developments.

B. ROLE OF THE HOUSING ELEMENT

State law recognizes the vital role local governments play in the availability, adequacy and affordability of housing. Every jurisdiction in California is required to adopt a comprehensive, long-term General Plan to guide its physical development; the Housing Element is one of the seven mandated elements of the General Plan. Housing Element law mandates that local governments adequately plan to meet the existing and projected housing needs of all economic segments of the community. The law recognizes that in order for the private market to adequately address housing needs and demand, local governments must adopt land use plans and regulatory systems that provide opportunities for, and do not unduly constrain, housing development. As a result, state housing policy rests largely upon the effective implementation of local General Plans and in particular, local Housing Elements. Housing element statutes also require the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to review local housing elements for compliance with state law and to report its findings to the local government.

California's Housing Element law requires that each city and county develop local housing programs to meet its "fair share" of existing and future housing needs for all income groups. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is responsible for developing and assigning these regional needs, or "RHNA", to southern California jurisdictions. Pursuant to the RHNA planning period, the Agoura Hills Housing Element is an eight-year plan extending from 2021-2029.

Agoura Hills' Housing Element identifies strategies and programs that focus on: 1) preserving and improving housing and neighborhoods; 2) providing adequate housing sites; 3) assisting in the provision of affordable housing; 4) removing governmental and other constraints to housing investment; and 5) promoting fair and equal housing opportunities.

The City's 2021-2029 Housing Element consists of the following major components:

- An analysis of the City's demographic, household and housing characteristics and related housing needs (Section II);
- A review of potential market, governmental, and infrastructure constraints to meeting Agoura Hills' identified housing needs (Section III);
- An evaluation of residential sites and financial resources available to address the City's housing goals (Section IV);
- The Housing Plan for addressing the City's identified housing needs, constraints and resources, including housing goals, policies and programs (Section V):

A series of appendices provide additional documentation. Appendix A provides a glossary of terms and abbreviations used in the Element. Appendix B addresses the new Housing Element requirement to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing (AFFH). Appendix C presents the parcel-specific Housing Element sites inventory and photo exhibits of the sites. And finally, Appendix D provides a summary of public input received from the variety of community participation opportunities provided throughout the Housing Element update process.

C. CHANGES IN STATE HOUSING LAW

In response to California’s worsening affordable housing crisis, in each of the last several years the State Legislature has enacted a series of bills aimed at increasing production, promoting affordability and creating greater accountability for localities in addressing their housing needs. The following items in Table I-1 represent substantive changes to state housing law since Agoura Hills’ last Housing Element was adopted and certified in 2013.

Table I-1: New State Housing Laws Relevant to Housing Element Update

Housing Bills	Bill Overview
Housing Element Sites Analysis and Reporting: AB 879 (2017); AB 1397 (2017); SB 6 (2019)	Requires cities to zone more appropriately for their share of regional housing needs and in certain circumstances require by-right development on identified sites. Site analysis must also include additional justification for being chosen, particularly for sites identified to address lower income needs. Starting in 2021, an electronic spreadsheet of the sites must be submitted to HCD.
No Net Loss Zoning: SB 166 (2017)	Requires cities to identify additional low-income housing sites in their housing element when market-rate housing is developed on a site currently identified for low-income housing.
Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: AB 686 (2017)	All Housing Elements due on or after January 1, 2021 must contain an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), consistent with the federal Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Final Rule of July 16, 2015. This AFFH sections must include a summary of fair housing issues in the jurisdiction; a summary of available fair housing data including contributing factors to fair housing issues; analysis of Housing Element sites in relation to AFFH and an AFFH program that includes meaningful action
Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units: AB 494 (2017), SB 229 (2017), AB 68 (2019), AB 881 (2019), AB 587 (2019), SB 13 (2019), AB 670 (2019), AB 671 (2019), AB 3182 (2020)	The State enacted legislation in both 2017 and 2019 to further assist and support the development of ADUs, including “by right” approval for one-bedroom units less than 850 square feet and two-bedroom units less than 1,000 square feet. And Junior ADUs less than 500 square feet.
Density Bonus: AB 1763 (2019), AB 2345 (2020)	Permits 100% affordable projects to be built denser and taller thru three modifications to current Density Bonus Law. AB 2345 creates additional incentives and also requires the annual progress report to include if density bonuses have been granted.
Housing Crisis Act of 2019: SB 330	Seeks to boost homebuilding by expediting approvals for housing development, including application processing times. SB 339 also prevents jurisdictions from decreasing a site’s housing capacity through tools such as downzoning if that would preclude a jurisdiction from meeting its RHNA targets. Also, any project that includes demolition of housing units must replace or exceed that number of units. Any demolished units occupied by low-income households

Table I-1: New State Housing Laws Relevant to Housing Element Update

Housing Bills	Bill Overview
	must be replaced with new units that are affordable to that same income level.
Surplus Land for Affordable Housing: SB 1486 (2019), AB 1255 (2019)	Expands definition of surplus land and puts additional restrictions on the disposal of surplus land. Jurisdictions must include information about surplus lands in the Housing Element and Annual Progress Reports. A central inventory of surplus lands also must be submitted to HCD.
Emergency & Transitional Housing Act: AB 139 (2019)	Amends’s assessment method to show site capacity, including using the most up-to-date point-in-time count. Additionally, the bill modifies parking requirement for emergency shelters. The Housing Element must include all of this information as well as analysis of the jurisdiction’s special needs populations.
Supportive Housing Streamlined Approval: AB 2162 (2018)	Requires supportive housing to be a use by right and eliminates parking if close to transit.
Safety Element Changes: SB 1035 (2018), SB 99 (2019), SB 747 (2019)	Updates requirements for the General Plan Safety Element including expanded information on environmental hazards facing jurisdictions and analysis of emergency evacuation routes. These updates must occur at the same time as the Housing Element updates.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The City of Agoura Hills solicited input from the public throughout the Housing Element update process. As required by state law, all economic segments of the community were provided an opportunity to review and comment on the Housing Element. As part of the development of the Housing Element, which also requires revisions to the Safety Element, the City implemented the following public outreach program.

Housing Element Website

A City website specifically for the Housing Element update was established to provide: 1) an overview of the Housing Element process; 2) FAQs; 3) allow for citizen input on potential housing sites and for providing other comments to the City; and 4) to announce future events (i.e., workshops, survey). In addition, presentations from public outreach meetings were available for viewing, and documents related to the Housing Element were linked to the website, including the results of the Senior Needs surveys. This is the webpage link:

[Housing Element Update | City of Agoura Hills, CA \(agourahillscity.org\)](https://www.agourahillscity.org/housing-element-update)

Public Meetings

Public input into the Housing Element update was initiated on March 30, 2021, at a joint City Council/Planning Commission workshop conducted via Zoom and available to the public via live web streaming. The purpose of the workshop was to provide background on the Housing Element, review Agoura Hills' housing needs, and discuss the City's RHNA obligation and requirement to identify additional housing sites. In addition to the information provided by the City team, representatives of the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) presented information on the new Housing Element sites requirements, and responded to questions.

A second public meeting was held before the Planning Commission on May 20, 2021, to present potential housing sites and rezoning through a proposed Affordable Housing Overlay. Letters were mailed to property owners of all sites being considered informing them of the meeting, and the meeting was promoted on the City's social media and through the City e-newsletter. Commissioners suggested several additional sites for evaluation by staff, including mixed use at the shopping centers along Kanan Road, while expressing concern over certain potentially environmentally sensitive sites being considered. A member of the public commented about the importance of the Housing Element and identifying realistic development sites so that young adults have options to return to the community they grew up in.

On June 9, 2021, a third public meeting was conducted on the Housing Element before the City Council. The additional sites suggested by the Planning Commission were discussed, along with the Commission's concerns on several sites. The Council had a robust discussion on merits of the various sites, and supported the concept of the Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) as a mechanism for getting

Public Outreach & COVID-19

Much of the Housing Element update process occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. Restrictions on public gatherings prevented the City from holding traditional public workshops. Instead, the city utilized online engagement tools, including a community survey, virtual community workshops and stakeholder meetings, and online documents to provide opportunities for the community to share their feedback.

affordable units built. Council members felt it was important for the public to weigh in on these important decisions, and requested that staff convene an in-person resident focused public workshop. Public input received at the meeting included a comment from a property owner of one of the sites asking if the Affordable Housing Overlay allowed the existing use to remain, with the option to develop housing based on its financial feasibility (*This is true for sites in the AVSP and the shopping center sites. For other sites being rezoned to a base zone of RM-15 with the AHO, the existing use becomes existing non-conforming and can continue, but cannot be enlarged*). Another community member commented on the importance of creating objective standards tailored to different areas of the City, such as in the AVSP, shopping centers sites, etc. (*This approach is being recommended in the Element*).

A public information workshop was held at the City Recreation and Event Center on August 4, 2021, and live streamed on YouTube. The workshop was advertised twice in the Acorn newspaper and flyers promoting the workshop were mailed to all property owners of sites being considered for the housing site inventory, as well as, to the list of interested parties for the Housing Element Update. Lastly, workshop information was provided on the City’s website and via social media.

The workshop focused on educating the public about the Housing Element update and discussing potential housing sites under consideration. Participants at the workshop, which included approximately 30, were encouraged to fill out question and comment cards. Staff then answered the questions. The questions, comments and responses have been posted on the City’s Housing Element website, and are included in Appendix D to the Housing Element.



On September 8, 2021, a follow-up public meeting was conducted with the City Council to report back on input received at the Community Workshop and to receive final direction on the housing sites inventory for inclusion in the draft Housing Element. Based on input from the public, two sites were removed from the inventory: a vacant site in the Agoura Business Park (site 10), and a hillside site zoned for single-family development (site 38), resulting in a total of twenty sites in the inventory. A member of the public spoke about the importance of soliciting input from developers and property owners to ensure the objective development standards created for the AVSP facilitate development.

Senior Housing Needs Survey

In order to solicit input from one of Agoura Hills’ most vulnerable populations – senior citizens – the City conducted a Senior Housing Needs survey. This survey was distributed in the following ways:

- Posted on the front page of the City website
- Posted on the Housing Element Update webpage
- Advertised in the Acorn newspaper
- Put in the electronic City newsletter distributed Citywide and electronic Seniors newsletter
- Promoted via the City Facebook and Twitter accounts

A total of 96 seniors completed the Senior Housing Needs Survey. Highlights of the survey responses include:

- 55% of respondents participate in programs provided by the Community Services Department at the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center.
- Approximately half of respondents were connected to the City via various electronic newsletters (*Community Connect*, *City Newsletter*, *Monday Morning*). Just one-quarter of respondents received the print copy *Senior Moments* newsletter.
- On a scale of 1-5 (5 being highest), the need for affordable senior housing received the highest average score (3.57), followed by having senior housing near medical facilities and shopping (3.47), having senior housing near transit (3.05) and receiving assistance with housing maintenance (3.04).
- 13% of respondents would like information on how to provide an ADU on their property

The survey results show that, at least among those responding to the survey, Agoura Hills' seniors are fairly well informed through City Hall. And despite the City's relative affluence, affordable housing is a concern among the City's seniors.

Public Noticing and Availability of Draft Housing Element

Public notices for all meetings were mailed (either U.S. Mail or email) to individuals and entities on the interested parties list for the Housing Element update, which includes agencies representing lower income and special needs populations (see Appendix D for a copy of the mailing list). Notices were also mailed to property owners in the sites inventory and to owners of parcels in a 750-foot radius from each site. Meeting notices were posted in three locations in the City (City Hall, the Agoura Hills Library, and the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center), published in the Acorn newspaper, and posted on the City's website, including in the Housing Element update section. Meetings were also promoted via the City's social media platforms.

Upon completion of the draft Housing Element, the document was placed on the City's website on November 2nd, 2021 and advertised in the Acorn Newspaper. A notice of availability of the draft Housing Element with a link to the website with the Housing Element was posted on the information board at City Hall and the Recreation and Event Center, and persons on the Housing Element interest list, public agency list (including adjacent municipalities), housing site property owners list, and City Homeowners' Associations and Groups list notified. The notice of availability of the draft Housing Element was also distributed via social media outlets and the City's digital newsletters. The working draft Housing Element sites inventory was available on the Housing Element website throughout the public input process, and the public was encouraged to comment. Two weeks after the draft Element was made available to the public, the Element was sent to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for its review and comment.

[The City received HCD's written comments on the draft Housing Element on January 11, 2022, and has made substantive revisions in response to the state's comments. Prior to resubmitting the revised Element to HCD on February 22, the revised Element was made available to the public beginning February 11 through posting the Element on the City's website and direct notification of stakeholders on the City's Housing Element mailing list, and notification on the City's social media platforms.](#)

The following summarizes comments received from the public on the draft Housing Element and provides responses to each:

- Housing Element updates should use an HCD-recommended “safe harbor” methodology for forecasting future ADU production. These safe harbor forecasts would allow the City to count between 52 and 160 ADUs for its 6th cycle Housing Element. Given the increasing ADU production trends in Agoura Hills, including ten ADUs issued permits in 2021 and an additional 14 in process, combined with additional marketing and incentives to come on line in 2022, the Housing Element projects ten ADUs will be produced annually, or 80 over the 2021-2029 planning period. These projections are realistic and well within the upper range of HCDs safe harbor forecast.
- Housing Elements must prioritize high-opportunity census tracts and well-resourced areas when selecting sites for lower income housing opportunities in order to affirmatively further fair housing. All of Agoura Hills’ census tracts are identified as highest resource.¹ Through creation of the Affordable Housing Overlay which incentivizes mixed income housing developments, the Housing Element provides geographically dispersed sites for over 280 lower income units which foster a more inclusive community.
- Housing Elements should include the HCD-recommended buffer of at least 15-30% extra capacity in the site inventory in order to avoid violating the No Net Loss requirement. Agoura Hills Housing Element sites inventory provides for a total lower income sites capacity (including ADUs) of 281 housing units, a 41% buffer above the City’s RHNA for 199 units.
- The City should identify housing sites located outside the Very High Fire Severity Zone. Agoura Hills’ appealed its RHNA allocation to SCAG based on the fact that two-thirds of the City is within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ), but the appeal was not granted. With most of the vacant land available for development located in the southern half of the City which backs up to the Santa Monica Mountains, including the entire Agoura Village Specific Plan area, the City has very limited viable site options outside the VHFHSZ. Among the twenty Housing Element sites, four sites have been identified that are located outside the VHFHSZ. For the most part, vacant land remaining in the City is designated as open space to be preserved, and most sites outside the VHFHSZ are already developed with uses that are not expected to redevelop.
- The Housing Element doesn’t discuss the growing risks associated with wildfires in the area, and should be coordinated with an update to the City’s Safety Element. Agoura Hills is currently updating its Community Safety Element to ensure consistency with the Housing Element, and to comply with recent State legislation and guidelines (including Assembly Bill [AB] 162, Senate Bill [SB] 1241, SB 99, AB 747, SB 1035, and SB 379). Updates to the Community Safety Element address high fire severity zones, emergency evacuation routes, vulnerability to climate change, flooding and seismic hazards, and incorporation of goals from the City’s Hazard Mitigation Plan (Las Virgenes-Malibu COG Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan). The updated Community Safety Element has been reviewed and accepted by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, and by the State Geologist as of January 2022.

¹ While census tract 8003.26 is identified as Moderate Resource, a large portion of this tract falls outside the City boundaries, and due to an inaccuracy in the reported education score, this tract should in fact be designated a Highest Resource tract like the balance of the City (refer to footnote to Table B-4).

- Adding housing to the three shopping centers in the City may negatively impact the success of these key commercial centers in Agoura Hills. Use of the LA County Assessor data on building values to identify these sites as underutilized has no bearing on whether the site is underutilized from a land use or community asset perspective. There are numerous and growing examples of housing being integrated within existing shopping centers and the resulting mixed use centers being far more vibrant and economically viable than the original center. Agoura Hills' shopping centers are all in need of upgrading to modern standards, and each has several vacant tenancies. By adding the Affordable Housing Overlay, increasing the permitted density and height, and allowing for horizontal in addition to vertical mixed use, these sites become far more attractive for residential infill which can in turn stimulate the upgrade of the commercial centers and the introduction of amenities to make them more competitive with other nearby centers. The reference to underutilization of these sites refers to their low lot coverage relative to the developable portions of the site, not to economic underutilization.
- Will the shopping centers be permitted to add residential uses without the requirement for any affordable units? Under the base CS-MU zoning, integration of housing on the site would be subject to the City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance and so affordable units would be required. Should the shopping center owners choose to take advantage of the higher densities permitted under the Affordable Housing Overlay, they would be required to provide a greater number of affordable unit than is required under the Inclusionary Ordinance.
- The City should prohibit residential development within a given distance of the freeway, absent a showing that sound levels would meet acoustic impact criteria. Pursuant to the City's General Plan, new development along the freeway corridor and major thoroughfares will be required to prepare noise studies, as deemed necessary by the Planning Department, and propose mitigation measures to achieve acceptable interior noise levels. Projects developed under the Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) will need to demonstrate they have incorporated measures to reduce the effects of noise on residents, meeting objective standards.
- The objective development standards being drafted for the Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP) update need to be coordinated with the Housing Element to promote by-right development within the AVSP. Various changes are being proposed to the basic AVSP standards/requirements/allowances as part of the AVSP Update. The Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) is another, optional layer for certain properties in the AVSP that are identified as housing opportunity sites. The objective design and development standards for the AHO currently being prepared include incentives to build housing projects at a higher density and with relatively more affordable units than would be allowed with just the AVSP. Both tasks are being worked on simultaneously and will ultimately come together and be internally consistent.

Upon receipt of additional input from HCD, public hearings will be held before the Planning Commission and City Council prior to adoption of the Element.

Continued Outreach Moving Forward

To ensure the success of Agoura Hills' housing policies and programs moving forward, it will be important for the City to continue to engage the community to receive ongoing feedback. The

following summarizes some of the outreach to be conducted during the planning period, as presented in the Housing Programs Summary Table V-5:

- Develop a public information campaign to illustrate quality multi-family and mixed use development
- Conduct fair housing information sessions before the City Council and in conjunction with City- sponsored senior programs.
- Provide outreach and education to residents on the ADU development process.
- Continue to conduct outreach to property owners of Housing Element sites to discuss opportunities for development and incentives available through the Affordable Housing Overlay.
- Promote affirmative marketing of new affordable housing developments designed to attract renters and buyers of diverse demographics, including persons of any race, ethnicity, sex, handicap, and familial status.

E. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GENERAL PLAN ELEMENTS

The 2035 Agoura Hills General Plan is comprised of nine elements organized into four overall chapters:

Community Conservation & Development

Land Use & Community Form
Economic Development
Historic and Cultural Resources
Housing

Infrastructure and Community Services

Mobility
Infrastructure and Utilities
Community Services

Natural Resources

Community Safety



As part of the update of the Housing Element, the other Elements of the General Plan were reviewed to ensure consistency with the policies set forth in those elements. The Safety Element is being updated in conjunction with the Housing Element to address new State requirements, including climate adaptation and resiliency strategies, high fire severity zones, and integration of the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Land Use and Community Form section and Land Use Map are also being updated to reflect the establishment of the Affordable Housing Overlay on Housing Element sites. Minor updates are being made to the Circulation section to reflect the new vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as a metric to evaluate environmental impacts of proposed projects, and address how Level of Service (LOS) will continue to be utilized for planning purposes.

The City will maintain consistency between the Housing Element and the other General Plan elements so that policies introduced in one element are consistent with other elements. Whenever any element of the General Plan is amended in the future, the Housing Element will be reviewed and modified, if necessary, to ensure continued consistency among elements.



II. HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

This section of the Housing Element discusses the characteristics of the City’s population and housing as a means of better understanding the nature and extent of unmet housing needs. The Housing Needs Assessment is comprised of the following components: A) Demographic Profile; B) Household Profile; C) Special Needs Populations; D) Housing Stock Characteristics; and E) Regional Housing Needs Allocation.

A. DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Demographic changes, such as population growth or changes in age, can affect the type and amount of housing that is needed in a community. This section addresses the population, age, race and ethnicity characteristics of Agoura Hills’ residents.

1. Population Growth and Trends

Table II-1 presents population growth trends in Agoura Hills, and compares this growth to neighboring jurisdictions and the entire County of Los Angeles. This Table illustrates the extremely limited amount of growth experienced in Agoura Hills during the past three decades, with one percent increase in population during the 1990s, an actual decrease in population during the 2000s and one percent increase in the 2010s. The U.S. Census documents Agoura Hills’ 2020 population at 20,599, representing an increase of approximately 230 residents over the most recent decade. In terms of future trends, the Southern California Association of Governments’ (SCAG) Demographics and Growth Forecast projects a modest 6.6 percent increase in Agoura Hills’ population over the 2016-2045 period.

Table II-1: Regional Population Growth Trends 1990 – 2020

Jurisdiction	1990	2000	2010	2020	Percent Change		
					1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2020
Agoura Hills	20,390	20,537	20,330	20,599	1%	-1%	1%
Calabasas	18,527	20,033	23,058	24,193	8%	15%	5%
Thousand Oaks	104,352	117,005	126,683	126,484	12%	8%	-0.2%
Westlake Village	7,455	8,368	8,270	8,212	12%	-1%	-1%
Los Angeles Co.	8,863,164	9,519,338	9,818,605	10,172,951	7%	3%	4%

Source: 1990, 2000 and 2010 Census; 2020 Dept. of Finance E5 Population and Housing Estimates.

2. Age Characteristics

Housing need is often affected by the age characteristics of residents in the community. Different age groups have different lifestyles, income levels, and family types that influence housing needs.

Table II-2 shows the age distribution of Agoura Hills in 2000 and 2020, and compares this to the age distribution of Los Angeles County. As indicated in the table, in 2020, 22 percent of Agoura Hills’ residents were children under the age of 18, compared to 2000 when children comprised 30 percent of the City’s population. The decline in children is further evidenced by decline in family households with children in Agoura Hills, which dropped from 47 to 33 percent over the past two decades (refer to Table II-6 later in this chapter). Similarly, between 2009-2019, K-12 public school enrollment for schools within Agoura Hills decreased by four percent (source: Las Virgenes Unified School District).

The biggest changes to Agoura Hills’ age profile occurred in the school age (5-17 years), young adult (25-44 years) and middle age (45-64 years) groups. Both the proportion and number of school age children and young adults declined during the past two decades. The school age group decreased from 24 to 18 percent of the population, and declined by over 1,200 residents. The young adult age group decreased from 28 to 23 percent of the population, with a decrease of 875 persons. This trend is a reflection of the aging in place of young adults into middle age, and the limited number of new young adults moving into the community. Conversely, the middle age population grew during the same time period, now comprising 33 percent of the City’s population, as compared to 29 percent prior, and above the Countywide average of 25 percent. This shift in growth from young adults to middle age is indicative of the area’s high for-sale housing costs and limited rental opportunities.

Finally, the percentage of seniors (65 years and older) in Agoura Hills increased significantly from six to 14 percent during this time. The population of Agoura Hills, as a whole, is aging. The City experienced the greatest numeric population increase in its two oldest age categories (middle age and seniors). The 2020 Census puts the median age of Agoura Hills at 44.0 years, more than 7 years older than the median age of 36.7 years for the County.

Table II-2: Age Distribution 2000 – 2020

Age Group	2000		2020		
	Persons	Percent	Persons	Percent	L.A. Co. %
Preschool (<5 yrs)	1,241	6%	843	4%	6%
School Age (5-17 yrs)	5,014	24%	3,743	18%	16%
College Age (18-24 yrs)	1,302	6%	1,378	7%	10%
Young Adults (25-44 yrs)	5,667	28%	4,792	23%	30%
Middle Age (45-64 yrs)	6,040	29%	6,848	33%	25%
Seniors (65+ years)	1,273	6%	2,962	14%	14%
TOTAL	20,537	100%	20,566	100%	100%
Median Age	37.6		44.0		36.7

Source: U.S. Census 2000; ACS 2014-2018; Dept of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates.

3. Race and Ethnicity

Table II-3 displays the racial and ethnic distribution of Agoura Hills’ population and compares it to the Countywide distribution. The City experienced only minor change in ethnic composition over the last two decades, with Whites continuing to make up the majority (75%) of the City’s population, although this group decreased from 83 percent in 2000. In contrast, Whites comprise only 26 percent of the population Countywide.

In Agoura Hills, the racial and ethnic group that evidenced that biggest increase between 2000-2020 were Hispanics, which increased by approximately 800 persons. The proportion of Asians (8%), African Americans (2%), and Other/Two or More Races (4%) increased slightly over the last two decades. Overall, Agoura Hills’ population is much less diverse than the County as a whole.

Table II-3: Racial and Ethnic Composition 2000 – 2020

Racial/Ethnic Group	2000		2020		
	Persons	Percent	Persons	Percent	L.A. Co. %
White	16,993	83%	15,445	75%	26%
Hispanic	1,407	7%	2,221	11%	48%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,346	7%	1,645	8%	15%
African American	268	1%	514	2%	8%
American Indian	27	<1%	0	0%	<1%
Other/2 or More Races	496	2%	740	4%	3%
TOTAL	20,537	100%	20,566	100%	100%

Source: U.S. Census 2000; ACS 2014-2018; Dept of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates.

4. Employment

The Southern California Association of Governments’ (SCAG) Demographics and Growth Forecast estimates there was a total of 13,600 jobs in Agoura Hills in 2016, and projects a 13 percent increase in Agoura Hills’ employment by 2045, with 15,300 jobs². Table II-4 identifies the City’s ten largest employers.

Table II-4: Top Ten Employers in Agoura Hills

Rank	Employer	Industry	# of Employees
1	Las Virgenes Unified School District	Public Education	505
2	Bank of America	Banking	434
3	Penny Mac	Banking	256
4	Cydcor LLC	Sales	200
5	Teradyne Inc	Manufacturing	198
6	IBM Corporation	Technology	163
7	Motor Vehicle Software Corp	Technology	141
8	Nuance (formerly Touch Commerce)	Internet/Tech	140
9	Sheraton (formerly Renaissance Hotel)	Hotel	130
10	Wood Ranch BBQ & Grill	Restaurant	124

Source: Agoura Hills 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

SCAG’s Local Profile for Agoura Hills lists jobs by various sectors in the City and are outlined in Table 5 below. As of 2017, professional and management was the largest employment sector at 32 percent, followed by education (15.6%), leisure (11.7%), and retail (11.2%). While the percentage of jobs in the professional, retail and construction sectors increased between 2007 and 2017, the manufacturing sector saw a decrease.

Almost one-third of Agoura Hills’s employment is in lower paying retail, hospitality, construction and service-related industries, with wages generally below the level necessary to afford to live in the city. The Census documents that ninety-five percent of the 9,736 persons employed within Agoura Hills commute in from outside the City limits, indicative of the shortage of local affordable housing opportunities for the community’s workforce.³ Similarly, Agoura Hills’ residents also face long commutes, with 35 percent of the City’s employed residents commuting 25 miles or more to work (OnTheMap).

² Southern California Association of Governments. Connect SoCal Demographics and Growth Forecast Technical Report. Adopted on May 7, 2020.

³ U.S. Census Bureau - 2017 OnTheMap Application. <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>

Table II-5: Employment Sectors in Agoura Hills - 2017

Industry Sector	% Total Jobs
Professional and Management	31.7%
Education	15.6%
Leisure (Accommodation and Food Services)	11.7%
Retail Trade	11.2%
Finance	10.2%
Construction	6.4%
Wholesale Trade	4.3%
Other Services	2.7%
Manufacturing	1.9%
Information	1.8%
Transportation	1.5%
Public	0.8%
TOTAL	100%

Source: Southern California Association of Governments, Profile of the City of Agoura Hills, May 2019.

B. HOUSEHOLD PROFILE

Household type and size, income levels, and the presence of special needs populations are all factors that affect the type of housing needed by residents. This section discusses the various household characteristics that affect housing needs in Agoura Hills.

1. Household Type

A household is defined as all persons living in a housing unit. Families are a subset of households, and include persons living together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. A single person living alone is also a household. “Other” households are unrelated people residing in the same dwelling unit. Group quarters, such as convalescent homes, are not considered households.

As illustrated in Table II-6, the 2020 Census documents 7,383 households in Agoura Hills, with an average household size of 2.77 persons. This represents a decrease in household size from 2000 (2.98), and falls below the Los Angeles County average household size of 3.01. With an increase of approximately 500 households and only a population growth of 29 residents during 2000-2020, the average household size in Agoura Hills has decreased correspondingly.

Families continue to comprise the majority of the households in Agoura Hills, though families have declined in relative proportion from 81 to 75 percent over the past two decades. Families with children evidenced the most significant decrease, comprising just 33 percent of households in 2020 compared to 47 percent in 2000, a decline in over 800 families with children. In contrast, single person households grew from 14 to 22 percent of households, an increase of nearly 700 households. This decline in families with children and increase in single person households, combined with the decline in young adults and increasing middle age and senior populations, suggests that Agoura Hills’ households are aging in place.

Table II-6: Household Characteristics 2000 - 2020

Household Type	2000		2020		L.A. Co. %
	Households	Percent	Households	Percent	
Families	5,591	81%	5,508	75%	66%
With children	(3,250)	(47%)	(2,429)	(33%)	27%
With no children	(2,341)	(34%)	(3,079)	(42%)	39%
Singles	948	14%	1,646	22%	26%
Other non-families	335	5%	229	3%	8%
Total Households	6,874	100%	7,383	100%	100%
Average Household Size	2.98		2.77		3.01
Average Family Size	3.30		3.21		3.69

Source: U.S. Census 2000, ACS 2014 – 2018; Dept. of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates. Numbers and % in (parenthesis) are a subset of total families.

2. Household Income

The state and federal government classify household income into several groupings based upon the relationship to the County adjusted median income (AMI), adjusted for household size. The State of California utilizes the income groups presented in Table II-7, these income groups are used throughout the Housing Element.

Table II-7: State Income Categories

Income Category	% County Area Median Income (AMI)	2020 L.A. County Income Limits		
		1 person household	2 person household	3 person household
Extremely Low	0-30% AMI	\$23,700	\$27,050	\$30,450
Very Low	0-50% AMI	\$39,450	\$45,050	\$50,700
Low	51-80% AMI	\$63,100	\$72,100	\$81,100
Moderate	81-120% AMI	\$64,900	\$74,200	\$83,500
Above Moderate	120%+ AMI	>\$64,900	>\$74,200	>\$83,500

Source: California Dept of Housing and Community Development, 2020 Income Limits.

Note: 2020 Income limits are presented to correspond to wage data presented in Table II-9.

Table II-8 presents the distribution of household income in Agoura Hills by income category measured as a percentage of the County median. At 65 percent, above median income households (>100% AMI) comprise the vast majority of households in Agoura Hills. Despite the City's overall affluence, however, approximately 1,775 Agoura Hills households earn lower incomes (<80% AMI). While relatively limited in number (5% of households), extremely low income (ELI) households (<30% AMI) have significant housing needs. According to the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data compiled by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), 96 percent of the City's ELI households are spending more than half their income towards housing, and 44 percent of the City's ELI households are renters, a group particularly vulnerable to rising rents. The following Housing Element programs can assist modest income renters: Accessory Dwelling Units, Section 8 Rental Assistance, Affordable Housing Development Assistance, and Zoning for Special Needs Housing including incentives for development of ELI units.

Table II-8: Household Income Distribution 2016

Income Level	Households	%
Extremely Low Income (0-30% AMI)	350	5%
Very Low Income (31-50% AMI)	505	7%
Low Income (51-80% AMI)	920	12%
Median Income (81-100% AMI)	775	11%
Above Median Income (>100% AMI)	4,764	65%
TOTAL	7,314	100%

Source: SCAG Pre-Certified Local Housing Data, August 2020. Data provided by SCAG for jurisdictions' 6th Cycle Housing Elements and reflects the most current data available.

Data does not include moderate-income (81-120% AMI) category as data is compiled by HUD for SCAG, and HUD does not maintain data on moderate income households.

AMI – Area Median Income

Note: Household count differs from 2020 Dept of Finance count depicted in Table II-6.

Many of the workers who make up Agoura Hills’ workforce earn modest incomes, making it challenging to afford to live in the City. Table II-9 presents a sampling of occupations in Agoura Hills that fall within very low-, low- and moderate-income thresholds (based on a single worker household). The analysis of housing costs and affordability presented later in this section compares current market rents and sales prices in Agoura Hills with the amount that households of different income levels can afford to pay for housing. With the monthly median rent for a one-bedroom apartment running approximately \$2,400, this analysis illustrates that very low, low and even moderate-income occupations, such as retail sales managers, carpenters and social workers, cannot afford to live in Agoura Hills.

Table II-9: Los Angeles County Wages for Select Occupations 2020

Very Low Income ($< \\$39,450$ - 1 person household)	Hourly Wage	Annual Income	Max. Monthly Affordable Housing Cost
Child Care Workers	\$14.77	\$30,725	\$768
Waiters/Waitresses	\$16.50	\$34,333	\$858
Security Guards	\$16.82	\$34,986	\$875
Nursing Assistants, Orderlies, Attendants	\$17.35	\$36,070	\$902
Retail Salespersons	\$17.44	\$36,284	\$907
Preschool Teachers	\$17.81	\$37,052	\$926
Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics	\$18.76	\$39,037	\$976
Low Income ($\\$39,450$ - $\\$63,100$ - 1 person household)	Hourly Wage	Annual Income	Max. Monthly Affordable Housing Cost
Retail Sales Manager	\$23.37	\$48,599	\$1,215
Bookkeeping, Accounting, Auditing Clerks	\$23.71	\$49,330	\$1,233
Transit Bus Drivers	\$25.18	\$52,370	\$1,309
Postal Mail Carriers	\$26.92	\$55,978	\$1,400
Licensed Practical and Vocational Nurses	\$28.79	\$59,899	\$1,497
Tax Preparers	\$29.52	\$61,389	\$1,535
Carpenters	\$30.30	\$63,020	\$1,575
Moderate Income ($\\$63,100$ - $\\$64,900$ - 1 person household)	Hourly Wage	Annual Income	Max. Monthly Affordable Housing Cost
Social Workers	\$30.54	\$63,526	\$1,588
Animal Control Workers	\$30.59	\$63,640	\$1,591
Media and Communication Workers	\$30.64	\$63,728	\$1,593
Photographers	\$30.64	\$63,734	\$1,594
Graphic Designers	\$30.89	\$64,246	\$1,606
Bus and Truck Mechanics	\$31.15	\$64,776	\$1,619

Source: Q1 2020 California Occupational Wage Statistics – L A County; 2020 State HCD Income Limits.
Max affordable housing cost based on 30% of income.

C. SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS

State law recognizes that certain households have more difficulty in finding decent and affordable housing due to special circumstances including, but not limited to, the following: economic status, age, disability, household size and household type. Special needs populations in Agoura Hills include the elderly, persons with disabilities, large households, female-headed households, and the homeless. Table II-10 summarizes the special needs populations in Agoura Hills. Each of these population groups, as well as their housing needs, is described in the section that follows.

Table II-10: Special Needs Populations in Agoura Hills 2020

Special Needs Groups	Persons	Households	Percent*
Seniors (65+)	2,962		14%
With a Disability	880		(30%)
Senior Households		1,669	23%
Renter		167	(10%)
Owner		1,502	(90%)
Senior Homeowners Living Alone		511	(34%)
Persons Living with Disabilities*	1,954		10%
Large Households		487	7%
Renter		34	(7%)
Owner		453	(93%)
Female-Headed Family Households*		502	7%
Renter		271	(54%)
Owner		231	(46%)
TOTAL Persons/Households	20,566	7,383	

Source: American Community Survey 2014-2018; Dept of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates

Note: Numbers in () reflect the % of the special needs group, and not the % of the total City population/households. For example, of the City's senior households, 10% are renters and 90% are owners.



1. Senior Households

Senior citizens are a large segment of Agoura Hills' population, comprising 23 percent of the community's households. Seniors are considered to have special housing needs because their fixed incomes, higher health care costs and physical disabilities make it more difficult to find suitable and affordable housing. This population is expected to continue increasing as the baby boom generation continues to enter retirement.

Although often viewed as homogeneous, Agoura Hills' senior population is quite diverse. Among the City's 1,669 senior households, 90 percent own a home and 10 percent rent housing. Approximately 35 percent of Agoura Hills' seniors are 75 years of age and above, a population which may require more supportive housing options as they age and become more frail.

Some of the more pressing housing needs of Agoura Hills' seniors include:

- **Rental affordability.** Rising rents are a particular concern due to the fact that most seniors are on fixed incomes. Of Agoura Hills' 167 senior renter households, approximately 20 percent are lower income (<80% AMI). Market rents in Agoura Hills are well beyond the level affordable to lower income households.
- **Disabilities.** The Census identifies 30 percent of Agoura Hills' seniors as having one or more disabilities, encompassing physical, sensory and mental disabilities, as well as conditions that limit seniors' ability to leave their homes. Combined with the significant number of older seniors (age 75+), this indicates a large segment of the senior population that may require various levels of housing support.
- **Housing maintenance.** Of Agoura Hills' approximately 1,500 senior homeowners, over one-third live alone. As these homeowners age, many may be unable to maintain their homes or perform minor repairs. The installation of grab bars and other assistance devices may be necessary to enhance accessibility.

Agoura Hills has a total of four residential care facilities for the elderly licensed through the State of California. All but one of these facilities are in a small, group home setting, with six or fewer occupants, with one large facility – Meadowbrook at Agoura Hills - providing capacity for up to 185 seniors. [A fifth facility – Oakmont of Agoura Hills – opened in January 2022 and provides 75 units of assisted living and memory care.](#) These residential care facilities provide care, supervision and assistance with activities of daily living, such as bathing and grooming, and may also provide incidental medical services to persons 60 years of age and over. The City's Community Services Department organizes senior programs and classes offered through the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center. Several different exercise classes are offered at the Recreation Center as well as senior groups for book clubs, card games and excursions. Also, the Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center offers classes and programs. This is a facility located in Calabasas that serves residents from both Agoura Hills and Calabasas.

Addressing the diverse housing needs of Agoura Hills' senior population will require strategies that foster independent living (such as home accessibility improvements, second units, rehabilitation

assistance), as well as strategies that encourage the provision of a variety of supportive living environments for seniors of all income levels.

2. Persons with Disabilities

A disability is defined as a long-lasting condition (more than six months) that impairs an individual's mobility, ability to work, or ability to care for oneself. Persons with disabilities include those with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities. Disabled persons have special housing needs because of their fixed income, shortage of affordable and accessible housing, and higher health costs associated with their disability.

The 2014-2018 American Community Survey (ACS) identifies 1,954 Agoura Hills residents over the age of five as having one or more disabilities, representing ten percent of the City's population. Over 40 percent of these residents are unable to live independently. The ACS documents the presence of the following types of disabilities among Agoura Hills disabled residents:

- Hearing – 24%
- Ambulatory – 49%
- Cognitive – 38%
- Vision – 9%

Of the City's senior population, approximately 30 percent suffer from a disability. [As described in the prior section on seniors, Agoura Hills has five residential care facilities for the elderly totaling 278 units. These units are fully accessible and can help address the needs of Agoura Hills' disabled population.](#) As Agoura Hills' population continues to age, the number of residents with disabilities will also increase.

Supportive services for the disabled in Agoura Hills include a Meals-on-Wheels program that delivers meals to individuals who are temporarily or permanently disabled. In addition, Agoura Hills Dial-A-Ride provides transportation within the City limits of Agoura Hills and the Malibou Lake area. There are also trips to Westlake Village, Thousand Oaks, and Oak Park and Appointment Based Destinations to Woodland Hills for an increased fare.

The living arrangements for persons with disabilities depend on the severity of the disability. Many persons live at home in an independent environment with the help of other family members. To maintain independent living, disabled persons may require assistance. This can include special housing design features for the physically disabled, income support for those who are unable to work, and in-home supportive services for persons with medical conditions. Accessory dwelling units provide a means for persons with disabilities to have an independent living arrangement while still living on the same property with family members or friends.

Developmental Disabilities

Due to the dramatic rise in autism spectrum disorders (ASD), in 2010 the California legislature passed SB 812 which requires the Housing Element to specifically analyze the housing needs of persons with developmental disabilities, and to identify resources available to serve this population. ASDs are the fastest growing developmental disability in California, and the state is projected to face a substantial

number of persons with ASD maturing into adulthood, many of whom will want to live independently and need appropriate housing.

The State Department of Developmental Services (DDS) provides community-based services to approximately 250,000 persons with developmental disabilities and their families through a statewide system of 21 regional centers, four developmental centers, and two community-based facilities. The goal of these centers is to: 1) prevent/minimize institutionalization of developmentally disabled persons and their dislocation from family and community; and 2) enable this population to lead more independent and productive lives.

The North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC) serves the San Fernando, Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys. The NLACRC serves over 28,000 individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Within zip code 91301, which encompasses greater Agoura Hills, the Regional Center currently provides services to 210 residents with developmental disabilities, including 122 persons under the age of 18 and 88 persons 18 years of age and older. Of these residents, approximately 98.5 percent (207 persons) live with a parent, family member or guardian with the remaining 1.5 percent live in a foster/group home or an independent/supportive living program.⁴ These percentages highlight the need for people with developmentally disabled family members to have a variety of housing options to provide ongoing care and support.

The regional centers have identified a number of community-based housing types appropriate for persons living with a developmental disability: licensed community care facilities and group homes; supervised apartment settings with support services; SB 962 homes (for persons with special health care and intensive support needs); and for persons able to live more independently, rent subsidized homes, affordable inclusionary units, and Section 8 rental vouchers.

Agoura Hills supports the provision of housing for persons with disabilities, and has adopted provisions in its Zoning Code to enable community care facilities and supportive housing, and ensure reasonable accommodation. As described under Program 15 – Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with Disabilities – the City will be making amendments to its Zoning Code to further facilitate housing options for its disabled population. Housing Element programs to facilitate affordable housing - including Inclusionary ~~Housing~~ Zoning, ~~Housing Trust Fund~~, Affordable Housing Development Assistance, ~~and~~ Density Bonus Incentives and the new Affordable Housing Overlay – can also assist residents with developmental disabilities.

⁴ California Department of Developmental Services, Consumer County by California ZIP Code and Residence Type. Regional Center and Early Start Consumers, June 2020.

3. Large Households

Large households consist of five or more persons and are considered a special needs population due to the limited availability of affordable and adequately sized housing. The lack of large units is especially evident among rental units. Large renter households are vulnerable to overcrowding due to the shortage of adequately sized rentals, and insufficient income to afford 3+ bedroom rentals, which typically consist of single-family homes.

In Agoura Hills, large households comprise seven percent of total households. Of the City's approximately 487 large households, just seven percent are renters. The 2014-2018 American Community Survey documents 626 rental units and 5,100 owner units in Agoura Hills with 3 or more bedrooms, in general, the appropriate size for households with 5-6 members. In contrast, Agoura Hills is home to only 34 large renter households and 453 large owner households, indicating a more than adequate supply of both rental and ownership units to accommodate the City's large households.

4. Female-Headed Family Households

Female-headed family households tend to have modest incomes, and typically have a special need for such services as childcare and health care, among others. The American Community Survey identifies 502 female-headed family households (no husband present) in Agoura Hills, comprising seven percent of total households and nine percent of family households. Of these female-headed households, over half (54%) are renters and 22 percent live below the poverty line. Many of these households need assistance with housing subsidies, as well as accessible and affordable day care.

The Agoura Hills Recreation Center offers a variety of youth programs after school. Children and teens can participate in a variety of fitness activities and intramural sports leagues, arts and dance classes, after-school programs, and special spring, winter and summer break camps and excursions. The Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center is also available for use by the City's young residents. This state-of-the-art recreational facility offers discounted memberships for students as well as a unique Child Watch Program that provides childcare using the Community Center's facilities.

5. Farmworkers

Farmworkers are traditionally defined as persons whose primary incomes are earned through seasonal agricultural work. Farmworkers have special housing needs because they earn lower incomes than many other workers and move throughout the season from one harvest to the next. In many parts of southern California, agriculture production is an important contribution to local economies. The City of Agoura Hills has no agricultural land in active production nor do the adjacent cities of Westlake Village or Calabasas.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) documented that out of California's approximate 377,500 agricultural workers, less than one percent (3,266) are located within Los Angeles County. In Southern California, agricultural workers are primarily located in San Diego, Riverside and Santa Barbara Counties. According to the Local Profile data compiled by SCAG, no full-time jobs identified within the Agoura Hills' city limits fall within forestry, fishing or farming. Since the persons employed in

agriculture is extremely limited to non-existent, the housing needs of this group are addressed under Agoura Hills' overall programs for affordability.

6. Homeless

Due to the relative inaccessibility and distance from urban centers, Agoura Hills does not attract many transitional homeless individuals or families, and the 2020 Los Angeles Point in Time Count identified two homeless persons in the City (Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority). In November 2020, according to City staff, the number of homeless persons witnessed in the City was five. Most of these individuals are located around the city's two shopping centers.

In order to assist the homeless population, the City has a team that includes the Agoura Hills Deputy City Manager, the City's Public Safety Liaison Officer and the Homeless Coordinator from the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG). This team works together to provide outreach and help homeless persons access services and the COG homeless coordinator visits areas of the city daily. The City has a log to keep track of cases and provide follow up if needed. Agoura Hills residents can use the community mobile app SeeClickFix to notify City staff of the presence of homeless individuals.

A variety of services are available through Los Angeles County, including the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). LAHSA has created the Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal (LA-HOP), which is designed to assist people experiencing homelessness in LA County with outreach services. Los Angeles Family Housing, located in North Hollywood, provides services including: outreach, housing placement assistance and a variety of supportive services.

One of Los Angeles County's largest social services agencies, The People Concern, provides a fully integrated system of care – including mental and medical health care, substance abuse services, and permanent supportive housing – tailored to the unique needs of homeless individuals, survivors of domestic violence, challenged youth, and others who have nowhere else to turn.

Other service providers in the Conejo Valley include Lutheran Social Services and Harbor House. [Calvary Community Church in Westlake Village works with a variety of agencies to assist the homeless and persons at-risk of homelessness in the Conejo Valley, and has an active Disaster Recovery and Relief Committee involved in helping individuals impacted by the Woolsey Fire to access housing and services.](#) The City's website has information and links to a variety of homeless assistance resources, including LA Family Housing, Village Family Service (for youth aged 14-24), LA-HOP and The People Concern. The City's program provides homeless outreach and assistance in a timely and efficient manner.

D. HOUSING STOCK CHARACTERISTICS

This section identifies the characteristics of Agoura Hills’ physical housing stock. This includes an analysis of housing growth trends, housing conditions, housing prices and rents, and housing affordability.

1. Housing Growth

Table II-11 displays housing production in Agoura Hills compared to neighboring cities and the County of Los Angeles. During the 1990s, Agoura Hills’ housing stock grew by only one percent, below the three percent housing growth experienced Countywide. While housing growth in neighboring Calabasas (3%) was comparable to that in the County, both Westlake Village and Thousand Oaks experienced growth levels of over 10 percent. In the 2000s, Agoura Hills’ housing stock grew by eight percent (nearly 600 units), which was higher than the County and similar to Calabasas and Thousand Oaks.

The 2020 State Department of Finance documents Agoura Hills’ housing stock at 7,639 units, reflecting a small increase of 54 units in the last decade. This slow growth is less than the Countywide increase of four percent since 2010.

Table II-11: Regional Housing Growth Trends 1990-2020

Jurisdiction	1990	2000	2010	2020	Percent Change		
					1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2020
Agoura Hills	6,927	6,993	7,585	7,639	1%	8%	0.7%
Calabasas	7,857	8,107	8,878	9,230	3%	10%	4%
Thousand Oaks	37,765	42,958	47,497	48,159	14%	11%	1%
Westlake Village	3,006	3,347	3,384	3,371	11%	1%	-0.4%
L.A. County	3,163,343	3,270,909	3,443,087	3,590,574	3%	5%	4%

Source: U.S. Census 1990, 2000, 2010; Dept. of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates.

2. Housing Type and Tenure

Table II-12 depicts the mix of housing types in Agoura Hills. Single-family homes remain the dominant housing type, comprising 83 percent of the housing stock, a modest decline from the 89 percent single-family homes in 2000. During the past two decades, a net increase of 169 single-family homes have been added to the City’s housing stock, in comparison to a net increase in 455 multi-family units. The majority of multi-family growth since 2000 is attributed to construction of the 336-unit Oak Creek Apartment complex (built in 2004) and several small townhome developments.

Table II-12: Housing Type 2000 - 2020

Unit Type	2000		2020	
	Units	Percent	Units	Percent
Single-Family (SF) Detached	5,220	75%	5,349	70%
SF Attached	979	14%	1,019	13%
Total Single-Family	6,199	89%	6,368	83%
2 to 4 Units	176	2%	185	2%
5 or more units	618	9%	1,064	14%
Total Multi-Family	794	11%	1,249	16%
Mobile Homes & Other	0	0%	22	<1%
Total Housing Units	6,993	100%	7,639	100%
Vacancy Rate	1.7%	--	3.4%	--

Source: U.S. Census 2000; Dept. of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates.

Housing tenure refers to whether a housing unit is owned or rented. Tenure is an important indicator of the housing climate of a community, reflecting the relative cost of housing opportunities, and the ability of residents to afford housing. Tenure also influences residential mobility, with owner units generally seeing lower turnover rates than rental units. In 2020, 77 percent of Agoura Hills’ households were homeowners, a slight decline in homeownership from the City’s 2000 homeownership levels (84%), yet substantially higher than the Countywide average of 45 percent.

Table II-13: Housing Tenure

Housing Tenure	2000		2010		2020		Los Angeles County
	Occupied Units	Percent	Occupied Units	Percent	Occupied Units	Percent	
Renter	1,099	16%	1,612	22%	1,691	23%	55%
Owner	5,775	84%	5,712	78%	5,692	77%	45%
Total	6,874	100%	7,327	100%	7,383	100%	100%

Source: U.S. Census 2000 and 2010; Dept. of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates.

Vacancy Rate

The vacancy rate measures the overall housing availability in a community and is often a good indicator of how efficiently for-sale and rental housing units are meeting the current demand for housing. A low vacancy rate may indicate that households are having difficulty finding affordable housing, which can lead to overcrowding and/or overpayment. A particularly tight housing market with insufficient vacant units for normal mobility may also lead to high competition for units, placing upward pressure on rents and for-sale housing prices.

A vacancy rate of five percent for rental housing and two percent for ownership housing is generally considered healthy and suggests that there is a balance between the supply and demand of housing. As measured by the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, the residential vacancy rate in Agoura Hills was 0.5 percent for ownership units, indicating a high pent-up demand for ownership housing in the City. Meanwhile, the rental vacancy rate was shown at 4.8 percent, indicating sufficient supply to meet rental demands.



Oak Creek Apartments

3. Housing Age and Condition

The age of a community’s housing stock can provide an indicator of overall housing conditions. Typically, housing over 30 years in age is likely to have rehabilitation needs that may include new plumbing, roof repairs, foundation work and other repairs. Table II-14 displays the age of Agoura Hills’ occupied housing stock by tenure as of 2019. With 89 percent of Agoura Hills’ housing stock built prior to 1989, a vast majority of the City’s housing has reached the 30-year benchmark, representing approximately 6,500 units. The aging of such a large portion of Agoura Hills’ housing stock indicates a need for code enforcement and property maintenance programs to stem potential housing deterioration. While no units have previously been identified as needing replacement, code enforcement staff estimate that 20 percent of the pre-1989 housing stock (approximately 1,300 units) may be in need of some level of rehabilitation.

Agoura Hills implements a complaint-based code enforcement program and maintains a full-time code enforcement officer. Code violations typically relate to aesthetic issues, outdoor storage, overcrowding and development within setback areas; few structural issues are present. The City’s Building and Safety Department are effective in addressing housing and property maintenance issues.

Table II-14: Age of Housing Stock

Year Structure Built	Renter Occupied Housing	Percent Renter	Owner Occupied Housing	Percent Owner	Total Percent
2014 or later	0	0%	63	1%	<1%
2010-2013	91	5%	0	0%	1%
2000-2009	245	15%	91	2%	5%
1990-1999	134	8%	205	4%	5%
1980-1989	512	30%	2,607	46%	42%
1970-1979	506	30%	2,009	35%	34%
1960-1969	181	11%	512	9%	9%
1950-1959	22	1%	159	3%	3%
1940-1949	0	0%	0	0%	0%
1939 or earlier	0	0%	46	<1%	<1%
Total	1,691	100%	5,692	100%	100%

Source: U.S. Census 20014-18 American Community Survey; Dept. of Finance 2020 Population and Housing Estimates.

4. Housing Costs and Affordability

Rental Housing Market

An internet rent survey was conducted in August 2020 to evaluate rental costs in Agoura Hills. Table II-15 presents the results of the rent survey by unit type, including apartments/condominiums/townhomes and single-family homes in Agoura Hills.

A total of 58 multi-family units were advertised for rent, including 31 apartments and 27 units identified as townhomes or condominiums. Median monthly rents were \$2,403 for a one-bedroom unit, \$2,793 for a two-bedroom unit, and \$3,495 for a three-bedroom unit. While no three-bedroom apartments were advertised, townhome/condominiums helped to fill the gap in larger unit rentals. The median rents for all apartment and townhome/condo sizes increased significantly in the last eight years. Since 2012, the median rents for one-bedroom apartments increased by 50 percent (median was \$1,600 in 2012), two-bedroom apartments increased by 39 percent (median rent in 2012 was \$2,000) and three-bedroom townhomes/condos experienced an increase of 47 percent (median was \$2,375 in 2012).

Single-family homes comprised 32 percent of advertised rentals in Agoura Hills, with median rents of \$4,030 for a three-bedroom home, \$5,000 for a four-bedroom home, and \$4,765 for a home with five bedrooms. While the median rents for three-bedroom homes increased from \$2,800 in 2012 to \$4,030 in 2020, the median rents for the larger homes only increased slightly (four-bedroom homes had a median rent of \$4,800 in 2012) or decreased (the median rent for five-bedroom homes was \$6,500).

Table II-15: Survey of Vacant Rental Units: August 2020

Unit Type and Bedrooms	# Units Advertised	Rental Range	Median Rent
<i>Apartments/Condominiums/Townhomes</i>			
1	17	\$1,695 - \$2,662	\$2,403
2	27	\$1,875 - \$3,650	\$2,793
3	14	\$2,800 - \$5,930	\$3,495
<i>Single-Family Homes</i>			
3	9	\$3,300 - \$5,900	\$4,030
4	12	\$3,810 - \$8,530	\$5,000
5	6	\$3,800 - \$6,200	\$4,765

Source: Rental survey by KWA, August 2020; www.craigslist.org, www.westsiderentals.com, www.zillow.com, www.rent.com.

Accessory Dwelling Units

Accessory dwelling units (also known as second units or "granny" flats) are complete independent housing units that can be either detached or attached from an existing single-family residence. Based on their relatively small size, and because they do not require paying for land or major new infrastructure, accessory dwelling units ("ADUs") are considered affordable by design. ADUs can provide affordable housing options for family members, seniors, students, in-home health care providers, and other small household types. ADUs can also be useful to generate additional rental income for the homeowner, making homeownership more financially feasible.

Agoura Hills' adopted its most recent ADU Ordinance in August 2021, consistent with current state laws regulating ADUs. The Ordinance seeks to facilitate the creation of ADUs and junior ADUs (less than 500 square feet) as a means of integrating lower cost rental options within existing neighborhoods.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has prepared a "Regional Accessory Dwelling Unit Affordability Analysis" for local governments in to use to assign ADUs to income categories for the purpose of Sixth Cycle Housing Elements.⁵ The analysis consisted of five steps:

- A. Calculate maximum rent limits for RHNA income categories for both one-person and two-person households by county;
- B. Conduct a rent survey for ADUs in the SCAG region (a total of 150 existing ADUs were surveyed between April and June 2020);
- C. Use regional survey to determine proportion of ADUs within each income category for both one-person and two-person households;
- D. Make assumptions for what percentage of ADUs will be occupied by one-person and two-person households;
- E. Use (D) to combine proportions from (C) into single breakdown of rented ADUs by income category.

The steps above apply to rented ADUs. However, one prevalent use of ADUs is for family members or others (such as caretakers) who are not charged rent. SCAG looked at other surveys and resources to determine the percentage of ADUs where people live rent free. Based on this review, SCAG estimated that 15% of ADUs are provided rent-free, and can therefore be assumed to be affordable to extremely low-income households (0-30% AMI).

In order to account for differences in housing costs, the SCAG geography was divided into five subregions, including Los Angeles County which was divided into two areas – the coastal jurisdictions including Las Virgenes communities and the inland jurisdictions. Table 16 presents SCAG's affordability assumptions for ADUs in LA County's coastal jurisdictions, providing the basis for assigning affordability to projected ADUs in Agoura Hills' Housing Element Update. As shown 60 percent of all ADUs and 45 percent of rented ADUs are estimated by SCAG to be affordable to lower income households.

⁵ Southern California Association of Governments, "SCAG Regional Accessory Dwelling Unit Affordability Analysis", December 2020.

**Table II-16: Affordability Assumptions for All ADUs
Los Angeles County – Coastal Jurisdictions (including Las Virgenes)**

Category	Affordability Assumptions for Rented ADUs¹ 85% of Total	Affordability Assumptions for Non-Rented ADUs² 15% of Total	Affordability Assumption for all ADUs³ 100% of Total
Extremely Low Income	0%	100%	15%
Very Low Income	3%	0%	2%
Low Income	51%	0%	43%
Moderate Income	7%	0%	6%
Above Moderate Income	40%	0%	34%

Source: Southern California Association of Governments, "SCAG Regional Accessory Dwelling Unit Affordability Analysis", December 2020.

1. Used step D in analysis to combine proportions from step C into single breakdown of rented ADUs by income category.
2. Based on SCAG research of non-rented ADUs, it was determined that 15% of ADUs will be available at rents affordable to Extremely Low-Income households.
3. Combined by multiplying rented ADUs by 85% and non-rented ADUs by 15%.

Homeownership Market

The real estate website Zillow.com has developed a home valuation model to estimate the market value of individual properties, and compiles this information to produce a median “Home Value Index” for any given geographic area. Table II-17 presents the September 2021 median home value index for Agoura Hills and nearby communities for both single-family homes and condominiums. As shown, the median condominium value in the City was \$915,000 and median single-family home value was \$1,360,000. Housing values in Agoura Hills are above those in Thousand Oaks, the City of Los Angeles, and the County as a whole, and slightly below those in Westlake Village.

Table II-17: Regional Median Home Values 2021

Community	Condominiums	Single-family
Agoura Hills	\$915,000	\$1,360,000
Calabasas	\$1,320,000	\$1,850,000
Malibu	\$1,420,000	\$4,940,000
Thousand Oaks	\$602,000	\$1,030,000
Westlake Village	\$1,090,000	\$1,620,000
Los Angeles City	\$748,000	\$1,180,000
Los Angeles County	\$706,000	\$975,000

Source: Zillow Home Value Index from Zillow.com. Values as of September 30, 2021

For purposes of evaluating housing affordability in Agoura Hills, the following Table II-18 breaks down home values by number of bedrooms, aggregating both condominiums and single-family homes in the overall home value figures. Median values range from \$540,000 for a two-bedroom home to over \$2 million for a home with five bedrooms.

Table II-18: Agoura Hills Median Home Values by Size 2021

Number of Bedrooms	September 2021 Median Home Value (Single-family and Condo)
2	\$540,000
3	\$895,000
4	\$1,223,000
5+	\$2,097,000
Total	\$1,119,345

Source: Zillow Home Value Index from Zillow.com.

Housing prices in Agoura Hills and the region increased dramatically in the last decade. For instance, in 2010, Zillow shows the home value index for Agoura Hills at \$613,800 (inclusive of both single-family homes and condominiums), compared to an index of \$1,119,000 in September 2021, over an 80 percent increase. And in the last year alone, values have increased 19.1 percent in Agoura Hills.

Housing Affordability

The affordability of housing in Agoura Hills can be assessed by comparing market rents and sales prices with the amount that households of different income levels can afford to pay for housing. Compared together, this information can reveal who can afford what size and type of housing as well as indicate the type of households that would most likely experience overcrowding or overpayment.

For purposes of evaluating home purchase affordability, Table II-19 presents the maximum affordable purchase price for moderate income households (120% AMI), and compares this with median home values as previously documented in Table II-18. As illustrated below, the maximum affordable purchase price ranges from \$444,276 for a three-person household, \$533,632 for a four-person household, and \$545,881 for a five-person household. Median home values in Agoura Hills are all above these moderate-income affordability thresholds, with the affordability gap increasing with the increase in number of bedrooms.

Table II-19: 2020 Los Angeles County Maximum Affordable Housing Cost

Moderate Income Affordable Housing Cost	2 Bedroom (3 persons)	3 Bedroom (4 persons)	4 Bedroom (5 persons)
Household Income @ 120% Median	\$83,500	\$92,750	\$101,500
Income Towards Housing @ 35% Income	\$29,225	\$34,462	\$35,525
Maximum Monthly Housing Cost	\$2,435	\$2,871	\$2,960
Less Ongoing Monthly Expenses:			
Utilities ¹	(\$146)	(\$172)	(\$204)
Taxes (1.1% of sales price)	(\$406)	(\$488)	(\$500)
Homeowner Insurance ²	(\$37)	(\$44)	(\$45)
HOA Fees & Other Maintenance	(\$250)	(\$250)	(\$250)
Monthly Income Available for Mortgage	\$1,596	\$1,917	\$1,961
Supportable Mortgage @ 3.5% interest	\$355,421	\$426,906	\$436,705
Homebuyer Downpayment (20%)	\$88,855	\$106,726	\$109,176
Maximum Affordable Purchase Price	\$444,276	\$533,632	\$545,881
Agoura Hills Median Home Value³	\$540,200	\$894,700	\$1,223,000

Source: Karen Warner Associates.

1. Utility costs based on HACO LA schedule and assumes gas appliances.

2. Estimated from quotes from Progressive Insurance

3. Median home prices (inclusive of both single-family and condominiums) based on Zillow Home Value Index from Zillow.com.

Table II-20 presents the maximum affordable rents for very low-, low- and moderate-income households by household size, and compares with median apartment rents in Agoura Hills (as documented in the rent survey presented in Table II-15). As Table II-20 indicates, City-wide median rents are well above the level of affordability for very low-, low- and even moderate-income households. The monthly affordability gap for a three-person household ranges from \$1,671 for very low-income households, \$911 for low-income households, and \$851 for moderate-income households. Some of the least cost smaller rentals advertised, however, (\$1,695 one-bedroom and \$1,875 two bedroom) are within a level generally affordable to the top end of the low-income range as well as moderate-income households. In addition, three accessory dwelling units were advertised

for rent in August 2020, and had a rental range of \$1,750 to \$1,900; this range is affordable to 2-person and some 3-person low- and moderate-income households.

Table II-20: 2020 Maximum Affordable Rents* Los Angeles County

Income Level**	Studio (1 person)	1 Bedroom (2 person)	2 Bedroom (3 person)	3 Bedroom (4 person)
Very Low Income	\$877	\$999	\$1,122	\$1,236
Low Income	\$1,468	\$1,676	\$1,882	\$2,081
Moderate Income	\$1,514	\$1,728	\$1,942	\$2,147
Agoura Hills Median Rents	n/a	\$2,403	\$2,793	\$3,495

Source: Karen Warner Associates, 2020.

*Maximum rent reflects deduction of utility allowance per LACDC 2020 utility schedule:

\$109 for studios, \$127 for 1 bdrms, \$146 for 2 bdrms, and \$172 for 3 bdrms.

**Income levels reflect the 2020 Official State Income Limits published by State HCD.

5. Assisted Housing At-Risk of Conversion

State law requires the city to identify, analyze, and propose programs to preserve housing units that are currently restricted to low-income housing use and that will become unrestricted and possibly be lost as low-income housing.

Agoura Hills does not currently have any rent restricted housing in its jurisdiction. While the regulatory agreement associated with the tax-exempt bond issue on Archstone Agoura Hills previously required the property owner to maintain 20 percent of the units for occupancy by low-income tenants, the income restrictions on this project have long since expired. Future projects provided through the City’s Inclusionary Housing Ordinance and new Affordable Housing Overlay will carry minimum 55-year affordability covenants on rental housing and 45-year covenants on ownership housing.

6. Housing Problems

A continuing priority of communities is enhancing or maintaining the quality of life for residents. A key measure of the quality of life in Agoura Hills is the extent of “housing problems.” One measure of housing problems used by both the state and Federal governments is the extent of housing overpayment and overcrowding within a community.

Overpayment

Housing overpayment, as defined by the State and Federal government, refers to spending more than 30 percent of income on housing; severe overpayment is spending greater than 50 percent of income. Table II-21 shows the incidence of overpayment in Agoura Hills.

Table II-21: Housing Overpayment 2018

Overpayment	Households	Percent	L.A. Co. %
Owners			
Overpayment (>30% income on housing)	1,884	41%	44%
Renters			
Overpayment (30%-50% income on housing)	366	22%	25%
Severe Overpayment (>50% income on housing)	445	27%	29%

Source: SCAG Pre-Certified Local Housing Data, August 2020; American Community Survey 2014-2018.

Note: Household count differs from 2020 Dept. of Finance count depicted in Table II-6.

According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey data compiled by SCAG, 22 percent of renters in Agoura Hills were spending between 30 and 50 percent of their total income on housing, with an additional 27 percent spending more than half their income on housing. This level of severe overpayment has declined since 2010, when it measured at 34 percent for Agoura Hills’ renters. Among owner households in Agoura Hills, 41 percent were facing overpayment. As shown in Table II-21, overpayment for both renters and owners is slightly lower than the County as a whole.

Among lower income renter households, overpayment is most pronounced. As shown in Table II-22, all renter households earning less than \$50,000 in Agoura Hills face severe overpayment and approximately 87 percent of households earning between \$50,000 and \$75,000 face either overpayment or severe overpayment. The impact of housing overpayment on Agoura Hills’ lower income households is significant, with the community’s special needs populations – seniors, persons with disabilities, and female-headed households with children - most vulnerable to losing their housing due to an inability to pay. Renter overpayment is addressed in the following Housing Element programs: Inclusionary Housing (*Program #4*), Affordable Housing Development Assistance (*Program #5*), Affordable Housing Density Bonus (*Program #6*), Section 8 Rental Assistance (*Program #7*), Accessory Dwelling Units (*Program #11*) and Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with Disabilities (*Program #16*).

Table II-22: Lower Income Renter Overpayment 2018

Income Level	Overpayment (30-50% income on housing)		Severe Overpayment (>50% income on housing)	
	Households	% of renter income category	Households	% of renter income category
Less than \$20,000	0	0%	14	100%
\$20,000-\$34,999	0	0%	259	100%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	0	0%	29	100%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	157	53%	100	34%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	125	46%	0	0%
\$100,000 or more	84	11%	43	6%

Source: SCAG Pre-Certified Local Housing Data, August 2020; American Community Survey 2014-2018.

Note: Household count differs from 2020 Dept. of Finance count depicted in Table II-6.

Overcrowding

The state defines an overcrowded housing unit as one occupied by more than 1.01 persons per room (excluding kitchens, bathrooms, porches, and hallways). A unit with more than 1.51 occupants per room is considered severely overcrowded. The incidence of overcrowded housing is a general measure of whether there is an available supply of adequately sized and affordable housing units.

Table II-23 shows the incidence of overcrowding in Agoura Hills and Los Angeles County by tenure, as measured by the 2014-2018 American Community Survey compiled by SCAG. Over the last ten years, renter overcrowding has increased from four to seven percent; however, no renter households experienced severe overcrowding. Both renter and owner overcrowding in the city was less than what was measured Countywide. Overall, household overcrowding remains a relatively minor issue in Agoura Hills.

Table II-23: Overcrowded Households 2018

Overcrowding	Households	Percent	L.A. Co. %
Owners			
Overcrowding (>1.0 ppl/room)	26	<1%	4%
Severe Overcrowding (>1.5 ppl/room)	26	<1%	2%
Renters			
Overcrowding (>1.0 ppl/room)	123	7%	9%
Severe Overcrowding (>1.5 ppl/room)	0	0%	7%

Source: SCAG Pre-Certified Local Housing Data, August 2020; American Community Survey 2014-2018.

Note: Household count differs from 2020 Dept. of Finance count depicted in Table II-6

E. REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION ASSESSMENT

California’s Housing Element law requires that each city and county develop local housing programs to meet its “fair share” of existing and future housing needs for all income groups, as determined by the jurisdiction’s Council of Governments. This “fair share” allocation concept seeks to ensure that each jurisdiction accepts responsibility for the housing needs of not only its resident population, but also for the jurisdiction’s projected share of regional housing growth across all income categories. Regional growth needs are defined as the number of units that would have to be added in each jurisdiction to accommodate the forecasted number of households, as well as the number of units that would have to be added to compensate for anticipated demolitions and changes to achieve an “ideal” vacancy rate.

The regional growth allocation process begins with the Department of Finance’s (DOF) projection of statewide housing demand for the planning period, which is then apportioned by regional councils of government throughout the state. SCAG is responsible for assigning these regional housing needs, known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) for Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, and Imperial counties, and the jurisdictions within each county. The main determining factors in SCAG’s methodology are: household growth (based on Connect SoCal growth forecast), job accessibility, and transit accessibility. After a RHNA total is calculated, a social equity adjustment is applied to determine the four income categories (very low-, low-, moderate-, and above moderate-incomes).

The state has allocated 1.34 million new housing units to the SCAG regions as part of the 6th cycle RHNA. This level of housing growth represents the largest allocation the region has ever received, which results in much higher RHNA allocations for SCAG cities and counties. At its September 3, 2020, meeting, SCAG’s Regional Council adopted the Connect SoCal on which the RHNA is based. On March 4, 2021, the Regional Council adopted the final RHNA allocations to local jurisdictions. SCAG has forecast the housing needs by income category for each jurisdiction within the six-county region for the 2021-2029 Housing Element planning period of October 2021 through October 2029. The RHNA represents the minimum number of housing units each community is required to provide “adequate sites” through zoning and is one of the primary threshold criteria necessary to achieve HCD approval of the Housing Element. Agoura Hills’ RHNA housing needs for the 2021-2029 planning period was forecast at 318 net units, distributed among the four income categories as shown in Table II-24.

Table II-24: Regional Housing Needs Assessment 2021-2029

Income Level	Percent of Area Median Income	Units	Percent
Very Low	0-50%	127	40%
Low	51-80%	72	23%
Moderate	81-120%	55	17%
Above Moderate	120%+	64	20%
Total		318	100%

Source: SCAG 6th Cycle Final RHNA Allocation Plan, March 4, 2021.

An estimated half of the City’s 127 very low-income housing needs (63 units) units are for extremely low-income households earning less than 30% AMI.



III. HOUSING CONSTRAINTS

The provision of adequate and affordable housing can be constrained by a number of factors. This section assesses the various governmental, market, infrastructure and environmental factors that may serve as a potential constraint to housing development and improvement in Agoura Hills.

A. GOVERNMENTAL CONSTRAINTS

1. Land Use Controls

As a means of providing information and transparency to the public, all zoning and development standards and development fees are posted on the City's website.

General Plan Land Use and Community Form Element

The General Plan Land Use and Community Form Element of the Community Conservation and Development Chapter, adopted by the City in March 2010, provides for five residential categories plus one mixed use category. A brief description of each land use is provided below:

- Residential – Very Low Density (0.2 – 1 du/acre) – this land use category accommodates development on large existing lots, ranging from 1 to 5 acres in parcel size. This category includes areas suitable of equestrian estates and agricultural uses and horses are commonly kept in areas with this classification. This designation also often applies to areas of 25 percent or greater slope.
- Residential – Low Density (1 – 2 du/acre) – This category provides large lots of one-half to one acre in size and includes estate-sized lots. On large parcels, development should be concentrated in more developable areas with large contiguous areas left in open space.
- Residential – Single Family (2 – 6 du/acre) – This land use category includes all remaining areas designated for development with conventional single-family detached housing and comprises approximately 65 percent of the City's residentially designated land. On large parcels, development should be concentrated in more developable areas with large contiguous areas left in open space.
- Residential – Medium Density (6 - 15 du/acre) – This land use category includes densities appropriate for single-family small lot subdivisions, townhomes, condominiums, and low-density apartments. On large parcels, development should be concentrated in more developable areas with large contiguous areas preserved as open space. This category is generally proposed in areas of relatively flat land with good access to arterial streets and public services.
- Residential – High Density (15 – 25 du/acre) – This land use category includes higher-density townhomes, condominiums, and apartments, generally with some below-grade parking. On large parcels, development should be concentrated in more developable areas with large contiguous areas left in open space.

Agoura Hills was recently awarded grant funds as part of the state's Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) Grant Program. A portion of these funds are being used to update the General Plan Community

Conservation and Development Chapter in order to comply with this Housing Element update, including ways to meet Agoura Hills’ RHNA assessment.

Zoning Ordinance

The Agoura Hills Zoning Ordinance provides for five residential zones, corresponding to the General Plan land use designations. Table III-1 provides an overview of the City’s residential development standards.

Table III-1: Residential Land Use Controls

Zone District	Purpose	Permitted Uses	Setbacks	Height	Lot Coverage	Max. Density/ Intensity
Very Low Density (RV)	Large lot development suitable for equestrian and agricultural oriented uses; >25% slope	1 S.F. du per lot	25’ front yard 25’ rear yard 12’ side yard	2 stories/ 35’	25%	<2 du/acre
Low Density (RL)	Large lots for equestrian use in conjunction with residential and related development	1 S.F. du per lot	25’ front yard 25’ rear yard 12’ side yard	2 stories/ 30’	35%	1-2 du/acre
Single-Family (RS)	Conventional Single-family detached development	1 S.F. du per lot	20’ front yard 20’ rear yard 8’-10’ side yard	2 stories/ 35’	50%	2-6 du/acre
Medium Density (RM)	Small lot subdivisions and duplexes	1 S.F. du per lot, two-family dwelling per lot, congregate housing	15’ front yard 15’ rear yard 7’-12’ side yard	2 stories/ 35’	60%	6-15 du/acre
High Density (RH)	Condominiums Apartments	Duplexes, apartments, dwelling groups, congregate housing, townhouses, multi-family units	15’ front yard, 10’ rear yard, 7’-10’ side yard	2 stories/ 35’	50%	15-25 du/acre

Source: City of Agoura Hills, Zoning Ordinance 2020.

The City’s parking requirements are shown in Table III-2. The requirements range from two spaces in a garage for single-family units, to two and a half spaces for condominium units (two covered spaces, one-half uncovered spaces). Parking for apartments varies based on the number of bedrooms. Covered spaces in apartment units can be provided within carports, eliminating the added cost of

providing garage parking. Parking requirements accessory dwelling units (ADU) are one off-street parking space per unit in addition to the parking requirements for the primary residence. Parking requirements for ADUs may be exempt if the project location meets criteria in the City’s ADU ordinance (such as: located within one-half-mile walking distance of public transit or located in an architecturally and historically significant district). The Planning Commission can reduce parking requirements for senior housing by up to 25 percent based on the proximity of shopping and transit. In addition, the proportion of covered spaces can be reduced by half to the extent senior housing is provided for low- and moderate-income households, but not less than one space per four dwelling units. (AHMC Section 9654.2.J.2.)

Table III-2: Parking Standards

Unit Type	Parking Requirement
Single-family	2 covered spaces for each unit. Spaces shall be provided within a garage
Apartments:	
Studio or bachelor	1 covered, plus 0.5 uncovered space per each unit
One bedroom	1.5 covered, plus 1.0 uncovered space per each unit
Two or more bedrooms	2 covered, plus 0.50 uncovered spaces per unit
Condominiums or townhouses	2 covered, plus 0.50 uncovered spaces per unit. Recreational vehicle parking may be required at a location and design approved by the Planning Commission
Accessory Dwelling Units	1 off-street parking space in addition to the parking required for the primary residence
All uncovered parking spaces shall be used for “guest parking” and marked as such.	

Source: City of Agoura Hills, Zoning Ordinance 2021.

Affordable Housing Overlay Zone - A key program in Agoura Hills’ 6th cycle Housing Element is the creation of a new Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) which will provide modified development standards and by right (ministerial) development processing in exchange for the provision of 20% affordable units on Housing Element sites (refer to Housing Element Program #9). Objective design and development standards for the AHO will both ensure the development density identified for a site can be achieved and that development reflects the City’s values. Table III-3 which follows compares key development standards under the current RM-15 and AVSP base zone districts,¹⁰ with the more flexible standards being proposed under the AHO. As shown, in addition to ministerial processing, the AHO will provide for increased densities and heights, and reduced open space requirements. AHO parking standards will provide a reduced ratio of required covered parking spaces, with applicants also eligible to utilize the alternative parking standards under state density bonus law of 1 space for 0-1 bedroom units, 2 spaces for 2-3 bedroom units, and 2.5 spaces for four or more bedrooms.

The Affordable Housing Overlay Zone will be adopted in 2022 as part of the Zoning Code amendments implementing the 6th cycle Housing Element.

¹⁰ Of the 20 housing sites in the 6th cycle Housing Element, 16 will have a base zoning designation of RM-15 or AVSP.

Table III-3: Comparison of Existing and Proposed Development Standards

<u>Development Standard</u>	<u>Current Standard under RM-15 and AVSP zones</u>	<u>Proposed under AHO</u>
<u>Density</u>	RM-15: 6-15 du/ac AVSP: No density standard, based on # units allotted per subarea	<u>Minimum 20 and maximum 25 dwelling units per acre (DU/AC)</u>
<u>Height</u>	RM-15 & AVSP: Maximum 2 stories and 35 feet. If housing above commercial in AVSP, can increase to 3 stories and 45 feet.	<u>Maximum 4 stories and 45 feet¹</u>
<u>Building Coverage</u>	<u>Maximum 60%</u>	<u>Maximum 60%</u>
<u>Parking Spaces</u>	Apartments: <u>Studio – 1 covered + 0.5 uncovered</u> <u>1 bdrm – 1.5 covered + 1 uncovered</u> <u>2+ bdrms – 2 covered + 0.5 uncovered</u> Townhouse/Condominiums: <u>2 covered + 0.5 uncovered</u>	<u>Reduction in ratio of covered/uncovered spaces:</u> Apartments: <u>Studio – 1 covered + 0.5 uncovered</u> <u>1 bdrm – 1 covered + 1 uncovered</u> <u>2+ bdrms – 1 covered + 1.5 uncovered</u> Townhouse/Condominiums: <u>2 covered + 0.5 uncovered</u>
<u>Group Open Space</u>	<u>300 square feet per unit</u>	<u>250 square feet per unit</u>

¹ Maximum heights on buildings that are developed at less than the 4 story maximum are regulated as follows: 3 story building – up to 40 feet, 2 story building – up to 35 feet, 1 story building – up to 25 feet.

The City of Agoura Hills has adopted numerous provisions in its Zoning Ordinance that facilitate a range of residential development types:

Mixed Use Overlay District – The Mixed Use Overlay District is applied to specific parcels designated Planned Office and Manufacturing that are located between Highway 101 and Agoura Road, west of Kanan Road. The purpose of the overlay is to provide a limited number of multi-family dwellings allowed conditionally to support the other land uses as part of the mixed use project. The allowable density is between 15 and 25 dwelling units per acre. Standards for the mixed use residential development are outlined in the Zoning Code and include parking requirements, compatible design features and recreational amenities.

Cluster Development: The Cluster Development (CD) overlay allows for the clustering of residential uses in order to preserve hillside or other sensitive open space areas. The CD Overlay can be applied to all residential zone districts and provides for greater flexibility in site design while allowing for densities permitted by the underlying zone. In addition, if certain conditions are met, the CD overlay provides for an increase in density of up to three times the density of the underlying zone. However, as no remaining vacant lands have a CD overlay, its applicability in the future is limited.

Transfer of Development Regulations (TDRs): The City’s Zoning Ordinance establishes a TDR procedure whereby development credits may be transferred from open space parcels, which because of aesthetics, access, geology, slope, biota, or other environmental factors, are retained as open space, to residentially zoned parcels more suited to development. TDRs have yet to be utilized in Agoura Hills.

Local Ordinances

State law now requires jurisdictions to analyze in their Housing Elements any locally adopted ordinances that directly impact the cost and supply of residential development. Agoura Hills has ordinances which set forth inclusionary housing requirements, provide for density bonuses, and regulate condominium conversions, all of which are analyzed in the following section. The City does not have any growth control measures that could potentially limit housing supply.

Inclusionary Housing: Section 9133 of the Municipal Code outlines the City's inclusionary housing requirements and was updated in 2018. These requirements apply to all new residential development with 10 or more units.

- For rental units, new condominium projects or condo conversions and new single-family subdivisions: a minimum of 15 percent of the total units shall be reserved as follows - seven (7) percent of all units for very-low-income households, four (4) percent of units for low-income households and four (4) percent of units for moderate-income households.
- Along with an application for a residential development, a developer shall submit a housing plan illustrating how the provisions for inclusionary housing shall be met. For projects with on-site inclusionary housing, an inclusionary housing agreement shall also be required.
- All inclusionary units shall be reasonably dispersed throughout the project, proportional in bedroom number and size to the market rate units and comparable in base design, appearance, and materials to the market rate units.
- Inclusionary units shall remain restricted for owner-occupancy by the target income category for a period of not less than 45 years. For rental developments, the inclusionary units shall be income restricted for a period of not less than 55 years.

The City's Inclusionary Ordinance specifies that developing all of the required inclusionary units within the residential development is the preferred approach. However, as an alternative, the developer may propose satisfying the inclusionary housing requirements through payment of an in-lieu fee, including providing some of the required inclusionary units on-site and paying an in-lieu fee for any required inclusionary units that are not included in the project. The City updated the in-lieu in 2018 to provide greater consistency with the actual gap between market rate and affordable sales prices and rents. Fees currently range from \$285,336 for every very low-income apartment unit not built, to \$262,541 for every low-income condominium unit not built, to \$427,002 for every moderate income single-family residential unit not built. No inclusionary units have been produced in Agoura Hills since 2013, and the current balance in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund from in-lieu fee contributions is approximately \$1.8 million.

Density Bonus: Numerous amendments have been made to state density bonus law over the last several years. Section 9674 of Agoura Hills' Municipal Code sets forth the City's density bonus incentives. In summary, applicants of residential projects of five or more units may apply for a density bonus and additional incentive(s) if the project provides for one of the following:

- 10% of units for low-income households
- 5% of units for very low-income households
- A senior citizen housing development or mobile home park that limits residency based on age requirements

- 10% of units in a condominium for moderate income households.
- 10% of units for transitional foster youth, disabled veterans, or homeless persons
- 20% of units for low-income students in a student housing development
- 100% of units for low- income households, except that up to 20 percent may be for moderate income households

The amount of density bonus varies according to the amount by which the percentage of affordable housing units exceeds the established minimum percentage, but generally ranges from 20-35 percent above the specified General Plan density. In addition to the density bonus, eligible projects may receive 1-3 additional development incentives, depending on the proportion of affordable units and level of income targeting.

Pursuant to state requirements and at the request of the developer, the City will also permit a reduced parking ratio for density bonus projects. To the extent the density bonus cannot be accommodated under Agoura Hills' development standards, the City will modify applicable standards to accommodate the bonus.

The City has one active application requesting concessions and waivers under state density bonus law, and a second property owner who has informed staff he intends to submit a development application with a density bonus request; both of these projects are within the Agoura Village Specific Plan.

Condominium Conversions: As a means of maintaining the supply of rental units and preserving the affordable housing stock, Section 9281.2 of the Municipal Code requires a Conditional Use Permit for conversion of existing dwelling units to condominiums. The conversion requirements mandate relocation assistance for eligible tenants and anti-discrimination policies in the sale of converted units. All condominium conversion projects over 10 units need to comply with the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, such that a portion of the units converted would be reserved for very low-, low- and moderate-income households. No requests for condominium conversions were received during the 2013-2021 planning period.

Short-Term Rentals: A short-term vacation rental (also called a vacation rental or STR) is a rental of a residential dwelling unit or accessory building for periods of less than 30 consecutive days. Over the past few years, short-term rentals have become an increasingly popular form of lodging throughout the country.

The City recognizes the potential land use issues that can arise from operating short-term rentals in Agoura Hills' neighborhoods, such as parking, noise and trash. In addition, housing units that might otherwise provide long-term rental housing for tenants are removed from the rental market, further impacting the shortage of available rental housing in the community. For these reasons, the City has a policy to prohibit short-term rentals except for lawfully approved hotels, motels, and bed-and-breakfast inns. Nonetheless, in September 2021, a short-term rental management company identified 49 active short-term rental hosts in Agoura Hills with an average cost of \$340/daily rental.

Agoura Village Specific Plan

The Agoura Village Specific Plan area covers a 135-acre area running along both sides of Agoura Road generally between Kanan and Cornell Roads. Currently, the area is characterized by a mix of vacant parcels and commercial land uses. In 2008, the City adopted the Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP), which included seven special planning areas with design standards to create a pedestrian-scaled walkable village. The plan allowed for up to 293 multi-family residential units and over 575,000 square feet of commercial uses, including two hotels. Since 2008, the City received interest in the Specific Plan area but no projects have been developed to date.

Due to the changes in the market and economic conditions in the City, Agoura Hills has initiated a process with a Citizens Advisory Group to review and update the AVSP. This update will include revisiting the AVSP to ensure it meets a new set of proposed planning principles developed by the City Council. The following planning principles relate to residential development:

- Coordinate with the City's 6th Cycle Housing Element Update and ensure the AVSP provides the opportunity for the City to meet its Regional Housing Needs Allocation assessment established by the Department of HCD;
- The original AVSP vision identified commercial as the primary land use and residential as secondary. With new market demands and economic trends, consider adjusting the overall amount of commercial and residential allowed to create a viable mixed use plan;
- Consider allowing the mixed use redevelopment of certain existing commercial properties; and
- Consider allocating a specific number of housing units per parcel, as opposed to per zone.

The updated sites inventory for the 6th Cycle Housing Element identifies eight sites within the AVSP for residential/commercial mixed use (refer to Chapter IV). Each of these sites will be designated with an Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO), allowing for residential densities of 20-25 dwelling units/acre, along with other development incentives, for the inclusion of 20 percent very low- and low-income units. This amount of residential density would be in addition to the amount of commercial square footage to be allowed on these parcels, which is being determined as part of the AVSP update currently underway and which will reflect a reduction in commercial permitted under the current plan to offset the increase in residential capacities.

2. Provision for a Variety of Housing Types

Housing Element law specifies that jurisdictions must identify adequate sites to be made available through appropriate zoning and development standards to encourage the development of various types of housing for all economic segments of the population, including multi-family rental housing, factory-built housing, emergency shelters, and transitional and supportive housing. Table III-4 summarizes the housing types permitted in each of Agoura Hills zone districts.

Table III-4: Housing Types by Residential Zone Category

Housing Types Permitted	Residential/Commercial Zone District									
	RV	RL	RS	RM	RH	CS	CRS	CN	CS-MU	BP-OR
Single-Family	P	P	P	P						
Multiple-Family				C	P				C ¹	
Manufactured Housing	CP	P	P	P	P					
Accessory Dwelling Units	P	P	P	P	P					
Two-Family Dwelling				P	P					
Employee Housing, Small	P	P	P	P						
Care Facilities (6 or fewer)	P	P	P	P	P					
Care Facilities (7 or more)	C	C	C	C	C					
Transitional Housing ² (Apt building)				C	P					
Transitional Housing ² (1 or 2 family dwelling)				P	P					
Supportive Housing ² (Apt building)				C	P					
Supportive Housing ² (1 or 2 family dwelling)				P	P					
Emergency Shelters						C	P	C	C	
Congregate Housing			D	P	P					
Residential Care Facility for the Elderly							C			C
Single Room Occupancy (Hotel)										C

Source: City of Agoura Hills, Zoning Ordinance 2021 P = Permitted D = Director's Approval C = Conditionally Permitted

¹ Residential uses must be ancillary to the commercial use.

² City will amend the Zoning Code to treat transitional and supportive housing as a residential use, subject to those restrictions that apply to other residential dwellings of the same type in the same zone.

Accessory Dwelling Units

Over the last several years the State Legislature has passed a series of bills aimed at encouraging single-family homeowners to add Accessory Dwelling Units (“ADUs” also known as “second units” or “granny flats”) to their property by requiring local jurisdictions to adopt regulations to facilitate their production and streamline their approval. As previously identified, ADUs are complete independent housing units that can be either detached or attached from an existing single-family or multi-family residence.

In August 2021, the Agoura Hills City Council adopted Ordinance 21-456 amending the Agoura Hills Zoning Code to update the City’s ADU regulations consistent with state law. Among others, Ordinance 21-456 includes the following provisions:

- Allowance for ADUs and Junior ADUs in all residential zones, as well as in the commercial mixed use and open space restricted zones, both of which allow residential uses;
- Reduced processing times from 120 to 60 days;
- ADU unit sizes of up to 850 square feet for studio and one-bedroom ADUs, and up to 1,000 square feet for ADUs with more than one bedroom;
- An attached ADU shall not exceed 50 percent of the total floor area of the existing primary dwelling on the subject lot, however this requirement shall not reduce the maximum allowable size to less than 800 square feet of total floor area;
- A JADU shall be a minimum of 150 square feet and a maximum of 500 square feet of total floor area; and
- One parking space is required for each ADU unless the ADU meets one of the following criteria:
 - The ADU is located within one-half mile walking distance of Public Transit;
 - The ADU is entirely or partially within a proposed or existing primary dwelling or other existing structure;
 - The ADU is located within a historic district;
 - On-street parking permits are required but not offered to the occupant of the ADU;
 - There is a City-approved and dedicated parking space for a car share vehicle located within one block of the ADU; and
 - The JADU (Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit) is located in a single-family dwelling.

As a means of addressing potential public safety issues associated with building ADUs in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ), the ordinance requires a Fire Safety Review for lots in the VHFHSZ that do not have at least two distinct means of vehicular access where the property owner proposes to build both an ADU and JADU. As part of a Fire Safety Review, the Community Development Director would review the application to determine whether the application contains sufficient alternative fire safety measures to allow the construction of an additional accessory dwelling unit despite the lack of two distinct means of vehicular access. The Director may consider additional off-street parking beyond those required by code, additional setbacks, additional fire safety features such as sprinklers, fire retardant construction materials, location of fire hydrant and fire flow, distance of ADU from street and any other aspect of the application or property which allows for the safe construction of an additional accessory dwelling unit.

The State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed the City's ADU ordinance and has identified several areas which do not comply with State ADU law. HCD will be providing the City with a letter outlining non-compliance issues in the ordinance. The City has included a program in the Housing Element to update its ADU ordinance to bring it into full compliance with current state requirements.

Manufactured Housing and Mobile Homes

Manufactured housing on permanent foundations is a permitted use in all residential zone districts of the City with a Mobile Home Permit. It is the intent of this permit to recognize the modern mobile home as an alternate source of affordable factory-built housing available from the manufacturer with an exterior similar to conventionally constructed housing. The Mobile Home Permit primarily focuses on the regulation of roofing overhang, and roofing and siding materials, as well as landscaping and minimum yard setbacks, and is consistent with state law.

A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is required for manufactured housing in all zones if more than ten (10) years have elapsed between the date of manufacture of the home and the date of application for a Mobile Home Permit to install the manufactured home.

Multi-Family Rental Housing

Multi-family housing makes up approximately one-sixth of the City's total housing stock. The Agoura Hills Zoning Ordinance permits the development of multi-family housing in the RH residential zone by right, and because the RM zone is characterized by small lot development and duplexes and is primarily single-family in character, multiple family uses in this zone require a Conditional Use Permit. The City allows for densities of 6-15 units per acre in the RM zone and 15-25 units per acre in the RH zone, with additional densities achievable through density bonuses. In the Commercial Shopping Center Mixed Use Zone (CS-MU), multifamily residential is allowed with a conditional use permit. The residential portion of a project must be ancillary to the commercial uses and allowable density is 1.75 dwelling units per acre.

Community Care Facilities

The Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Lanterman Act) is that part of California law that sets out the rights and responsibilities of persons with developmental disabilities. The Lanterman Act impacts local zoning ordinances by requiring the use of property for the care of six or fewer disabled persons to be classified as a residential use under zoning. More specifically, a state-authorized, certified or licensed family care home, foster home, or a group home serving six or fewer disabled persons or dependent and neglected children on a 24-hour-a-day basis is considered a residential use that is to be permitted in all residential zones. No local agency can impose stricter zoning or building and safety standards on these homes. Due to the unique characteristics of larger (more than six persons) community care facilities, most jurisdictions require a Use Permit to ensure neighborhood compatibility in the siting of these facilities.

The Agoura Hills Zoning Code has several definitions for care facilities.

- *Community facility, small* means the same meaning as set forth in California Health and Safety Code Section 1502, where six (6) or fewer persons live together.
- *Community facility, large* has the same meaning as set forth in California Health and Safety Code § 1502, where seven (7) or more persons live together.
- *Congregate housing* shall have the same meaning as the term "congregate housing for the elderly" as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 50062.5.
- *Home for aged persons, foster family* means any family residence, noninstitutional in character, providing twenty-four-hour care for not more than four (4) aged persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older, as defined and licensed by or under the regulations of the department of social welfare of the State of California.
- *Home for aged persons, small group care* means any facility, noninstitutional in character, providing twenty-four-hour care for between five (5) and fifteen (15) aged persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older, as defined and licensed by or under the regulations of the department of social welfare of the State of California.
- *Home for children, foster family* means any family residence, noninstitutional in character, providing twenty-four-hour care for not more than six (6) children under sixteen (16) years of age, as defined and licensed by or under the regulations of the department of social welfare of the State of California.
- *Special boarding home for children* means any facility, noninstitutional in character, providing twenty-four-hour care for between seven (7) and fifteen (15) children under sixteen (16) years of age, as defined and licensed by or under the regulations of the department of social welfare of the State of California.

Table III-3 outlines where these uses are permitted in the city. The Code currently permits congregate housing within the RM and RH zones, as well as within the RS zone subject to Planning and Community Development Director approval. Small community care facilities are permitted uses in all residential districts (RV, RL, RS, RM and RH), while large community care facilities are conditionally permitted uses in these same residential districts. Large community care facilities would be subject to the City's standard approval findings for a CUP, including a subjective requirement that the use be compatible with surrounding properties. In its review of Agoura Hills' Housing Element, the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has identified the City's requirement for a conditional use permit (CUP) as a potential constraint on housing for persons with disabilities. To address this concern, the City has included a program in the Element to replace or modify the CUP requirement to provide greater objectivity and certainty. The City places no concentration limitations or spacing requirements on these uses or other types of special needs housing. ~~(While not explicitly required by state law, the Conditional Use Permit could be considered a fair housing issue. The Housing Element thus includes a program to review the Zoning Code requirements for larger care facilities and amend the Code as necessary to ensure state law requirements related to fair housing and care facilities are met).~~

Review of the California Community Care Licensing Division inventory of community care facilities identifies Agoura Hills as having a total of four residential care facilities for the elderly licensed through the State of California. All but one of these facilities are in a small, group home setting, with six or fewer occupants, with one large facility – Meadowbrook at Agoura Hills - providing capacity for up to 185 seniors. A fifth, recently completed facility – Oakmont of Agoura Hills – is currently under

~~construction and will~~ provides 75 units of assisted living and memory care. These residential care facilities provide care, supervision and assistance with activities of daily living, such as bathing and grooming, and may also provide incidental medical services to persons 60 years of age and over.

The availability of vacant sites within these residential zones is extremely limited. Given Agoura Hills' growing senior citizen population and the City's desire to provide a range of housing options to allow seniors to remain in the community, the 5th Cycle Housing Element established a program to conduct a land use study to evaluate expanding the permitted locations for congregate housing to additional zone districts, such as the Commercial Retail Service (CRS) zone district. In 2014, the City amended the Zoning Code to allow Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly in both the CRS zone and BP-OR zones subject to a Conditional Use Permit. Oakmont Senior Living (Residential Care Facility for Elderly – Assisted Living and Memory Care) was approved in 2018 and is currently under construction in the BP-OR zone, and the City anticipates a second similar facility, also in the BP-OR zone, to submit an application in the near future.

Housing for Persons with Disabilities

Both the Federal Fair Housing Act and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act impose an affirmative duty on local governments to make reasonable accommodations (i.e., modifications or exceptions) in their zoning and other land use regulations when such accommodations may be necessary to afford disabled persons an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling.

Agoura Hills accommodates most accessibility modifications through issuance of a simple remodel permit. Required accessible features (e.g., guardrail, ramp) are permitted to intrude into the standard setbacks required under zoning to allow first floor access for physically disabled residents. More significant accessibility modifications, such as a ramp with several switchbacks visible from the public sidewalk, may require a general site plan for Planning and Community Development Department staff to review the project's aesthetics, and are able to be reviewed within approximately five days.

In January 2012, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 11-393, the Reasonable Accommodations Ordinance, consistent with federal and state laws regarding providing reasonable accommodations. Ordinance No. 11-393 creates a procedure in the Municipal Code for an individual with a disability to request a reasonable accommodation from land use and zoning regulations, policies, and practices, when needed, to provide that individual with an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling. A decision on whether to grant a reasonable accommodation is processed ministerially and made by the Director of Planning and Community Development, unless the project for which the request is made requires some other discretionary approval, in which case the request is handled concurrently with the application for discretionary approval. The written decision to approve, conditionally approve, or deny a request for reasonable accommodation shall be based on the following findings, all of which are required for approval:

1. The accommodation is requested by or on behalf of one (1) or more persons with a disability protected under the Fair Housing Laws;
2. The requested accommodation is necessary to provide one (1) or more individuals with a disability an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling;
3. The requested accommodation will not impose an undue financial or administrative burden on the city;

4. The requested accommodation will not result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of the city's land use and zoning program; and
5. The requested accommodation will not, under the specific facts of the case, result in a direct threat to the health or safety of other individuals or substantial physical damage to the property of others.

In determining whether the requested *reasonable accommodation* would require a fundamental alteration in the nature of the City's land use and zoning program, the City may consider whether the requested *accommodation* would fundamentally alter the character of the neighborhood, among other factors, which is similar to findings required for a Conditional Use Permit and could be considered a constraint on housing for persons with disabilities. As such, a program has been included in the Housing Element for the City to review and update findings for the Reasonable Accommodations Ordinance to remove any constraints to housing for persons with disabilities.

The City Building and Safety Division strictly enforces state and federal accessibility requirements in new construction based on a standard of “equivalent facilitation” for disabled individuals. New apartment buildings are subject to requirements for unit “adaptability” on ground floor units. Adaptable units are built for easy conversion to disabled access, such as doorway and hallway widths, and added structural support in the bathroom to allow the addition of handrails. Subject to funding availability, the City also makes available housing rehabilitation assistance to income-qualified households for accessibility improvements.

The City's Zoning Ordinance specifies that the Planning Commission can reduce parking requirements for senior housing by up to 25 percent based on the proximity of shopping and transit, and the proportion of covered spaces by 50 percent to the extent senior housing is provided for very low- low- and moderate-income households. The Planning Commission also maintains the discretion to reduce parking requirements for projects with unusual circumstances that warrant a reduction in the City's standard parking requirements. Housing for persons with a non-ambulatory disability, or other disability that restricts driving, would qualify for parking reductions under these provisions.

The City's Building Code is based on the latest version of the California Building Code, along with all required updates. The City has not made any amendments to the Building Code that might diminish the ability to accommodate persons with disabilities.

Agoura Hills has conducted a review of zoning, permit processing and Building Code requirements, and has identified two potential barriers to the provision of accessible housing: a) the Conditional Use Permit requirement for community care facilities with more than six residents, and b) subjective reasonable accommodation findings regarding neighborhood character. Programs have been added to the Housing Element to address these potential constraints.

Definition of Family

The California courts have invalidated the following definition of “family” within jurisdictions Zoning Ordinances: (a) an individual, (b) two or more persons related by blood, marriage or adoption, or (c) a group of not more than a certain number of unrelated persons as a single housekeeping unit. Court rulings state that defining a family does not serve any legitimate or useful objective or purpose recognized under the zoning and land planning powers of the city, and therefore violates rights of

privacy under the California Constitution. A zoning ordinance also cannot regulate residency by discrimination between biologically related and unrelated persons.

The Agoura Hills Municipal Code includes the following definition of family:

"Family" shall mean any number of persons living together in a room or rooms comprising a single dwelling unit and related by blood, marriage or adoption, or bearing the generic character of a family unit as a relatively permanent single household, including servants and other live-in employees, who reside therein as though members of the family. Any group of persons not related by blood, marriage, or adoption, but inhabiting a dwelling unit, shall for the purpose of this article be considered to constitute one (1) family if it is a bona fide single household, including servants and other live-in employees contained in such group.

Pursuant to California statutes, Agoura Hills' definition of family is not limited to individuals; encompasses persons not related by blood, marriage or adoption; and does not limit the number of unrelated persons living in a housing unit. It is, therefore, not a constraint to housing development in general or the provision of housing for disabled persons.

Transitional and Supportive Housing

SB 2, effective January 2008, amended Housing Element law regarding planning and approval for transitional and supportive housing. Specifically, SB 2 requires transitional and supportive housing to be treated as a residential use and only subject to those restrictions that apply to other residential uses of the same type in the same zone. For example, if the transitional housing is a multi-family use proposed in a multi-family zone, then zoning should treat the transitional housing the same as other multifamily uses in the proposed zone.

Transitional housing is temporary housing (generally six months to two years) for a homeless individual or family who is transitioning to permanent housing. This housing can take several forms, including group housing or multi-family units. The Agoura Hills Zoning Code defines transitional housing as "buildings configured as rental housing developments, but operated under program requirements that call for the termination of assistance and recirculation of the assisted unit to another eligible program recipient at some predetermined future point in time, which shall be no less than six months." The Code allows transitional housing in the same manner as other similar housing types in the same zone. For example, multi-family housing, which is greater than two-family dwellings, is allowed with a Conditional Use Permit in the RM zone, and by right in the RH zone. Transitional housing that consists of more than two dwellings is also conditionally allowed in the RM zone, and allowed by-right in the RH zone. Transitional housing that consists of one or two family dwellings is a permitted use in the RM and RH zones, the same as that for non-transitional housing of the same density.

Agoura Hills has added the following definition of supportive housing to its Code: "housing with no limit on the length of stay, that is occupied by the target population as identified in state law, and that is linked to onsite or offsite services that assist the supportive housing resident in retaining the housing, improving his or her health status, and maximizing his or her ability to live, and when possible, work in the community." Similar to transitional housing, Agoura Hills regulates supportive housing as a residential use, provided supportive services are ancillary to the primary use.

AB 2162 (effective January 2019), added additional provisions that jurisdictions must address in their regulation of supportive housing. These include:

- Allowance of supportive housing as a use by-right in all zones where multi-family and mixed-use is permitted, including non-residential zones permitting multi-family uses, if the proposed development meets specified criteria;
- Approval of an application for supportive housing that meets these criteria within specified periods; and
- Elimination of parking requirements for supportive housing located within ½ mile of public transit.

The City has included a program in the Housing Element to amend the Municipal Code to address these new requirements. The amendment will also expand transitional and supportive housing that is structured as a single-family dwelling to all zones where single-family residential uses are permitted.

Emergency Shelters and Low-Barrier Navigation Centers

As discussed in the Homeless section of the Housing Element Needs Assessment (Chapter II), due to the relative inaccessibility and distance from urban centers, Agoura Hills does not attract many homeless individuals or families, and the 2020 Los Angeles Point in Time Count identified just two homeless persons in the City (Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority). In November 2020, City staff identified five homeless individuals in the City, with most of these individuals located around the City's two main shopping centers.

In order to assist the homeless population, the City has a team that includes the Deputy City Manager, the City's Public Safety Liaison Officer and the Homeless Coordinator from the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG). This team works together to provide outreach and help homeless persons access services, and the COG homeless coordinator visits areas of the city daily. The City has a log to keep track of cases and provide follow up if needed. Agoura Hills residents can use the community mobile app SeeClickFix to notify City staff of the presence of homeless individuals. The City's website has information and links to a variety of homeless assistance resources, including LA Family Housing, Village Family Service (for youth aged 14-24), LA-HOP (L.A. County Homeless Outreach Portal) and The People Concern. The City's program provides homeless outreach and assistance in a timely and efficient manner.

SB 2 requires the Housing Element to address new planning and approval requirements for emergency shelters. Jurisdictions with an unmet need for emergency shelters for the homeless are required to identify a zone(s) where emergency shelters will be allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit. The identified zone must have sufficient capacity to accommodate the shelter need, and at a minimum provide capacity for at least one year-round shelter. Permit processing, development and management standards for emergency shelters must be objective and facilitate the development of, or conversion to, emergency shelters.

The Agoura Hills Zoning Code defines emergency shelters as "housing with minimal supportive services for homeless persons that is limited to occupancy of six (6) months or less by a homeless person. No individual or household may be denied emergency shelter because of inability to pay." Emergency shelters are permitted by-right in the Commercial Retail Service (CRS) zone, and

conditionally permitted in the Commercial Shopping Center (CS), Commercial Neighborhood Center (CN) and Commercial Shopping Center-Mixed Use (CS-MU) zones. The CRS zone is best suited to house an emergency homeless shelter. This zone district is characterized by proximity to transit (bus service), is centrally located and has good freeway access. Review of existing land use within the CRS zone (June 2021) identifies 10 vacant parcels (8.26 acres), and 14 parcels considered underutilized (6.89 acres), providing adequate capacity for provision of an emergency shelter.

The process for permitting an emergency shelter in the CRS would be the same as that of any other by-right use, and the process for granting a Conditional Use Permit for an emergency shelter in the CS, CN or CS-MU zone would be the same as that of any other conditionally allowed use. The City's CRS development standards are appropriate to facilitate emergency shelters, and can be summarized as follows:

- Minimum lot size: 10,000 square feet (sf),
- Minimum lot width and depth: 100 feet (ft),
- Maximum lot coverage: 60%,
- Building height: 35 ft,
- Front yard setback: 20 ft or up to building height,
- Side yard setback: none, or 10 ft if adjacent to residential zone or a public street,
- Rear Yard Setback: 10 ft or up to building height, and
- Landscaping: 10% of the area of the property.

The Agoura Hills Municipal Code establishes the following objective standards to regulate emergency shelters to be located in the CRS zone:

- The maximum number of occupants to be served shall not exceed twenty (20);
- A minimum distance of 300 feet shall be maintained from any other emergency shelter;
- The maximum stay at the facility shall not exceed ninety (90) days in a 365-day period;
- Clients shall only be on-site and admitted to the facility between five p.m. (5:00 p.m.) and eight a.m. (8:00 a.m.);
- An interior waiting and intake area shall be provided which contains a minimum of two hundred (200) square feet. If not feasible to locate internally, an exterior waiting area shall be provided which contains a minimum of ten (10) square feet per bed provided at the facility; shall be in a location not adjacent to the public right-of-way; and shall be visibly separated from public view by a minimum six (6)-foot tall visual screening;
- A minimum of one (1) employee per 15 beds, in addition to any security personnel, shall be on duty and remain on-site during operational hours;
- Security personnel shall be provided during operational hours and when people are waiting outside;
- Exterior lighting shall be provided for the entire outdoor area of the site, consistent with the provisions of this article and the City Lighting Standards and Guidelines;
- Parking shall be provided at a ratio of one space per 250 square feet of building area, consistent with parking requirements for retail commercial uses in the CRS zone; and
- The operator of the facility shall provide an annual report of the use of the facility and demonstration of compliance with the City's development standards for the use.

Pursuant to AB 139 (effective January 2020), the City has included a program in the Housing Element to amend the current parking standards to a ratio based on the number of shelter staff.

Low-Barrier Navigation Centers are defined as “a Housing First, low-barrier, service enriched shelter focused on moving people into permanent housing that provides temporary living facilities while case managers connect individuals experiencing homelessness to income, public benefits, health services, shelter, and housing.” AB 101 requires cities to allow a Low-Barrier Navigation Center development by right in areas zoned for mixed uses and nonresidential zones permitting multi-family uses if it meets specified requirements. The requirements of this bill are effective through the end of 2026, unless extended. If the City receives an application for these uses, it will process them as required by state law. A program has been included in the Element to develop by-right procedures for processing low-barrier navigation centers.

Single-Room Occupancy (SRO)

The March 2011 update to the Agoura Hills Zoning Code included specifying provisions for single-room occupancy (SRO) hotels. The Zoning Code defines a single-room occupancy hotel as a, “commercial facility where individual secure rooms are rented to a one- or two-person household. Single-room occupancy hotel units are provided on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis, and are typically eighty (80) to two hundred fifty (250) square feet in size, with a sink and closet, but which require the occupant to share a communal bathroom, shower, and kitchen.” The Business Park – Office Retail (BP-OR) zone west of Palo Comodo Canyon Road is the most conducive to provision of SROs, either through new development or re-use of an existing building. An SRO is a conditionally permitted use within this zone. Other hotels are permitted in this same area of the BP-OR zone.

Employee Housing

California Health and Safety Code Section 17021.5 (Employee Housing Act) requires jurisdictions to permit employee housing for six or fewer employees as a single-family use. Employee housing shall not be included within the zoning definition of a boarding house, rooming house, hotel, dormitory, or other similar term that implies that the employee housing is a business run for profit or differs in any other way from a family dwelling. Jurisdictions cannot impose a conditional use permit, zoning variance, or other zoning clearance of employee housing that serves six or fewer employees that is not required of a family dwelling of the same type in the same zone.

In 2014, the City added a definition and provisions for small employee housing (per Ordinance 14-406). The definition is as follows: “Employee housing, small” shall have the same meaning as the term “employee housing,” as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 17008, where such housing provides accommodations for six (6) or fewer persons. As shown in Table III-3, small employee housing is permitted in the RV, RL, RS and RM residential zones.

Farm Employee Housing: The City of Agoura Hills has no agricultural land in active production nor do the adjacent cities of Westlake Village or Calabasas. According to data compiled from the American Community Survey by SCAG, no full-time jobs identified within the Agoura Hills city limits fall within forestry, fishing or farming. Therefore, given the apparent absence of farmworkers in the community,

the City has not identified a need for specialized farmworker housing beyond overall programs for housing affordability.

3. Site Improvements

Developers of single-family residential tracts in the City are required to install collector and local streets; curbs, gutters, sidewalks; water lines; sewer; street lighting; and trees in the public right-of-way within and adjacent to a tract. These facilities are in most cases dedicated to the City or other agencies that are responsible for maintenance. Without the site improvement requirement, there are no other means of providing necessary infrastructure to the City's land parcels. Requirements for site improvements are at a level necessary to meet the City's costs and are necessary to protect health, safety, and welfare. The cost of these required off-site improvements vary with the sales price of each dwelling unit, depending on the nature of development (i.e., hillside or flatland development). The City charges a Traffic Impact Fee (TIF) for cumulative traffic mitigation. Public street right-of-way improvements are credited against this TIF.

In terms of street standards, the City uses a standard 36-foot curb-to-curb width requirement within a 50-foot right-of-way for local residential streets. Secondary arterial streets are 50-64 feet curb-to-curb, within a 70-80-foot right-of-way. Within the Agoura Village Specific Plan, reduced street widths are provided to encourage slower travel speeds and reduce pedestrian crossing distances. For example, Agoura Road, which is at the heart of the AVSP, is designed to consist of one 12-foot travel lane in each direction, an 8-foot buffer/Class II bike route, and 16-foot diagonal parking. Within Old Agoura, the City allows rolled curbs to maintain consistency with the area's rural character.

The developed portions of Agoura Hills have the majority of necessary infrastructure already in place. However, areas designated Very Low Density, and even some Low Density Residential areas, are not served by infrastructure necessary to support higher density development, and the extension of sewer and water lines to these areas would add significantly to development costs.

4. Development Fees

Table III-5 summarizes the City's development fees for residential projects. Agoura Hills' development fees were established based on an independent study to reflect the actual cost involved in permit processing and providing services. The City lacks the resources to provide these services at less than cost for the purposes of subsidizing housing. However, fees will vary per unit depending on the value of the unit and the nature of the approval process (such as whether a conditional use permit, plan amendment, oak tree report, soils/geology report, hydrology report, or major grading is required).

In October 2011, the City Council adopted a new Transportation Impact Fee (TIF) Rate (Resolution No. 11-1639). Development fees are assessed for cumulative traffic impacts. The development fee, or TIF, is \$3,094 per single family residential unit, \$1,516 per multi-family unit, and \$1,365 per residential multi-family unit in a mixed use project. Fees for commercial and industrial development are somewhat higher than residential fees based on the greater number of trips generated by these land uses. These fees are necessary to provide for roadway improvements due to deficiencies caused by new development. These fees, in effect, remove a constraint on housing as additional roadway improvements and capacities are made which help accommodate additional housing development throughout the City.

Table III-5: Development Fees for Residential Projects (June 2021)

Fee Category	Fee Amount
Environmental Assessment	
Categorical Exemption	\$812
Initial Study	\$3,375
EIR or MND (Deposit)	Consultant Fee + 20%
Plan Check – Single-family development	\$5,513
Application Review	
Building Division	\$171
Public Works Department	\$286
Parcel Map	
Tentative Map/Final Map	\$1,552 (Tentative) / \$334 (Final)
Tract Map	
Tentative Map/Final Map	\$1,552 (Tentative) / \$235 (Final)
Zoning/Land Use Entitlement	
<i>Conditional Use Permit</i>	
New SFD	\$6,732
New MF	\$7,409
<i>Zone Change</i>	\$4,603
<i>General Plan Amendment</i>	
Pre-Screen Review	\$1,880
Public Hearing	\$3,376
<i>Zoning Ordinance Amendment</i>	
Pre-Screen Review	\$4,115
Public Hearing	\$5,089
<i>Site Plan/Architectural Review</i>	
Zoning Administrator	\$1,674
Planning Commission	\$7,607
Pre-Application Review	\$3,537 + \$3,028 consultant deposit
Traffic Engineering Review	\$4,286 consultant deposit
Geological/Geotechnical Consultant Review	
Planning Review Fee	\$535
Geotechnical Consultant Review	\$5,000 consultant deposit
Landscape Review	\$467 + \$1,500 - \$3,000 consultant deposit
Oak Tree Permit	
Minor Oak Tree Permit	\$135 + \$275 consultant deposit
Administrative Review	\$371 - \$662 + \$1,000-\$1,200 consultant deposit
Consultant Review for Administrative Approval	\$525 - \$1,000 Deposit
Consultant Review for Planning Commission	\$2,000 - \$3,000 Deposit
Public Hearing Notification	\$371 - \$662
Art in Public Places (for subdivision of 40+ residential lots only)	In-Lieu Fee: 1.25% building valuation <i>or</i> Art Installation: 1% building valuation
General Plan Cost Recovery	\$1.41/\$1,000 construction valuation
Specific Plan Cost Recovery (Agoura Village only)	\$.5882/s.f.
Traffic Impact Fee	\$1,516 (multi-family) - \$3,094(single-family)/unit

As a means of assessing the cost that fees contribute to development in Agoura Hills, the City has calculated the estimated total Planning, Building and Engineering fees for an 18-unit multi-family

residential project in Old Agoura. As indicated in Table III-6, the total City fees for this project run about \$119,000, equating to \$6,602 per unit, exclusive of School District, Water District and County Public Works fees, and assuming on-site provision of required inclusionary housing units. Fees for condominium projects and single-family subdivisions would be somewhat higher as they would also be subject to parkland dedication requirements under the Quimby Act.

Table III-6: Total Development Fees for 18 Unit Multi-Family Project

Fee Category	Fee Amount	Deposit Amount
PLANNING		
Site Plan/Architectural Review	\$7,607	
General Plan Cost Recovery	\$3,996.70	
Landscape Consultant Review	\$467	\$3,000
Geotechnical Consultant Review	\$535	\$5,000
Oak Tree Permit & Consultant Review	\$662	\$3,000
Sign Permit	\$1,417	
Plan Check	\$5,513	
Public Hearing Notification	\$1,061	
BUILDING		
Plan Check	\$25,377.60	
Building Permit	\$19,395.81	
Technology Surcharge	\$3,572.84	
ENGINEERING/PUBLIC WORKS		
Traffic Impact Fee	\$28,288	
Encroachment Permit	\$1,527	
Grading Permit	\$1,083.20	
Grading Plan Check	\$1,284.80	
Traffic Control Plan Review	\$1,772	
Traffic Engineering Consultant Deposit		\$4,286
TOTAL (including deposit amounts)¹	\$118,846	\$15,286
TOTAL FEES PER UNIT	\$6,602	

Source: City of Agoura Hills Planning Division, June 2021. Project Assumptions: a) 18 residential units; b) Total sf = 31,307; c) total valuation = \$2,813,262; 4) No Tract Map or Parcel Map.

¹ City staff and consultants log hours spent on each project and charges time against the trust account deposit. Upon completion of the project, any balance remaining in the trust account is refunded to the applicant.

Based on a \$250/sf average development cost for a 1,200 sf low rise apartment (Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings www.brookings.edu 5/5/20), the City's development fees constitute well under five percent of unit development costs. In summary, Agoura Hills' planning and development fees do not serve as a constraint to the production housing. Furthermore, as an incentive for the provision of on-site affordable housing units, the City has updated its inclusionary in-lieu fees to reflect full cost recovery, and offers fee reductions as an incentive through the density bonus ordinance. And pursuant to AB 641, the City allows developers of affordable housing projects with a minimum of 49 percent very low- and low-income units to defer payment of development fees until issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

5. Processing and Permit Procedures

Permit processing in Agoura Hills takes an average of six to nine months for single-family residences development and twelve to eighteen months for multi-family ora tract development if an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. The City has adopted one-stop permit coordination, and conducts a free, informal pre-application conference with City staff for larger scale projects to identify any potential concerns early on, and to identify any special studies required. The City's website has an extensive "Planning Process Guide" that outlines application requirements and review processes for projects. Because of geologic and geotechnical conditions in the City, all proposed hillside development must have a geologic and geotechnical report, and most other proposed projects are required to submit a geotechnical report. Applications are not deemed complete until these reports have been accepted by City staff. Although the requirement for geological and geotechnical reports can extend the permit process and thereby raise the cost of residential development, these reports are necessary to ensure public safety in Agoura Hills, as there has been a history of slope failures in the City.

Some single-family residences and Aall multi-family projects are required to undergo site plan review by the Planning Commission, triggering public hearing and noticing requirements. Hillside developments are required to obtain a Conditional Use Permit, triggering public hearing and noticing requirements.

Prior to submittal of a formal development application for a multi-family or mixed-use project, the applicant is required to hold a Development Project Public Forum to inform the public of its intent to develop a site with a new multi-family or mixed-use project. The purpose of the Forum is for the applicant to engage the community early on, listen to any concerns, and to consider them as part of the formal application. City staff's experience has been that the Forum results in building better support for projects by allowing open dialogue early in the project design stage, rather than waiting for public input until the project is being decided before the Planning Commission and/or City Council.

Upon submittal of the formal development application, City staff conducts a completeness review, and pursuant to the Permit Streamlining Act, informs the applicant in writing within 30 days of any missing information. Corrections and/or additions are made to the project application as necessary and resubmitted to staff. Review includes distribution of the project to staff members of the Development Review Committee (DRC). A DRC meeting is scheduled with the applicant within 30 days of the applicant receiving City comments. Once the application is revised and resubmitted to address identified issues, it is forwarded on to the Architectural Review Panel (ARP) for review of project aesthetics. The ARP serves as a resource to staff and is not a decision-making body.

Upon completion of project review by the DRC, and as necessary, the ARP, the applicant holds a second Public Forum in order to provide the public with information regarding a project that will soon be scheduled for a public hearing. The Forum occurs parallel to development review and thus does not add additional time to the process. After the second Forum is completed and story poles are installed, the application will be deemed complete. The project will be evaluated pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and either exempted or a Negative Declaration or EIR prepared by the City. A staff report is prepared summarizing the conclusions of the Department. The staff report includes recommendations on the approval, approval with conditions, or denial of the application, and of the CEQA document, if applicable, and is provided to the applicant. In total, the

average processing time for multi-family development in Agoura Hills ranges from twelve to eighteen months.

Under the new Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO), which is being applied to all 20 sites in the Housing Element sites inventory, projects providing the required lower income units will be processed ministerially, eliminating the requirement for CEQA review and substantially streamlining the development review process. The AHO will include a special set of objective development and design standards and the City will be creating an AHO application and application submittal requirements checklist (to be made available on the City’s website) so that projects can be processed expeditiously and with transparency and objectivity. The following Table III-7 summarizes the steps for project review under the Affordable Housing Overlay:

Table III-7: Project Review under Affordable Housing Overlay

<u>Action/Request</u>	<u>Processing Time</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<u>Formal application submittal</u>	<u>N/A</u>	
<u>Completeness Review</u> • <u>Development Review Committee</u>	<u>30 days</u>	<u>Letter to applicant indicating whether application is complete and project meets objective standards. If yes, project proceeds to building permit application.</u>
<u>Completeness Review #2 (as necessary)</u>	<u>30 days</u>	<u>Once the application is deemed complete and it is determined the project meets objective standards, project proceeds to building permit application. If the project does not meet objective standards for ministerial approval, project may proceed through discretionary review process.</u>

Currently, the Agoura Hills Municipal Code contains objective standards, but also subjective standards and guidelines that need to be identified and revised. The City is using a portion of the awarded SB 2 grant funds to develop a streamlined, ministerial review process for projects that submit under SB 35 streamlining and per the AHO. The objective standards for SB 35 and AHO projects are similar, except that the AHO standards further promote the development of housing sites identified in the Housing Element at a density of 20-25 dwelling units/acre, which is unique to the AHO, and the highest residential density available in the City. For example, the AHO would provide for increased building height allowances above that available in all other zones in the City, including beyond that which would be permitted for SB 35 projects. The modifications and changes to the Agoura Hills Municipal Code will replace subjective design and development standards with objective standards, and clarify the SB 35 and AHO ministerial application process for applicants. Ultimately, this will lead to improved and more efficient housing production. By refining the Municipal Code and establishing application submittal checklists and ministerial processing procedures, there will be a quantifiable cost and time savings for both staff and developers, which will lead to an expedited approval process. The current

processing time for a multi-family housing project averages 12 – 18 months. It is estimated that these revised standards and ministerial review will result in a 10% time savings for preparing housing development applications, a 15% time reduction for City staff review, and a reduction in approval times from 12 to 18 months to potentially one to two months, if the ministerial application is complete and the project meets all identified objective standards.

Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP)

The following describes the current review process within the Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP). As part of the current update to the Plan, objective development standards are being developed to allow qualified projects to undergo staff level, non-discretionary review. “By-right” projects include applications on sites included in the 4th and 5th Cycle Housing Elements that include at least 20% lower income units; sites being rezoned to accommodate a lower income RHNA shortfall that include 20% lower income units; and applications being processed pursuant to SB 35 streamlining. The AVSP update will make additional changes to processing procedures to better facilitate development.

Development within the Agoura Village Specific Plan area currently undergoes a unique review process and all projects require an Agoura Village Development Permit (AVDP), with the Planning Commission and sometimes City Council serving as the final approval body. An interdepartmental Staff Review Team called the Development Review Committee (encompassing Planning, Building and Safety, Engineering, Oak Tree/Landscape, Traffic, Geotechnical, and Architecture) works with the applicant early on in project design and throughout the process. The following describes the two-step AVDP Concept Plan Review and Formal Application Review process for multi-family and mixed-use development; single-family development is not permitted within the Specific Plan.

Concept Plan Review occurs early in the process while the site layout is in the preliminary stage. Its purpose is to work with the applicant from the outset to ensure projects are designed consistent with the Specific Plan. Concept plan review focuses on general design and site planning principles, including creation of streets and blocks, placement of buildings, location of parking, building types, and design of the public realm. The applicant is also informed about affordable housing requirements and opportunities, and invited to meet with City staff early to assist in determining how affordable housing can be accommodated in the project. The concept plan review process involves: 1) submittal of concept application materials by the applicant; 2) review of concept application by Staff Review Team; 3) applicant meeting before the City Council Land Use and Economic Development committee (LUEDC); and 4) review by the City’s Architectural Review Panel (ARP). The ARP is a two-member committee whose role is to provide feedback on the project concept based on the design guidelines contained in the Specific Plan; the ARP is not an official recommending or decision-making body.

Once the concept project has been reviewed by the three bodies, staff compiles a complete set of comments and meets with the applicant. The applicant maintains the option of returning to the LUEDC and ARP for additional direction prior to preparation of the formal application. Upon refinement of the project through Concept Plan review, a more detailed project application is submitted to the City to initiate the formal application review process.

Formal Application Review. The formal application submittal includes a complete set of drawings, including detailed site plan, building elevations, cross sections, floor plans, roof plans, grading plans, and landscape plans. These are not construction drawings, yet provide more detail than the

conceptual drawings included in the preliminary application. Additionally, any required technical studies are submitted, including those related to hydrology/drainage, soils/geology, and as applicable, an oak tree report and/or traffic study.

The formal application process involves: 1) completion of a formal Agoura Village Development Permit application; 2) review of application by Staff Review Team; 3) review by the LUEDC; and 4) review by the Architectural Review Panel. Each of these bodies can meet fairly quickly, with review by the LUEDC and ARP within three weeks of the Staff Review Team.

As with the concept review process, once the formal application submittal has been reviewed by the three bodies, staff prepares a complete set of comments and meets with the applicant for review. Once any necessary revisions are made to the application, it is brought before the Planning Commission for recommendation to the City Council and then forwarded to the City Council for decision and permit issuance. CEQA review is managed by City staff, and as the Program EIR for the Specific Plan includes extensive baseline environmental analysis (including a detailed biological survey), project-level CEQA review will focus on project-specific impacts.

The City’s policy is to work with applicants early on in the process to expedite processing of applications within the Agoura Village Specific Plan, with a goal of completing concept plan review through entitlement approval within one year.

6. Additional Governmental Constraints

Based on Agoura Hills’ environmental characteristics, a number of performance standards are required of new development to minimize impacts on the community. Because much of future residential development would occur within AVSP, it is important to recognize that few of these special standards and overlay districts are applicable within the AVSP. None of the overlay districts described below apply within the AVSP, though the City’s Hillside Management Ordinance, Grading Ordinance and Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance are all applicable.

Hillside Management Ordinance

The City's Hillside Management Ordinance protects the public health and safety with regard to fire hazards and slope stability. In order to preserve the natural character of the hillsides, plant and animal life, and scenic viewshed, the City has established the following density and open space requirements tied to the slope of the property:

Table III-8: Density Limitations and Open Space Requirements

Percent of Slope	Minimum Acreage/Unit	Minimum Open Space/Parcel
10-15	0.50 acres	32.5%
16-20	0.66 acres	47.5%
21-25	1.00 acres	62.5%
26-30	1.66 acres	77.5%
31-35	2.50 acres	92.5%

36-over	20.00 acres	97.5%
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Note: Should open space requirements preclude all development potential, one residential unit is permitted per parcel, subject to certain limitations.

Oak Tree Preservation

The purpose of this ordinance (AHMC Section 9657.5 and appendix A) is to protect and preserve oak trees in recognition of their historical, aesthetic and environmental value to Agoura Hills and to provide regulatory measures designed to accomplish this purpose. The City's Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance provides that "no one shall cut, prune, remove, relocate, endanger or damage any tree protected by this section or any public or private land located within the incorporated areas of the City of Agoura Hills, except in accordance with the conditions of a valid Oak Tree Permit, issued by the Department of Planning and Community Development or the Planning Commission." The City has retained the services of an Oak Tree Specialist to coordinate the processing of Oak Tree Permits and to supervise the pruning, relocating, or altering of any oak trees. This involves administrative and consultant review for the project. The oak trees in the City are, for the most part, located in hilly areas designated for single-family homes or commercial uses. The oak tree ordinance promotes slope stability, erosion control and energy conservation by providing buildings with shade, and adds to the character and identity of the community.

Grading Ordinance

The City has adopted grading criteria designed to minimize the visual and public safety impacts of grading. Chapter 4: Natural Resources of the General Plan has as a goal- the preservation of significant visual resources as important quality of life amenities for residents, and as assets for commerce, recreation and tourism. The General Plan requires development to be located and designed such that the visual quality of the hillsides is maintained and alteration of natural topography is minimized. The Grading Ordinance establishes development regulations designed to protect residents from geologic hazards and destruction of property.

Drainageway, Floodplain, Watercourse Overlay District

The D Overlay District is intended to be applied to those areas of the City which are known to be subject to flooding. The primary objective of this district is to establish criteria for land management and use in flood-prone areas in order to prevent and minimize economic loss caused by flood flows. Structures designed for human habitation are prohibited within the D District. A hydrology report is typically required to determine the limits of the floodplain prior to allowing construction.

Indian Hills Design Overlay District

The Indian Hills area is characterized by single family homes on steep terrain. The purpose of the Indian Hills (IH) Overlay District is to address the natural and development problems of the Indian Hills area by establishing special public improvement standards and development guidelines. The district does not independently constrain housing supply, but rather reflects underlying geologic and topographic constraints. In this overlay district, all discretionary reviews include the review of the architectural treatment of all buildings and structures as to design of all retaining walls, grading, compatibility of materials and color, conformance



to existing terrain, appearance from adjacent streets, distant arterials, and the Ventura Freeway (U.S. Highway 101), as well as the feasibility of development from a geological perspective. This overlay district has no significant impact on residential density.

Old Agoura Overlay District

The purpose of the Old Agoura (OA) Overlay District is to preserve the unique character of Old Agoura through the establishment of special public improvement standards and design guidelines. This area is characterized primarily by low density, single-family homes on large lots and small commercial buildings, with a small area of multi-family homes located south of Driver Avenue. The design guidelines for Old Agoura are intended to maintain the "rustic" character of the area. The overlay district has no significant impact on residential density. The Old Agoura Guidelines are intended to prohibit overbuilding on lots to preserve the ability to maintain horses and other farm animals, promote rustic building design, and maintain the variety of housing types in this area.

Freeway Corridor Overlay District

The purpose of the Freeway Corridor (FC) Overlay District is to recognize the importance of the land use, architectural design, and appearance of development within the FC to the City's image and to establish special design guidelines for all development within said areas. The areas within the FC Overlay District are "gateways" and of crucial importance in establishing the City's identity and character. Any project within the FC District must be compatible with the City's semi-rural character and should not overwhelm the City's low-intensity development style.

Soils/Geology Report Reviews

All residential developments in the City require the submittal of soil reports for review by City consultants. Hillside developments also require geology reports to ensure that the grading is done to minimize cuts, fills and retaining walls, and to minimize the chances of geologic problems.

7. Building Code

Pursuant to state law, Agoura Hills has adopted the latest version of the California Building Code, along with all required updates. Agoura Hills has adopted the following local amendments to the California Building Code to protect the public health and safety from hazards indigenous to the City:

- Due to the City's adjacency to wildland fire areas, new homes in the Very High Fire Severity Zone are required to have Class B, fire retardant roof materials and non-combustible exterior materials. In addition, new houses in the Very High Fire Severity Zone are required to be equipped with fire sprinklers;
- Increased setbacks are required from the top and toe of slope. This requirement is intended for mudslide and landslide protection; and
- The City is characterized by expansive soils, and in response, the City requires larger building footings and sinking deeper into the soil.

B. MARKET CONSTRAINTS

Potential market constraints included within the provisions of the Housing Element requirements include issues of availability of financing, land costs, construction costs, and length of time for building permit issuance. Analysis of these issues can shed light on the private market forces, which affect housing availability and affordability.

1. Availability of Financing

The availability of financing in a community depends on a number of factors, including the type of lending institutions active in the community, lending practices, rates and fees charged, laws and regulations governing financial institutions, and equal access to those institutions. Through analysis of Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data on the disposition of residential loan applications, an assessment can be made of the availability of residential financing within a community.

Table III-9 summarizes the HMDA data for both Agoura Hills and Los Angeles County, providing information on the approval status of all home purchases, refinance and home improvement loan applications during 2016.

- Of the total 494 completed applications for home purchase loans in Agoura Hills, 87 percent were approved and 13 percent were denied, which is the same as the approval and denial rates County-wide. Five years earlier in 2011, the approval rate for home purchase loans in Agoura Hills was 72 percent, indicating access to mortgage financing has improved in the City. Review of loan denials by Agoura Hills' five census tracts indicates no tracts with loan denial rates significantly above the 13 percent citywide average.
- The volume of applications for refinance loans in Agoura Hills was two and a half times that of home purchase loans, with 76 percent of the total 1,292 applications receiving approval and 24 percent denied, similar to the regional average.
- The number of applications for home improvement loans in Agoura Hills was very limited at just 89, with 74 percent of applications receiving approval and 26 percent being denied, slightly better than the 31 percent denial rate County-wide. Home improvement loans typically have higher denial rates because homeowners may already have high debt-to-income ratios on their home mortgage or refinance loans.

In summary, HMDA data supports good access to residential financing in Agoura Hills. In addition, there are no fewer than eight mortgage lenders located within the City, including: Bank of America, Chase Bank, CitiBank, First Federal Bank, OneWest Bank, Union Bank, U.S. Bank and Wells Fargo. Each of these lenders offers conventional mortgage loans, as well as FHA government-backed loans. FHA loans are often preferable to consumers as they offer lower credit and downpayment requirements (currently 3.5%) for qualified homebuyers. However, FHA loans do typically require a monthly FHA mortgage insurance premium, and homes must fall within the maximum conforming loan limit (currently \$970,800).

Table III-9: Status of Home Purchase, Refinance and Home Improvement Loans – 2016

Loan Type	Completed Loan Applications	Loans Approved		Loans Denied	
		Agoura Hills	LA Co.	Agoura Hills	LA Co.
Conventional Home Purchase Loans					
# Applications	494	432		62	
% Approval/Denial		87%	87%	13%	13%
Refinancings					
# Applications	1,292	979		313	
% Approval/Denial		76%	73%	24%	27%
Home Improvement Loans					
# Applications	89	66		23	
% Approval/Denial		74%	69%	26%	31%

Source: Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data, 2016. Compiled by Karen Warner Associates.

Note: Approved loans include: loans originated and applications approved but not accepted. Denial rate based on applications that went through complete underwriting process, and exclude applications withdrawn or files closed for incompleteness.

2. Price of Land

The availability and price of land are potential constraints to the development of housing for all income levels. The City is nearly built out with few vacant lots remaining that are not subject to constraints precluding residential development. The diminished supply of land available for residential construction combined with a fairly high demand for such development has served to keep the cost of land relatively high in cities across Southern California. [As an example, vacant single-family zoned land in Agoura Hills averages between \\$11 to \\$14/square foot, whereas land with multi-family zoning is estimated at \\$22/square foot.¹¹](#) While Agoura Hills cannot control costs driven by market conditions, it can continue to offer increased densities and reduced parking requirements to effectively reduce the per unit cost of land.

In addition to raw land costs, site improvements contribute to the cost of land, as most remaining vacant parcels in the City have severe topographic constraints and necessitate significant grading to accommodate development. Thus, land costs alone produce a situation where housing is not within the financial means of lower income households. The high land costs make construction of lower income housing in the City almost impossible without governmental assistance.

3. Cost of Construction

Construction factors, such as the type of construction, site conditions, subterranean vs at-grade parking, unit size and amenities, all impact the cost of housing. A major cost associated with the development of housing is the cost of building materials, which have increased faster than the rise in inflation in recent years. Over the past three years (2017-2020), the cost of raw materials (lumber,

¹¹ [Single-family land values based on vacant parcels advertised through the Multiple Listing Service \(2022\). Multi-family land values based on the allocated land values in the Agoura Hills Residential Nexus Study and Analysis, 2017.](#)

concrete, steel, etc.) have increased by 20 percent, compared to a seven and a half percent rise in inflation. This particularly impacts the cost of high-density, Type V construction which requires costly non-combustible steel-frame construction materials. Labor costs have also risen dramatically, and are compounded by a shortage of qualified construction workers. According to Marshall & Swift Valuation Service (2021), construction costs (including materials, labor, taxes and contractors' overhead) for luxury apartment developments average \$176 per square foot, and \$178 per square foot for medium density townhome developments.

Though construction costs comprise a large portion of the total development cost of a project, the costs in Agoura Hills are not atypical compared to the County, and therefore would not constitute an actual constraint on housing production. Also, a reduction in amenities and the quality of building materials (above a minimum acceptability for health, safety, and adequate performance) can result in lower development costs. Another factor that can reduce construction costs is the economies of scale realized with a greater number of units built at one time; this is of particular benefit when density bonuses are used for the provision of affordable housing

4. Contractual Constraints

The majority of residential development projects in Agoura Hills have formed private homeowners' associations (HOAs). Many of these homeowners' associations have Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs) on open space areas in their tracts, thereby limiting permitted development. In many instances, the deed restrictions on development in open space areas were a result of tradeoffs to allow greater density in the flatter portions of the residential tract. In some instances, the City zoning ordinance is less restrictive than the established CC&Rs. The City enforces the provisions of the zoning ordinance. However, the provisions of the CC&Rs are enforced by the homeowner's associations (HOAs).

5. Requests to Develop at Densities Below Those Permitted

New State Housing Element law now requires the non-governmental constraints analysis to evaluate developer requests to build at densities below the density identified in the Housing Element sites inventory. As shown in Table III-1-, most projects in the City propose to maximize the number of units permitted under zoning. The only project that is proposing to build less is the West Village Project. This project proposes 78 multi-family units, while the AVSP allows 90 in this Zone B as base dwelling units, with potential for an additional 22 units with the AVSP density bonus (if providing a public plaza or extra traffic fees).

Table III-10: Comparison of Zoned Densities with Built or Proposed Densities

Project	Zoning	Permitted Density	Proposed or Built Density
West Village	AVSP Zone B	90 units in Zone B 22 add'l units with AVSP density bonus	78 units ¹
Williams Homes	RM-CD-FC, RS-D-FC	24	24
Hrach Apartments	RH (25)-OA-FC-EQ	5	5
Cornerstone	AVSP Zone E	35	35
The AVE	AVSP Zone A south	95 units in Zone A South 23 add'l units with AVSP density bonus	118

Source: Agoura Hills Community Development Department, July 2021.

¹ Based on 8-17-20 application submittal.

6. Length of Time Between Application Approval and Building Permit Issuance

New Housing Element law now also requires an examination of the length of time between receiving approval for a housing development and submittal of an application for building permits. The time between application approval and building permit issuance is influenced by a number of factors, none of which are directly impacted by the City. Factors that may impact the timing of building permit issuance include: required technical or engineering studies; completion of construction drawings and detailed site and landscape design; securing construction and permanent financing; and retention of a building contractor and subcontractors.

The majority of residential permits in Agoura Hills are for single-family homes, with building permit issuance generally taking four (4) months after Planning approvals, though some applicants take longer to submit construction drawings after receiving approvals. Hillside properties may take a few months longer due to the need for technical and engineering studies. While the City has had very few multi-family projects entitled for development in recent years, staff indicates the following apartment project is fairly typical in terms of the amount of time between planning approvals, submittal for a building permit, and permit issuance:

Project: 5-unit apartment building at 5310 Colodny Drive
Project Entitlement (Planning Commission): December 2012
Building Permit Submittal: February 2013
Building Permit Issuance: September 2013
Certificate of Occupancy: May 2014

In Agoura Hills, most approved projects are constructed in a reasonable time period. As of December 2020, no units approved over one year ago had not yet pulled building permits, and no project approvals had expired. It is up to the applicant and often a matter of financing and finding a contractor as to when he/she submits for a building permit.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency due to COVID-19. The Legislature observed that the pandemic slowed the processing of approvals, permits, and entitlements for housing development projects, resulting in the premature expiration of some entitlements. AB 1561, effective January 1, 2020 finds, "A uniform statewide entitlement extension

measure is necessary to avoid the significant statewide cost and allocation of local government staff resources associated with addressing individual permit extensions on a case-by-case basis.” Under this legislation, any housing entitlement that would expire between March 4, 2020 and December 31, 2021 is to be extended by 18 months.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRAINTS

1. Hillsides/Slopes

Large portions of Agoura Hills are covered with major hillsides, which serve as a significant constraint to development. Development on such severely sloped parcels requires substantial modification to the natural terrain, which could result in geologic hazards, loss of significant ecological areas, and changes to scenic viewsheds.

As a means of preventing erosion and landslides and preserving Agoura Hills natural hillside topography, the City has adopted a Hillside Management Ordinance to regulate the density of development in hillside areas (see discussion of ordinance under Governmental Constraints). In addition, the City has adopted a Transfer of Development Regulations (TDR) program to allow development credits to be transferred from open space hillside parcels, or other sensitive open space areas, to residential areas more suited to development.

2. Noise

Several parcels identified in the Housing Element sites inventory Agoura Hills are located along the Ventura Freeway corridor and are exposed to noise levels of 65 CNEL and above.

Both the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and State Department of California have established noise guidelines for residential construction. New residential development should not be exposed to outdoor ambient noise levels in excess of 65 dBA (CNEL or Ldn). Freeway parcels in Agoura Hills may not meet these noise criteria. However, sound attenuation techniques, including freeway soundwalls, double pane windows and building orientation can all be utilized to reduce noise to acceptable levels for residential development. In addition, by code, design features sufficient to reduce interior ambient levels to 45 dBA must be provided in all residential buildings.

Sound walls can significantly reduce noise levels along freeway routes, thereby lessening the incompatibility of locating residential uses adjacent the freeway. However, Caltrans has established a priority system for developing freeway sound walls and will only construct sound walls for residential neighborhoods which were developed prior to freeway construction. Nonetheless, in the mid 1990s, the City worked with Caltrans in constructing a soundwall opposite existing residential development west of Lake Lindero Drive.

3. Lack of Sewer Availability

Presently, there are no sewer lines in place in the majority of the Old Agoura and Indian Hills areas. Residences are served by individual septic tanks and leach lines. Insofar as the area remains on a septic system, this will prevent the development of higher density housing. Individual developers can install private sewer systems to support development, however, this would contribute significantly to the cost of housing. No Housing Element sites are located in these areas, and all Housing Element sites are served by sewer lines.



Old Agoura District



IV. HOUSING RESOURCES

The following section presents the various resources available for the development, rehabilitation and preservation of housing in Agoura Hills. This includes the availability of land resources for housing growth; financial resources to support housing in the community; and resources for energy conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

A. AVAILABILITY OF SITES FOR HOUSING

A major component of the Housing Element is the identification of sites for future housing development and evaluation of the adequacy of these sites for fulfilling the City's fair share of regional housing needs, which is based on the SCAG Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). This section documents the availability of sites for future development and the adequacy of these sites to address Agoura Hills' regional housing needs for the 2021-2029 planning period. As presented in Table IV-1, the City plans to fulfill its share of regional housing needs using a combination of the following:

- Vacant single-family sites with zoning in place
- Provision of accessory dwelling units
- Designation of opportunity sites with an Affordable Housing Overlay

**Table IV-1
Summary of Potential Housing Units**

Areas	Total Units	Income Distribution			
		Very Low	Low	Moderate	Above Moderate
2021 – 2029 RHNA Targets	318	127¹	72	55	64
Vacant Single-family Sites	102				102
Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)	80	14	34	5	27
Capacity w/h Land Use Designations in Place	182	48		5	129
RHNA Surplus/(Shortfall)	(136)	(151)		(50)	+65
Sites to be Designated with Affordable Housing Overlay					
Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP) Sites	660	132		65	463
Mixed Use Shopping Center Sites	188	38		--	150
RM 15 ² Rezone Sites (Outside AVSP & LMSP)	553	105		55	363
Ladyface Mountain Specific Plan (LMSP) Sites	30	6			24
Total Rezone Sites	1,401	281		120	1,000
Total Site Capacity	1,583	329		125	1,129

¹ One-half of the City's Very-Low Income housing needs are for Extremely-Low Income households.

² Residential medium density base zone and General Plan land use designation (6-15 du/ac)

As shown in Table IV-1, the City has a shortfall in sites with zoning in place to address its very low, low and moderate income RHNA needs. To accommodate this shortfall, the Housing Element includes a program to adopt an Affordable Housing Overlay and apply it to ~~the twenty multi-family opportunity select~~ sites identified as suitable for development within the eight-year planning period. One advantage of this approach is that affordable units are more equitably distributed throughout the community, rather than being concentrated in one location as had been the approach in the 4th and 5th cycle Housing Elements in Agoura Village.

1. Vacant Single-family Residential Sites

Agoura Hills contains approximately 2,000 acres of undeveloped land, including large acreages of unspoiled hillsides. However, the vast majority of this land is restricted open space, subject to a variety of environmental and infrastructure constraints that preclude housing development, including steep slopes, significant ecological areas (SEAs), and lack of sewer capacity. These constraints to residential development are described in detail in the prior section.

As a maturing community, remaining sites for residential infill in Agoura Hills are limited. A comprehensive review of all vacant sites designated for single-family residential development in Agoura Hills was conducted by the City to assess future residential production potential; vacant multi-family and mixed use sites are evaluated in the section on Affordable Housing Overlay sites. Table IV-2 provides a summary of the realistic development potential on these sites by General Plan land use designation; a detailed, parcel-specific inventory of these sites is included in the Appendix.

Table IV-2: Summary of Vacant Single-family Residential Parcels

General Plan and Zoning Category	Acreage	Unit Potential
Very Low Density Residential (RV)	21.19	21
Low Density Residential (RL)	11.9	19
Single-Family Residential (RS)	13.18	40
Open Space - Restricted (OSR)	87.44	22
Total	133.71	102

Source: City of Agoura Hills, October 2020.

2. Accessory Dwelling Units

Adding accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to single-family parcels provides a low impact way to integrate modest cost rental housing throughout the community. Consistent with state law, Agoura Hills has adopted a new ADU ordinance to facilitate the production of ADUs and Junior ADUs. The pace of ADU activity has begun to increase, with four permits issued in 2019, five in 2020, and ~~ten in now nine in the first nine months of 2021.~~ At present there are an additional four ADU applications in plan check and over ten applicants working towards plan check submittal. Pursuant to AB 671, the Housing Element includes Program #10a *Promote Accessory Dwelling Units* to further incentivize the production of affordable ADUs through the creation of architect-designed ADU construction plans that can be pre-approved and customizable. In addition, the City will be preparing an ADU user guide, homeowner checklist and cost calculator to streamline the development project application and review process, and reduce up-front project costs for the homeowner.

Given the growing interest in ADUs in the community, combined with additional marketing and incentives to be provided over the coming year, the Housing Element sites inventory projects a minimum of 10 new ADUs to be produced annually, or 80 over the 2021-2029 planning period. The projected affordability of these ADUs is based on SCAGs *Regional Accessory Dwelling Unit Affordability Analysis* (December 2020), with actual affordability to be reported based on ADU rental information collected at the time of building permit issuance. Housing Element *Program #10b Track and Monitor Accessory Dwelling Units* commits the City to a mid-cycle review of ADU production and affordability: if actual production and affordability is far from projected trends, the City will rezone an additional site to offset any lower income RHNA shortfall; if actual production and affordability is near projected trends, the City will conduct expanded marketing and outreach.

3. Housing Opportunity Sites

In Agoura Hills' last two Housing Element cycles, the City was able to accommodate its lower and moderate income RHNA needs on vacant multi-family and mixed use parcels within the Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP). While these sites have not yet been developed and can be included in the 6th Cycle Housing Element, they alone are not sufficient to address the City's much higher RHNA allocation of 318 units. Thus, City staff, with input from the community and City decision-makers, undertook a comprehensive analysis of potential additional sites for rezoning to accommodate Agoura Hills' RHNA. Sites were considered throughout the community that met the following criteria: a) larger than 0.5 acres; b) located outside single-family neighborhoods; c) no existing housing on site; and d) if developed, an improvement-to-land value ratio of less than 1.0, indicative of economic obsolescence. Additional considerations included sites under single ownership, and sites with active or pending development applications. Through the public review process, a total of twenty sites, including eight within the AVSP, were ultimately selected as those most viable and suitable for development within the eight-year planning period.

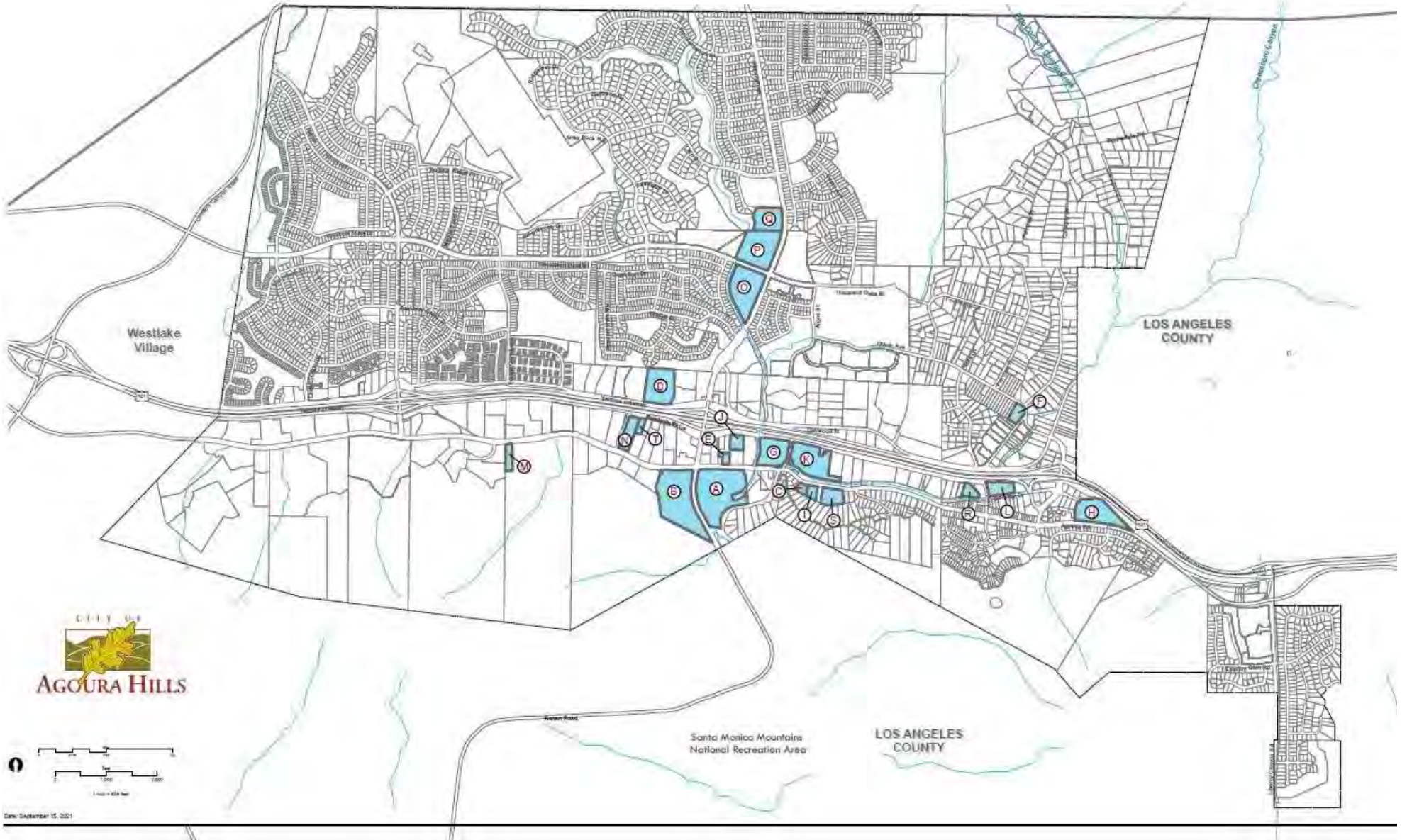
Table IV-3 summarizes the unit potential on each of the twenty sites, and their location is depicted on Figure 1. Refer to Appendix C for additional details on development suitability and aerial photos of each opportunity site in the Housing Element sites inventory.

Table IV-3: Housing Opportunity Sites

Site No.	Site Description and Address	Acres	Current Zoning	Proposed Zoning Action	Net Unit Potential
A	SW corner Agoura/Kanan Rds	12.47	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) ¹ with AHO	207
B	SW corner Agoura/Kanan Rds	7.37	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	124
C	28902 Agoura Rd	0.87	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	14
D	Canwood St, west of Kanan Rd	8.37	BP-OR	RM-15 with AHO	140
E	N side Agoura Rd, AVSP Zone A	0.9	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	15
F	SW corner Colodny Dr/Driver Ave	1.76	RL	RM-15 with AHO	33
G	Regency Theater Center 29045 Agoura Rd	6.24	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	104
H	Dorothy Drive Agoura Rd, east of Chesebro Rd	7.92	BP-OR	RM-15 with AHO	99
I	South on Agoura Rd, east of Cornell Rd	1.2	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	25
J	Roadside Lumber 29112 & 29130 Roadside Dr	1.76	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	29
K	Whizin's Center 28912 Agoura Rd	10.0	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	167
L	Plant Nursery and Adjacent Parcels 28263 Dorothy Dr	2.58	CRS	RM-15 with AHO	50
M	Agoura Rd, east of Ladyface Ct	1.65	PD (LMSP)	PD (LMSP) with AHO	30
N	29360 Roadside Dr	3.06	POM	RM-15 with AHO	76
O	Agoura Meadows Shopping Center 5675 Kanan Rd	8.05	CS-MU	CS-MU with AHO	67
P	Twin Oaks Shopping Center 5801 Kanan Rd	8.8	CS-MU	CS-MU with AHO	73
Q	Agoura City Mall Shopping Center 5801 Kanan Rd	5.7	CS-MU	CS-MU with AHO	47
R	Roadside Dr west of Lewis Rd	1.6	CRS	RM-15 with AHO	29
S	Agoura Rd east of Cornell Rd	2.2	BP-OR	RM-15 with AHO	50
T	29360 Roadside Dr	0.87	POM	RM-15 with AHO	22
Total Opportunity Sites					1,401

PD = Planned Development AVSP = Agoura Village Specific Plan BP-OR = Business Park-Office Retail
 CRS = Commercial Retail Service LMSP = Ladyface Mountain Specific Plan POM = Planned Office Manufacturing
 CS-MU = Commercial Shopping Center-Mixed Use RL = Residential Low Density AHO = Affordable Housing Overlay
¹ While the base PD (AVSP) zoning designation is the same under the existing and proposed zoning, the AVSP development standards are being updated as part of the update to the Specific Plan, scheduled for adoption in 2022.

Figure 1 Housing Opportunity Sites



As shown in Table IV-3, all twenty housing opportunity sites (Sites A-T) would be designated with a new Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO). The overlay would layer on top of the base zoning regulations, and would allow a density increase and “by-right” (i.e. ministerial) approval process, with no additional project-specific CEQA review, in exchange for providing an increased percent of affordable units beyond that required under the City’s Inclusionary Housing Ordinance. The AHO will allow for 20 - 25 units/acre on ~~the designated~~ sites in exchange for inclusion of 20 percent affordable units (10% very low and 10% low income). For property owners choosing to develop under the AHO, the City’s Inclusionary Housing Ordinance would not apply and there would not be an option for an in-lieu fee to be paid.

The AHO would provide the following incentives to help make a development feasible and preferable to the underlying zoning (refer to Table III-3 in prior chapter for proposed AHO development standards):

- Increased densities,
- Increased height limits,
- Reduced parking,
- Reduced open space standards, and
- By-right development processing.

~~Because development under the AHO would be approved ministerially, the City will be creating objective design and development standards to both ensure the density can be achieved and that development reflects the City’s values. It is anticipated that three separate sets of objective standards will be prepared corresponding to the following groupings of housing opportunity sites: a) the seven sites within the Agoura Village Specific Plan; b) the three large shopping center sites on Kanan Road; and c) the ten other sites in the Housing Element sites inventory.~~

In addition to applying the AHO to the twenty Housing Element sites, sites will also require various adjustments to the base zoning:

- **AVSP Sites** - The update to the Specific Plan will reference the AHO as applicable to certain sites in the AVSP. The update will be replacing the current provisions of identifying the maximum number of units by subarea within the AVSP plan area, to identifying the permitted density on individual parcels. The base zoning will continue to permit density of 20 dwelling units/acre, and will be expanded to Sites G, J and K which were previously in subareas of the AVSP that did not permit housing.
- **LMSP Sites** - The update to the Ladyface Mountain Specific Plan would reference the AHO and would replace the allowance for business park use on the single housing opportunity site (Site M) to allow for housing at a density of between 6-15 dwelling units per acre. The development adjustments would be made as part of an amendment to the LMSP. As with all other sites with the AHO, use of the AHO is optional for the property owner.
- **Shopping Center Sites** - The current CS-MU zoning on the three opportunity sites allows for a limited number of residential units at a density of 1.75 dwelling units/acre above commercial use as part of a mixed use development. The CS-MU zoning will remain, but the density increased to 15 dwelling units/acre and allow for horizontal mixed use with residential adjacent to the commercial buildings, in addition to the currently allowed vertical mixed use option.
- **Other Sites** – The other sites in the inventory have a variety of zoning designations: BP-OR, CRS, POM, PD and RL. All these sites will be rezoned to a base density of RM-15, permitting between 6 - 15 dwelling units per acre. Solely residential uses will be permitted going forward. The increase in density to 25 dwelling units per acre and by right development processing will provide a strong incentive to develop under the AHO.

Sites Inventory Methodology and Assumptions

The following section describes the methodology and assumptions used to develop the sites inventory, as now required under Housing Element statutes. It provides justification for development on non-vacant sites, review of the factors used in estimating the realistic housing potential during the 2021-2029 planning period, and the methodology for distributing the potential housing units by income category for each selected site. The section concludes with a discussion of development on large sites and use of sites from the prior Housing Element.

Suitability of Non-Vacant Sites: One of the City's considerations in evaluating potential sites was to first identify suitable vacant sites as these can more readily be developed. Of the twenty sites in the inventory, eleven are vacant with no existing improvements. These include sites A, B, C, D, E, F, H, I, M, R and S. Under the Affordable Housing Overlay, these vacant sites will provide capacity for development of 153 lower income units, or 77 percent of the City's lower income RHNA of 199 units. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65583.2(g)(2), because Agoura Hills does not rely on non-vacant sites to accommodate more than half of its RHNA for lower income households, the Housing Element is not required to provide "substantial evidence" that the site's existing use will impede development within the planning period. Instead, the Element is required to consider factors including existing uses, development trends, market conditions and regulatory and other incentives to assess the suitability of non-vacant sites.

Appendix C includes a detailed narrative describing the factors supporting redevelopment of each non-vacant opportunity site and provides evidence that the existing use does not serve as an impediment to residential development over the next eight years. As previously mentioned, with the exception of the shopping center sites where the existing commercial uses are assumed to remain, all non-vacant sites included in the inventory have an improvement-to-land value ratio of less than 1.0, indicative of economic obsolescence. In addition, many of the sites are significantly underdeveloped, such as Roadside Lumber, Whizin's Center, ~~and~~ the Plant Nursery and the Building Supply on Roadside Drive (sites J, K, L, N). The age and condition of the existing structures on the sites also support redevelopment, and in the case of the Regency Theater Center and Plant Nursery (sites G and L), recent discussions with the property owner indicate an interest in residential development.

In terms of residential development trends, the City has applications for residential development on two of the opportunity sites (sites A & C), and pre-applications and/or concept reviews on three additional sites (sites D, E, H). The market conditions for housing are strong, as confirmed by this summation by Kosmont Companies Real Estate Economists:¹⁵

"The multifamily market in Agoura Hills is relatively small with just 912 units. Occupancy has steadily increased over the last 10 years, as have rents. Despite +95% occupancy rates and strong rent growth, only 2 new buildings totaling 23 units have been built in the past six years. There is clearly demand for more apartment units. The multi-family residential market is extremely strong, with much higher land values than other uses."

And finally, the regulatory incentives offered under the AHO including increased densities and modified development standards, along with by right processing will provide significant incentives for development.

¹⁵ November 13, 2019, Agoura Village Specific Plan Community Workshop. Presentation by Kosmont Companies.

Given the limited development in Agoura Hills over the past planning period, combined with the availability of vacant sites, the City does not have any recent examples of residential development on non-vacant sites. However, residential development trends in the adjacent communities of Calabasas, Thousand Oaks and Westlake Village provide numerous examples of redevelopment of commercial uses, offices and even school sites with residential and mixed use development, demonstrating that residential redevelopment is both feasible and preferable to many existing non-residential uses. The market conditions for residential development are equally strong in Agoura Hills, and with the designation of nine non-vacant sites for by-right development with reduced development standards under the Affordable Housing Overlay, the City is providing the necessary tools and incentives to facilitate development on these sites within the 6th cycle planning period.

Table IV-4: Trends Showing Redevelopment of Commercial with Residential Uses

Project/Address	Acreage	# Units	Prior Use	Affordability	Project Notes
Calabasas					
<u>Avanti Calabasas</u> <u>23600 Park Sorrento</u>	<u>5.43</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>Event facility</u>	<u>8 very low income units</u>	<u>Density bonus, height concession</u>
<u>Calabasas Creekside Apts</u> <u>23480 Park Sorrento</u>	<u>1.92</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>2 story office building</u>	<u>5 very low income units</u>	<u>Density bonus, height concession</u>
Thousand Oaks					
<u>1710 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd</u> <u>Mixed Use</u>	<u>0.75</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>Restaurant</u>	<u>Market rate</u>	
<u>299 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd</u> <u>Mixed Use</u>	<u>3.0</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>Auto sales and repair</u>	<u>11 very low income units</u>	<u>Includes 10,000 sf commercial, Density bonus</u>
<u>325 & 391 Hampshire Rd</u> <u>Mixed Use</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>420</u>	<u>Kmart Shopping Center</u>	<u>50 affordable dus</u>	<u>175,000 sf mixed use project</u>
<u>Daylight Apartments</u> <u>1872 Newbury Rd</u>	<u>9.7</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>Abandoned high school & district maintenance yard</u>	<u>26 low income units</u>	<u>Apts and hotel, adaptive reuse of landmark bldgs</u>
Westlake Village					
<u>Westlake North Residences</u> <u>5701 Lindero Canyon Rd</u>	<u>7.56</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>Office building</u>	<u>25 very low income units</u>	<u>Density bonus & 2 concessions</u>

The following describes each of the non-vacant Housing Element sites, providing information supporting each site's redevelopment during the planning period.

- **Site G** consists of a single, 6.65 acre parcel located at 29045 Agoura Road within the Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP). The site is developed with a Regency movie theater (a southern California independent movie theatre chain) and nine detached retail and restaurant spaces, all in excess of 30 years old. The movie theatre has struggled during the pandemic, with the Regency theater in adjacent Westlake Village closing permanently and the property owner in discussions with the City about redevelopment of the Agoura Hills site with up to 200 apartment units. The retail portion of the center has also struggled, with two of the nine tenant spaces sitting vacant for the last several months. With an improvement-to-land value of just 0.43, the

existing uses are significantly undervalued given the value of the land, and surface parking comprises 40 percent of the parcel. With the addition of the Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) to this site (which allows up to 25 units/acre and up to 4 stories in height), the economic incentive for redevelopment will be enhanced significantly.

- **Site J** consists of two parcels totaling 1.76 acres located at 29112 and 29130 Roadside Drive in the Agoura Village Specific Plan. One of the parcels is occupied by a building materials business with a large structure for lumber storage with other portions of the site used for outdoor storage. While the property owners have contacted the City about their desire to expand the business, because it is an existing non-conforming use, the use is permitted to remain but cannot be improved or expanded. The smaller of the two parcels houses a modest, 1970s retail building for decorative hardware. The underutilization of these parcels (18% lot coverage), combined with their low economic value (0.3 improvement to land value ratio) make this a prime site for redevelopment, along with potential relocation of the lumberyard to a more viable location in the City.
- **Site K** is an underdeveloped 10-acre site in the Agoura Village Specific Plan with a mix of retail, restaurant and entertainment uses and large areas of surface parking known as the Whizin's Center. The main building on the site dates from 1968 and is in need of upgrading. With a current lot coverage of just 15%, there are extensive surface parking and undeveloped areas on this flat site suitable for development. The improvement-to-land value is just 0.36, indicating the economic underutilization of the site. While the site consists of several parcels, it is under single ownership. As a key development opportunity site in the AVSP, the property owner is in ongoing discussions with the City about opportunities to add residential to the existing parking areas while maintaining the existing commercial use.
- **Site L** is an underdeveloped 2.6 acre site consisting of six parcels under common ownership. The main parcels are developed with a plant nursery with outdoor storage of plants and a nursery retail building. The modest building dates from 1949 and the outdoor storage is a non-conforming use. There are a few other abandoned, vacant buildings on the eastern portion of the site dating from 1920, 1929 and 1934 which are non-habitable due to Building Code violations. It has been determined the buildings are non-historic, and the owner is in the process of demolishing the structures to create a developable site. The property owner has spoken to the City about the financial infeasibility of the nursery operation, as supported by an improvement to land-value of less than 0.1, and his interest in building multi-family housing. Rezoning of this site from CRS (Commercial Retail Service) to RM-15 with the Affordable Housing Overlay will provide significant economic incentive for redevelopment.
- **Site N** is a flat, underutilized 3.0 acre site consisting of outdoor storage of construction materials (e.g. rocks) which is a non-conforming use and in violation of the Building Code. The single-parcel site contains a small sales building dating from 1927. With lot coverage of just one percent and an improvement to land-value of less than 0.1, this site is both physically and economically underutilized. In addition, the site's freeway visibility makes it more valuable to develop. Given the strong market for residential development in Agoura Hills, rezoning the site from POM (Planned Office and Manufacturing) to RM-15 with the Affordable Housing Overlay will provide an economic stimulus for development.

- Sites O, P and Q are local shopping centers on Kanan Road. Agoura Meadows is 8 acres and developed in 1978, Twin Oaks is 8.8 acres and developed in 1978, and Agoura City Mall is 5.7 acres and developed in 1986. The centers are all in need upgrading to modern standards, and each has several vacant tenancies. In contrast, less than two miles outside the city, Westlake Plaza has undergone major renovations and offers a gourmet grocery store along with a vibrant mix of retail, services, dining and a variety of pedestrian amenities; Thousand Oaks and Calabasas also offer more modern shopping centers than available in Agoura Hills. The City's shopping center sites are characterized by large areas of surface parking, which consistent with redevelopment trends throughout the region, could accommodate residential infill with parking consolidated into a podium structure or subsurface. The current CS-MU (Commercial Shopping Center – Mixed Use) zoning on these sites allows for a limited number of residential units at a density of 1.75 dwelling units/acre above commercial use as part of a mixed use development. By adding the Affordable Housing Overlay, increasing the permitted density and height, and allowing for horizontal mixed use, these sites become far more attractive for residential infill which can in turn stimulate upgrade of the commercial centers and the introduction of amenities to make them more competitive with other nearby centers. The location of these sites are well suited to housing for several reasons: a) with the majority of Housing Element sites located south of the 101 freeway, development of these sites in the northwest quadrant of the City would serve to disperse affordable housing locations, thereby affirmatively furthering fair housing; b) they are among only one other Housing Element site located outside the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone; c) they are located immediately adjacent to transit; and d) integrating housing in proximity to key shopping and services will reduce vehicle miles travelled and provide an ideal residential setting for less mobile populations, such as seniors and persons living with disabilities.
- Site T is a 0.9 acre flat site developed with a retail building dating from 1961 currently occupied with a vehicle accessories/outfitting business. The site is physically underutilized with just 43% lot coverage, and its good freeway visibility makes it valuable for development. The property owners approached the City in the last few years about their interest in redeveloping the site with a more intensive use, and sought input from staff on what the City would like to see developed in this area. Rezoning the site from POM (Planned Office and Manufacturing) to RM-15 with the Affordable Housing Overlay will significantly increase the value of the site and serve as a strong incentive for development.

Realistic Capacity: Housing Element statute (Gov. Code section 65583.2(c)(2) requires adjustment factors to be used to calculate housing capacity. These adjustment factors include:

- Land use controls and site improvements,
- Realistic capacity of site,
- Typical densities,
- Environmental constraints, and
- Infrastructure availability.

Each site has been evaluated based on the above factors and the net developable acreage adjusted accordingly. The site exhibits in Appendix C identify the adjustment factors used to assume each site's realistic capacity, which generally range from 66 to 80 percent of the site's maximum capacities. Adjustment factors take into account the presence of environmental constraints, such as oaks trees and

topography, as well as the option to include non-residential uses on mixed use sites. All sites are served by infrastructure so no adjustments were necessary to address this factor.

For purposes of identifying typical densities on the AHO sites, sites are assumed to develop at the base Overlay density of 25 dwelling units per acre, with property owners utilizing the Overlay automatically eligible for a 32.5% density increase to 34 dwelling units per acre under State density bonus law. Affordable housing projects typically build out to the top end of the permitted density range, and can be expected to take advantage of additional incentives and reduced parking standards available under State density bonus law.

The AHO has been structured to incentivize its use over the base zoning designation. Projects proposed under the AHO will be subject only to ministerial review, providing greater certainty to the entitlement process. Objective development standards potentially including reduced open space and parking, and allowance for increased building heights and FARs will enable achievement of densities at the top end of the density range.

Allocation of Housing Units by Income Category: To evaluate the adequacy of the potential housing units in relation to the affordability targets established by the RHNA, Housing Element statutes provide for the use of “default densities” to assess affordability. Based on Agoura Hills’ population and its location within Los Angeles County, the City is within the default density of 20 dwelling units per acre or higher as appropriate for accommodating the jurisdiction’s share of regional housing need for lower income households. However, while sites with minimum 20 dwelling units per acre densities are considered suitable for the provision of lower income housing, unless incentives and/or financial assistance is provided, market rate units at these densities are generally not affordable in a high-cost areas like Agoura Hills. Therefore, while all the City’s Housing Element sites meet this density threshold, the City is using the AHO as a more realistic guide to estimate the affordability on each site, with 20 percent lower income units.

Site Size: Per state law, sites smaller than half an acre or larger than 10 acres are not considered adequate to accommodate lower income housing need unless it can be demonstrated that sites of equivalent size were successfully developed during the prior planning period, or other evidence is provided that the site can be developed as lower income housing.

While the City’s site inventory does not include any opportunity sites less than one-half acre, two sites are over 10 acres in size. Site A is a vacant 18.44-acre site, of which 5.97 acres of the site is designated as preserved open space, with a net 12.47 acres of the site available for development. A recent application for a mixed use project (encompassing 118 housing units, retail, restaurant and hotel) demonstrates the site’s viability for development by focusing buildings on the northern half of the site (on 11.8 acres), while leaving the sloped areas on the southern portion of the site undeveloped. While the mixed use project application was denied as it did not meet the objective development standards under the current Agoura Village Specific Plan, the updated standards being developed in the AVSP will better facilitate development on this and similar sites.

Site K, the Whizin’s Center, is an underdeveloped 10-acre site with a mix of retail, restaurant and entertainment uses and large areas of surface parking. Based on discussions with the owner, it is assumed that the existing commercial use on this site would remain, with the opportunity for housing to be added to the southeast corner of the existing parking areas, so the actual developable portion of

the site is closer to six acres, much less than 10 acres. A schematic of a potential site layout of the Whizin's Center site has been prepared as part of the AVSP update and is included in Appendix C.

Sites Identified in Previous Housing Elements: Government Code Section 65583.2(c) specifies that a non-vacant site identified in the previous planning period or a vacant site that has been included in two or more previous consecutive planning periods cannot be used to accommodate the lower income RHNA unless the site is subject to a policy in the housing element requiring rezoning within three years of the beginning of the planning period to allow residential use by right for housing developments in which at least 20 percent of the units are affordable to lower income households.¹⁶

Five sites included in this Housing Element Site Inventory for lower-income housing were also in Agoura Hills' 4th and 5th Cycle Housing Elements. These include sites A, B, C, E and I in the Agoura Village Specific Plan. Housing Element policy H 3.7 commits the City to allowing residential use by right on these sites for housing developments in which at least 20 percent of the units are affordable to lower income households, consistent with provisions under the Affordable Housing Overlay.

4. Availability of Infrastructure and Public Services

The infrastructure system serving Agoura Hills includes major backbone systems which provide the capacity to accommodate projected growth. The secondary components, connecting developments with the major components of the infrastructure system, are extended as necessary to support new development. All Housing Element sites are adjacent to existing public roadways and are serviceable by Los Angeles County Sheriff and Los Angeles County Fire departments, the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, and private companies that provide phone, cable, gas, and electric service.

As indicated by the sites inventory, the remaining vacant sites for residential infill are extremely limited in Agoura Hills, supporting only 102 additional single-family units on scattered sites. A large amount of future residential growth in the City will occur within Agoura Village, accommodating up to 660 additional units on several large parcels designated with the Affordable Housing Overlay. The Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP) includes an analysis of infrastructure and public service availability based on Plan buildout and concludes the following:¹⁷

- The Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) indicates the City's projected water supply is adequate to serve the expected demand from incremental new development. As part of development review, LVMWD determines whether projects are required to submit water pressure and flow demand calculations to provide information to determine if adequate line capacity exists.
- The LVMWD sewer system has the capacity to serve approximately 260,000 people, and as of 2020 was serving approximately 95,000 throughout the LVMWD. The LVMWD service area encompasses the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Westlake Village, along with the unincorporated areas of western Los Angeles County, and based on State Department of Finance estimates, the service area has grown by less than 2,000 residents between 2010-2021, indicating more than sufficient sewer capacity to support buildout under the Housing Element.

¹⁶ Pursuant to AB 1398, effective January 1st 2022, jurisdictions that fail to adopt a housing element in substantial compliance within 120 days of the statutory deadline will be subject to a one-year period for rezoning.

¹⁷ The analysis of infrastructure availability will be updated at part of the AVSP update to be completed in 2022.

- Incremental growth generated by the AVSP will impact public safety services from both police and fire departments, and would likely require additional personnel, sworn officers and firefighters to serve the population. Existing facilities and equipment will serve the buildout of the AVSP.

The Environmental Impact Report for the Agoura Hills General Plan 2035 includes a Water Supply and Demand Comparison prepared by LVMWD that identifies projected supply and demand through year the 2030. This analysis demonstrates that in average precipitation years, the LVMWD has sufficient water to meet its customer's needs through 2030¹⁸.

State law requires water and sewer providers to grant priority for service allocations to proposed developments that include units affordable to lower income households. Pursuant to these statutes, upon adoption of its Housing Element, the City will provide the Element to the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District.

B. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The extent to which Agoura Hills can achieve its Housing Element goals and objectives is in large part dependent upon the availability of financial resources for implementation. The following summarizes the City's current sources of funds to support affordable housing in the community.

Affordable Housing Trust Fund: Agoura Hills allows for payment of an in-lieu fee as an alternative to providing the 15 percent affordable units required under the City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance (Ordinance No. 08-353) for projects with ten or more units. In-lieu fees are placed into a Housing Trust Fund for the development of low- and moderate-income housing. In 2018, the City Council adopted a revised in-lieu fee schedule (Resolution No. 18-1882) to provide greater consistency with the actual gap between market rate and affordable sales prices and rents. Fees currently range from \$285,336 for every very low-income apartment unit not built, to \$262,541 for every low-income condominium unit not built, to \$427,002 for every moderate-income single-family residential unit not built. The ordinance establishes payment of the in-lieu fee as a 4th priority, behind on- or off-site provision of affordable units or land donation. The City has a balance of approximately \$1.8 million in the Housing Trust Fund (2021).

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): Agoura Hills is a participating City in the CDBG Program administered through Los Angeles County. The City receives approximately \$100,000 annually to fund activities benefiting lower income households. Recent activities have focused on accessibility improvements in public parks.

Redevelopment Housing Set-Aside: The primary local source of funds for affordable housing in Agoura Hills has traditionally been its Redevelopment Agency's Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Fund, which generated approximately \$1 million per year for housing activities. However, due to passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 1X 26, redevelopment agencies across California have been eliminated as of February 1, 2012, removing the primary local tool for creating affordable housing. Agoura Hills' Successor Agency has an approximate balance of \$700,000 in its Housing Asset Fund, with an estimated contribution of \$10,000 per year in loan repayments.

¹⁸ City of Agoura Hills General Plan 2035 EIR, February 2010.

In addition to these existing funds, Table IV-5 on the following pages identifies a variety of funding programs currently available on a competitive basis to leverage local funding for affordable housing activities.

Table IV-5: Financial Resources Available for Housing Activities

Program Name	Description	Eligible Activities
Low-income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) www.treasurer.ca.gov/ctcac	Tax credits to enable developers of low-income rental housing to raise project equity through the sale of tax benefits to investors. 4% and 9% credits available, with 4% credits often coupled with tax-exempt bonds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New construction ▪ Acquisition/ Rehabilitation
CalHFA Residential Development Loan Program www.calhfa.ca.gov/multifamily/special/rdlp.pdf	Loans to cities for affordable infill, owner-occupied housing developments. Links with CalHFA's Downpayment Assistance Program to provide subordinate loans to first-time buyers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site acquisition ▪ Pre-development costs
Workforce Housing Program cscda.org/Workforce-Housing-Program	Government bonds issued to cities to acquire market-rate apartments and conversion to affordable for moderate/middle income households, generally households earning 80% to 120% of AMI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acquisition of market rate apartments and conversion to affordable
Golden State Acquisition Fund (GSAF) www.goldenstate-fund.com	Short term loans (up to 5 years) to developers for acquisition or preservation of affordable housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preservation ▪ Site acquisition
State HCD Funding Sources		
Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/ahsc.shtml	Provides grants and/or loans to projects that achieve Greenhouse Gas reductions and benefit Disadvantaged Communities through increasing accessibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Affordable housing ✓ Employment centers ✓ Key destinations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New construction ▪ Acquisition/Rehabilitation ▪ Preservation of affordable housing at-risk ▪ Conversion of non-residential to rental
CalHome www.hcd.ca.gov/fa/calhome	Grants to cities and non-profit developers to assist individual homeowners with homebuyer assistance and rehabilitation and ADU/JADU assistance (construction, repair, reconstruction, or rehabilitation). Program also includes loans to developers for homeownership projects.	<u>Homebuyer assistance:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Downpayment assistance ▪ Rehabilitation ▪ Acquisition/Rehabilitation ▪ ADU/JADU <u>Developer assistance:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site acquisition, development

<p>Infill Infrastructure Grant Program</p> <p>www.hcd.ca.gov/fa/iig/ www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/iigp.shtml</p>	<p>Funding of public infrastructure (water, sewer, traffic, parks, site clean-up, etc.) that supports higher-density affordable and mixed-income housing in infill locations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parks and open space ▪ Utility service improvements ▪ Streets, parking structures, transit linkages ▪ Traffic mitigation features ▪ Sidewalks and streetscape improvements
<p>Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF) Program</p> <p>www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/lhtf.shtml</p>	<p>Matching grants (dollar for dollar) to local housing trust funds that are funded on an ongoing basis from both private and public contributions or public sources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rental & ownership hsg ▪ Transitional housing ▪ Emergency shelters ▪ Min. 30% of allocation required to assist ELI
<p>Multifamily Housing Program (MHP)</p> <p>www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/mhp.shtml</p>	<p>Deferred payment loans with 55-year term for cities, for-profit and nonprofit corporations, limited equity housing cooperatives and individuals, and limited partnerships. Three percent simple interest on unpaid principal balance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition/rehab of permanent or transitional rental housing
<p>National Housing Trust Fund Program</p> <p>www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/nhtf.shtml</p>	<p>Deferred payment and forgivable loans for non-profit and for-profit developers and local public entities to support development of housing for extremely low-income households.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New Construction
<p>Predevelopment Loan Program</p> <p>www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/pdlp.shtml</p>	<p>Provides predevelopment short term loans to cities and non-profit developers to finance the start of lower income housing projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Predevelopment costs to construct, rehabilitate, convert or preserve assisted housing
<p>Supportive Housing Multi-Family Housing Program (SHMHP)</p> <p>www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/shmhp.shtml</p>	<p>Deferred payment loans to local governments, non-profit and for-profit developers for new construction, rehabilitation and preservation of permanent affordable rental housing that contains a min. 35% supportive housing units.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New construction ▪ Rehabilitation ▪ Acquisition/Rehabilitation ▪ Conversion of non-residential to rental ▪ Social services within project
<p>Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Housing Program</p> <p>www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/tod.shtml</p>	<p>Low-interest loans available to developers as gap financing for rental housing developments near transit that include affordable units. Grants also available to cities for infrastructure improvements necessary for the development of specified housing developments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rental housing development ▪ Infrastructure necessary to support specified housing development, or to facilitate connections between development and transit stations.

C. OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION

Housing Element statutes require an analysis of opportunities for energy conservation with respect to residential development. The energy conservation section of the element must inventory and analyze the opportunities to encourage the incorporation of energy saving features, energy saving materials, and energy efficient systems and design for residential development. Planning to maximize energy efficiency and the incorporation of energy conservation and green building features can contribute to reduced housing costs for homeowners and renters, in addition to promoting sustainable community design and reduced dependence on vehicles. Such planning and development standards can also significantly contribute to reducing greenhouse gases.

1. General Plan 2035 Sustainability Goals

In March 2010, the City Council adopted the Agoura Hills General Plan 2035. The underlying theme that permeates the entire General Plan is to create a more sustainable community for existing and future residents. The Plan embodies the following vision for sustainability:

□ Sustainable Land Use and Circulation

- A community that **concentrates** major commercial development at key centers and nodes, and promotes a mix of integrated community uses - housing, shops, workplaces, schools, parks, civic facilities - within walking or bicycling distance. A more efficient use of land will avoid further encroachment upon diminishing land and other natural resources, reduce automobile use, energy consumption, air pollution, and noise, and increase pedestrian activity.
- A transportation system that serves all modes of travel and meets the needs of all users, as specified in the **Complete Streets** Act of 2007, and reduced reliance on single-occupancy vehicle travel through the provision of **alternative travel modes** and enhanced system design. Mixed-use development and more efficient use of land lend themselves to alternative modes of transportation, including bicycling and walking, that help create a more sustainable community. The General Plan advocates transportation improvements and development enhancements that promote and support walking in the community, and enhanced bicycle facilities throughout the City for short trips as well as recreation uses.
- Preservation of open spaces and natural areas through **clustering of development**, and **green infrastructure**. This includes conservation of natural resources through development that maintains an appropriate distance from ridgelines, creek and natural drainage beds and banks, oak trees, and other environmental resources with the purpose of preventing soil erosion, preserving viewsheds, and protecting the natural contours and sensitive plant and wildlife communities of the land. Green infrastructure refers to maintaining a multi-functional assembly of natural and open areas, urban forest, and parklands that provide access to open spaces and recreation, minimize the heat island effect, and that are designed for environmental sustainability. Clustering development in sensitive areas allows for more compact (and energy and infrastructure efficient) development while reducing impacts to natural land and habitats.

□ **Sustainable Site Design and Development**

- **Sustainable site design** that avoids development of inappropriate sites, minimizes building footprint, maximizes use of existing infrastructure, reduces the heat island effect, minimizes storm water through permeable paving and on-site capture, and reduces energy and water consumption. Sensitive site selection and design will reduce pressure on the city’s undeveloped land and preserve habitat and natural resources;
- **“Green” buildings** that utilize materials, architectural design features, and interior fixtures and finishing’s to reduce energy and water consumption, toxic and chemical pollution, and waste; and
- Installation of **energy-efficient appliances and alternative-energy infrastructure**, such as solar energy panels (photovoltaic panels) within all new City facilities and within existing facilities, as feasible. The General Plan aims to encourage adequate, efficient, and environmentally sensitive energy service, starting first with City facilities and setting an example for private industry to follow.

The General Plan 2035 was prepared in consideration of SB 375 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from a local/regional land use and circulation perspective, and is consistent with the Southern California Association of Governments’ (SCAG) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) to implement SB 375. Ways in which the General Plan addresses the requirements of SB 375 and the SCS include promoting:

- ✓ Mixed-use and infill developments,
- ✓ Alternative transportation (bicycling, walking, transit),
- ✓ Green building practices,
- ✓ Sustainable land development practices, and
- ✓ Preservation of open spaces and natural communities.

2. **Climate Action and Adaptation Plan**

The City of Agoura Hills has long supported practices and behaviors that focus on protecting the earth’s natural resources. Over the years, emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) into the atmosphere have resulted in detrimental global warming impacts that continue to threaten the natural environment the City has tried so hard to preserve. As a result, agencies have sought to create a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) to combat this problem. A CAAP has two primary objectives. First, the CAAP seeks to reduce GHG emissions through the implementation of reduction measures to meet or exceed compliance reduction targets. The second objective is to enhance the community’s resilience towards vulnerabilities and risks that are expected to occur as a result of climate change impacts. Examples include, but are not limited to, increased frequency of wildfires, increased number of extreme heat days, and increased propensity for flooding. Adaptation measures are included in the CAAP to proactively prepare for dealing with these inevitable climate change risks.

In March 2021, the Agoura Hills City Council approved the Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, demonstrating its commitment to conserve energy and reduce emissions through a variety of programs and policies. The Draft CAAP is currently undergoing environmental review, with the Final CAAP to be considered by the City Council in Spring 2022 and implementation to begin shortly thereafter. In order to reach its GHG reduction targets, the City will implement the local reduction measures described in the CAAP, including measures which encourage energy efficiency, water conservation, alternative

transportation, solid waste reduction, and clean energy. Table IV-6 summarizes the reductions from measures that would be implemented to meet the Community GHG reduction goals for the year 2030.

Table IV-6: Summary of GHG Emission Reduction Strategies

Goal 1: Increase Energy Efficiency in Existing Residential Units
1.1: Energy Efficiency Training, Education, and Recognition in the Residential Sector
1.2: Increase Community Participation in Existing Energy Efficiency Programs
1.3: Home Energy Evaluations Supporting
1.4: Residential Home Energy Renovations
Goal 2: Increase Energy Efficiency in New Residential Units
2.1: Exceed Energy Efficiency Standards
Goal 3: Increase Energy Efficiency in Existing Commercial Units
3.1: Energy Efficiency Training, Education, and Recognition in Commercial Sector
3.2: Increase Business Participation in Existing Energy Efficiency Programs
3.3: Nonresidential Building Energy Audits
3.4: Nonresidential Building Retrofits
Goal 4: Increase Energy Efficiency in New Commercial Units
4.1: Exceed Energy Efficiency Standards
Goal 5: Increase Energy Efficiency through Water Efficiency
5.1: Water Efficiency through Enhanced Implementation of Senate Bill X7-7
5.2: Exceed Water Efficiency Standards
Goal 6: Decrease Energy Demand through Reducing Urban Heat Island Effect per Title 24 Requirements
6.1: Tree Planting for Shading and Energy Saving
6.2: Light-Reflecting Surfaces for Energy Saving
Goal 7: Decrease Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled
7.1: Transportation Demand Management (TDM) including telecommuting and alternative Transportation Options
7.2: Implement Bicycle Master Plan to Expand Bike Routes around the City
7.3: Ridesharing and Bike-to-Work Programs within Businesses
7.4: Electrify the Fleet
Goal 8: Decrease Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Reducing Solid Waste Generation
8.1: Reduce Waste to Landfills
Goal 9: Decrease Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Increasing Clean Energy Use
9.1: Promote Clean Energy

Source: City of Agoura Hills Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, March 2021.



V. HOUSING PLAN

Sections II, III and IV of the Housing Element establish the housing needs, opportunities and constraints in Agoura Hills. This final Housing Plan section begins by evaluating accomplishments under the City's adopted 2013-2021 Housing Element and then presents Agoura Hills eight-year Housing Plan for the 2021-2029 period. This Plan sets forth the City's goals, policies and programs to address identified housing needs.

A. EVALUATION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS UNDER ADOPTED HOUSING ELEMENT

State Housing Element law requires communities to assess the achievements under their adopted housing programs as part of the eight-year update of the Housing Element. The 2013 Agoura Hills Housing Element contains a set of goals, policies and programs for the time frame of the Housing Element (2013-2021). The following Table V-1 reviews the programs of the 2013 Housing Element, including progress on the implementation of programs, and the continued appropriateness of goals and policies. The results of this analysis will provide the basis for developing the comprehensive housing program strategy presented in the final section of the Housing Element.

Table V-1: Review of Accomplishments Under 2013-2021 Housing Element

Program	Accomplishments
PROGRAMS TO CONSERVE AND IMPROVE EXISTING HOUSING	
<p>1. Housing Maintenance</p> <p><i>2013-2021 Objective:</i> Monitor housing conditions throughout the City; respond to complaints. Enforce UBC and Housing Code.</p>	<p><i>Progress:</i> Program implementation is ongoing through code enforcement, building inspections and the building permit plan review process. Agoura Hills implements a complaint-based code enforcement program and maintains a full-time code enforcement officer. Code violations relate to aesthetic issues, outdoor storage, overcrowding and development within setback areas. Few structural issues are present. The Building Division of the Community Development Department implements the latest version of the California Building Code and will continue to adopt all of the required building codes as required and adopted by the California Building Standard Commission.</p> <p><i>Effectiveness:</i> Code Enforcement has been effective in addressing housing and property maintenance issues.</p> <p><i>Appropriateness:</i> As Agoura Hills housing stock ages, housing code enforcement will continue to be an important part of the preservation of the City’s housing. This program will be continued in the updated Housing Element.</p>
<p>2. Housing Rehabilitation Program</p> <p><i>2013-2021 Objective:</i> Pursue outside funding to support re-initiation of program and re-evaluate program guidelines.</p>	<p><i>Progress:</i> The Housing Rehabilitation Program was put on hold due to elimination of Redevelopment funding. The City re-initiated the program using CDBG funds, but due to the more stringent income qualifications of this funding source, the City didn’t have enough qualifying applicants to maintain the program.</p> <p><i>Effectiveness:</i> The program was not implemented so it was not effective.</p> <p><i>Appropriateness:</i> The City’s housing stock is well maintained, and demand for rehabilitation assistance among lower income homeowners is insufficient to support a rehabilitation program.</p>
<p>3. Condominium Conversion Ordinance</p> <p><i>2013-2021 Objective:</i> Implement City Ordinance, and require conversions to comply with City inclusionary requirements.</p>	<p><i>Progress:</i> The City’s Zoning Ordinance continues to provide tenant protections in apartments proposed for conversion to condominium ownership. There were no requests for condominium conversions during the planning period.</p> <p><i>Effectiveness:</i> Agoura Hills’ condominium conversion regulations are effective in facilitating the creation of quality entry-level ownership housing. Existing regulations help to mitigate impacts on tenants of the units undergoing conversion by regulating noticing procedures and mandating relocation payments to cover the costs of moving.</p> <p><i>Appropriateness:</i> Preserving the City’s rental housing by maintaining a condominium conversion ordinance remains appropriate for the Housing Element update.</p>

PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING	
<p>4. Inclusionary Housing Program and Housing Trust Fund</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Continue implementation and re-evaluate Ordinance to provide consistency with case law and market conditions. Establish implementing regulations for Housing Trust Fund.</p>	<p>Progress: The City’s Inclusionary Housing Program had been suspended for rental housing since 2009 due to the Palmer decision, but with the passage of AB 1505 (the “Palmer Fix”), was updated in 2018 to again apply to rental housing and to reflect current market conditions. The City also updated the Inclusionary Housing In-Lieu Fee to reflect the amount necessary to fund 100% of the cost of assistance to develop the required affordable units at an off-site location. A total of \$261,852 was contributed to the Housing Trust Fund during the planning period.</p> <p>Effectiveness: The City continues to apply its existing inclusionary housing regulations for applicable rental and ownership projects.</p> <p>Appropriateness: The Inclusionary Housing Ordinance and Program can provide an important tool for increasing the number of affordable housing units in the City, and continues to be appropriate for the Housing Element Update.</p>
<p>5. Affordable Housing Development Assistance</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Provide financial and regulatory assistance. Promote through dealings with property owners and through Guide to Housing brochure.</p>	<p>Progress: During the 2013-2021 housing cycle, the City met with several potential developers of mixed-use residential/commercial projects about the requirement to incorporate affordable units pursuant to the City’s Inclusionary Housing Program. In some cases, the City discussed possible development concessions and incentives to facilitate the production of affordable units.</p> <p>Effectiveness: While the City discussed options with developers, no affordable housing was produced during the period. Two mixed income projects are currently in the project application review stage: 1) West Village mixed use, which proposes 78 project units, including 11 affordable units; and 2) 64 North mixed use which proposes 17 units, including 3 affordable units.</p> <p>Appropriateness: The provision of affordable housing remains an important goal for the Housing Element, and the City will assist in achieving this goal through implementation of the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance for market-rate housing projects, and exploring incentives to creating affordable housing with potential developers.</p>

<p>6. Affordable Housing Density Bonus</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Maintain density bonus program consistent with state law, and advertise through the City’s Guide to Housing brochure and on City website.</p>	<p>Progress: The City website contains information on Agoura Hills’ density bonus program, and City staff discusses opportunities for density bonuses with developers. The City has a current application for development that is proposing use of density bonuses.</p> <p>Effectiveness: The density bonus program is among several tools the City can utilize to facilitate affordable housing.</p> <p>Appropriateness: This program remains appropriate to the updated Housing Element, and the City will continue to advertise its availability on the Housing Resources page on its website and in conjunction with the new Affordable Housing Overlay.</p>
<p>7. Section 8 Rental Assistance</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Continue participation in program and advertise through City’s Guide to Housing brochure.</p>	<p>Progress: The City continues to encourage eligible persons to participate in the HACoLA Section 8 rental assistance program. Handouts and contact information are regularly provided to requestors, and program links are provided on the City’s website.</p> <p>Effectiveness: The program is an effective means of allowing extremely low and very low-income renters to remain in the community.</p> <p>Appropriateness: The Section 8 program remains appropriate to the Element.</p>
<p>8. Sustainability and Green Building</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Implement General Plan sustainability policies/actions. Provide education/ outreach to residents and development community on Green Building Program.</p>	<p>Progress: Program implementation is ongoing through the development application review process and updates to, and compliance with, the Green Building Code. The Building and Safety Division conducts education on the program by “visiting booths” at local home supply retail centers and local street fairs.</p> <p>Effectiveness: The City remains committed to and effective in promoting and incorporating sustainable practices and programs.</p> <p>Appropriateness: Sustainable energy and green programs remain appropriate to the Housing Element Update.</p>

PROGRAMS FOR PROVISION OF ADEQUATE SITES

9. Residential and Mixed-Use Sites Inventory

2013-2021 Objective:

Maintain current inventory of sites; provide to developers along with information on affordable housing incentives.

Progress: The City maintains a current inventory of all vacant sites available for development, as well as a specific inventory of residential and mixed-use sites, for the public to view. Within the Agoura Village Specific Plan, the City maintains an inventory of all vacant and underutilized mixed-use development opportunity sites. As part of the 6th cycle Housing Element update, the City has conducted a comprehensive review of potential housing sites, and through the public input process, has incorporated those sites most appropriate for development in the Housing Element sites inventory.

Effectiveness: The City has been effective in implementing this program through the development plan review process and continual interactions with the development community.

Appropriateness: Given the limited land remaining for development in the community, maintaining a sites inventory remains relevant for the updated Housing Element.

10. Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP)

2013-2021 Objective:

Facilitate residential mixed-use development in AVSP, including on-site provision of affordable units.

Progress: The City continued to review concept applications for mixed-use retail/commercial/multi-family housing projects within the Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP), and meet frequently with the project proponents to discuss their projects, including the provision of affordable housing units. An application for a 78-unit mixed use project, which had previously been withdrawn, was resubmitted in 2020, and is currently being reviewed by City staff; the application is not complete at this time. Another mixed use project with 17 dwelling units in the AVSP area was placed on hold by the applicant, and as of February 2021, the applicant has indicated its intent to resubmit a slightly redesigned project with more dwelling units; City staff is awaiting this resubmittal.

Effectiveness: While the City discussed options with developers, no affordable housing was produced during the period. Two mixed income project applications are currently being reviewed but have not yet been deemed complete: 1) West Village mixed use, which proposes 78 project units, including 11 affordable units, and 2) 64 North mixed use with 17 units, including 3 affordable units.

Appropriateness: The provision of affordable housing remains an important goal for the Housing Element, and the City will assist in achieving this goal through implementation of the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance for market-rate housing projects, and exploring incentives to creating affordable housing with potential developers.

<p>11. Second Units</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Review and refine ordinance as appropriate to better facilitate provision of second units.</p>	<p>Progress: The second unit ordinance was revised in 2014, and replaced in 2017 with an accessory dwelling unit ordinance (“ADU”), with the intent of providing expanded capacity and streamlining the approval of ADUs. In 2020, the City adopted an urgency ordinance to comply with changes in state law, and in August 2021, adopted a permanent ordinance.</p> <p>Effectiveness: A total of twenty-two ADUs were issued building permits between October 2013- June 2021. The City is utilizing SB 2 Planning Grant funds to develop ADU prototypes and a submittal checklist for use as a guide for homeowners to further facilitate the production of ADUs.</p> <p>Appropriateness: With several new state ADU laws that took effect in 2020 to further facilitate ADUs and Junior ADUs, applications for ADUs have continued to increase, with building permits issued for nine ADUs in the first nine months of 2021. This program will continue in the Housing Element Update, and pursuant to new state law, will incorporate provisions to promote ADUs that provide affordable rents to low- and moderate-income households.</p>
<p>PROGRAMS TO REMOVE GOVERNMENTAL CONSTRAINTS</p>	
<p>12. Efficient Project Review</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Offer concurrent processing of residential projects, pre-application reviews, and CEQA exemptions for infill projects as appropriate.</p>	<p>Progress: The City continues its program of providing for a concept or preliminary review phase to give applicants early input on potential site concerns and any necessary studies. The City has developed a Preliminary Application for projects seeking vested rights pursuant to SB 330, the Housing Crisis Act of 2019. Furthermore, the City is utilizing SB 2 funds to develop objective development and design standards, and to produce an SB 35 checklist, forms and submittal requirements to ease the application process.</p> <p>Effectiveness: The modifications and changes of the Agoura Hills Municipal Code will help refine design guidelines, revise subjective standards, and clarify the SB 35 application process for applicants and contribute to housing production.</p> <p>Appropriateness: This program remains appropriate to the updated Housing Element.</p>
<p>13a. Expanded Zoning for Congregate Housing</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Conduct land use study to evaluate expanding congregate housing into additional zone districts.</p>	<p>Progress: The City amended its Zoning Ordinance in 2014 to allow congregate care housing in the Commercial Retail Service (CRS) zoning district.</p> <p>Effectiveness: Oakmont Senior Living (Residential Care Facility for Elderly – Assisted Living and Memory Care) was approved in 2018 and is currently under construction in the BP-OR zone, and an application has been submitted for a second similar facility, also in the BP-OR zone.</p> <p>Appropriateness: This program was implemented and no longer necessary for the Housing Element update.</p>

<p>13b. Zoning for Small Employee Housing (6 or fewer)</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Amend Zoning Ordinance consistent with Employee Housing Act (H&S 17021.5)</p>	<p>Progress: The Zoning Ordinance amendment was completed in 2014 to allow for small employee housing to be considered as single-family structures, and allow for small employee housing to be located in zoning districts that allow for single-family structures.</p> <p>Effectiveness: The City was effective in complying with the Employee Housing Act.</p> <p>Appropriateness: This program was implemented and no longer necessary for the Housing Element update.</p>
<p>PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY</p>	
<p>14. Fair Housing Program</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Continue to contract with LA Co./Housing Rights Center to provide fair housing services and educational programs. Assist in program outreach through referrals and distribution of informational materials.</p>	<p>Progress: The City provides information about fair housing on the City website, and refers tenant/landlord issues to the Housing Rights Center.</p> <p>Effectiveness: This program has been effective in educating residents on their rights under Fair Housing Laws, and in providing referrals for services.</p> <p>Appropriateness: The Fair Housing Program provides an important service to residents and landlords in the community, and remains appropriate for the Housing Element update.</p>
<p>15. Universal Design/Visitability</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Develop Universal Design and Visitability Principles brochure, and provide to development applicants.</p>	<p>Progress: While the City has not yet completed its online brochure, staff ensures features that enhance accessibility are accommodated through the project plan review process. The City has adopted reasonable accommodation procedures as part of the Municipal Code.</p> <p>Effectiveness: Program effectiveness could be enhanced through inclusion of information on the website regarding universal design features and visitability for development applicants.</p> <p>Appropriateness: Universal Design remain appropriate to the Housing Element update, particularly as the City's population continues to age and the numbers of residents with disabilities increases.</p>
<p>16. Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with Disabilities</p> <p>2013-2021 Objective: Continue to support a variety of housing types to help address the diverse needs of persons living with disabilities. Evaluate funds for supportive housing/ services in new affordable projects. Discuss with housing providers ability to provide for the disabled in projects.</p>	<p>Progress: The City supports the provision of housing for disabled populations through zoning opportunities for transitional and supportive housing, for community care facilities, and for accessory dwelling units; procedures to provide reasonable accommodation; and programs to facilitate affordable housing.</p> <p>Effectiveness: The City has been effective in providing housing opportunities for persons living with disabilities.</p> <p>Appropriateness: This program remains appropriate to the Housing Element.</p>

Table V-2 summarizes the quantified objectives contained in the City’s 2013-2021 Housing Element, and compares the City’s progress in fulfilling these objectives.

Table V-2: Summary of 2013-2021 Quantified Objectives

Income Level	New Construction		Rehabilitation		Conservation	
	Goal	Progress	Goal	Progress	Goal	Progress
Very Low	31	0	10	0	2 (Sec 8)	2
Low	19	0	20		-	
Moderate	20	22			511 (Archstone & Oak Creek)	511
Above Moderate	45	43				
Totals	115	64	30	0	513	513

New Construction: The City’s objectives for new construction reflect its regional housing needs (RHNA). As illustrated in Table V-2, sixty-four new residential units have been issued building permits since the start of the RHNA planning period (October 2013 – June 2021), fulfilling just over half of the City’s total regional housing need for 115 units. Most units constructed during this period consisted of single-family homes, with a five-unit apartment development and 22 accessory dwelling units (ADUs) also developed. Based on their smaller size and the fact that many ADUs are provided rent-free to family members or household employees, accessory dwelling units are assumed to be affordable to households earning moderate incomes.

The City maintains its Inclusionary Housing In-Lieu Fee Fund, and is considering how the funds may be best used to assist in the production of affordable housing in the City. Additional housing opportunity sites have been identified as part of the 6th Cycle Housing Element Update, many of which will be designated with an Affordable Housing Overlay to facilitate the provision of affordable units beyond the level currently provided through the City’s Inclusionary Housing Ordinance.

Rehabilitation: The City had previously funded a housing rehabilitation program using redevelopment housing set-aside funds, but with the dissolution of redevelopment agencies in 2012, the program had been put on hold. The City re-initiated the program using CDBG funds, but due to the more stringent income qualifications of this funding source, the City didn’t have enough qualifying applicants. Starting in 2014, the City began using CDBG funds for accessibility improvements in public parks, along with programs for seniors (seminars on legal, health, and lifestyle issues).

Conservation: The City’s objectives for conservation reflect preservation of Agoura Hills’ two primary apartment complexes as rental housing and conservation of existing Section 8 vouchers. Both of these objectives were met during the planning period.

Special Needs Households: In terms of special needs households, Agoura Hills adopted an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) ordinance to facilitate the addition of ADUs which can benefit seniors, persons with disabilities and female-headed households. The City amended its Zoning Ordinance to allow congregate care housing in the Commercial Retail Service (CRS) zoning district, and has one senior living facility currently under construction (Oakmont), and an application has submitted for a second similar facility. In 2015, the City opened the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center where it hosts a variety of programs and classes for seniors. And the City’s Meals-on-Wheels and Dial-A-Ride programs continue to serve both seniors and persons with disabilities.

B. GOALS AND POLICIES

This section of the Housing Element contains the goals and policies the City of Agoura Hills intends to implement to address a number of significant housing-related issues. Section 65583 (b) of the Government Code requires: "A statement of the community's goals, quantified objectives, and policies relative to the maintenance, preservation, improvement, and development of housing."

The following five major issue areas are addressed by the goals and policies of this Element. The supporting goals and policies are organized by each of these issue areas and discussed in the following section.

- ❑ Conserve and improve the condition of the existing housing stock;
- ❑ Assist in the provision of affordable housing;
- ❑ Provide adequate sites to achieve a diversity of housing;
- ❑ Remove governmental constraints, as necessary; and
- ❑ Promote equal housing opportunity.

Goal H-1

Conserve and Improve Existing Housing. Maintain and Enhance the Quality and Affordability of Existing Housing and Residential Neighborhoods.

Policies

- H-1.1 Housing Design.** Assure that new housing is well-designed and based on sustainable development principles.
- H-1.2 Property and Housing Conditions.** Support the long-term maintenance and improvement of housing through enforcement of Building and Property Maintenance Codes. **(Modified)**
- H-1.3 Preserve Rental Housing.** Conserve the existing stock of rental housing through limitations on conversions to for-sale units, and provide tenant protections for units approved for conversion.

Goal H-2

Provision of Affordable Housing. Assist in the Provision of a Range of Housing Types to Meet the Diverse Needs of the Agoura Hills Community.

Policies

- H-2.1 Mixed Income Housing.** Utilize the City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance as a tool to integrate affordable units within market rate developments, and to increase the availability of affordable housing throughout the community. Continue to prioritize the construction of affordable units on-site, with provision of units off-site or payment of an in-lieu housing fee as less preferred alternatives.
- H-2.2 Affordable Housing Overlay.** Utilize an Affordable Housing Overlay as a tool to provide meaningful incentives for the inclusion of affordable units on designated sites. **(New)**
- H-2.3 Affordable Housing Incentives.** Facilitate the development of affordable housing through regulatory incentives and concessions via the density bonus ordinance, and/or financial assistance. Leverage local funds with outside sources.
- H-2.4 Financial Resources.** Support the use of outside financial resources to aid in the production of housing affordable to Agoura Hills' modest income residents and workforce. Establish guidelines for allocation of Inclusionary Housing Trust Fund resources towards projects.
- H-2.5 Public/Private Partnerships.** Explore collaborative partnerships with nonprofit organizations, developers, major employers, the business community and governmental agencies in the provision of affordable housing. **(Expanded)**
- H-2.6 Rental Assistance.** Support and publicize available rental assistance programs for lower income and special needs households.
- H-2.7 Green Building.** Promote sustainable building practices that utilize materials, architectural design features, and interior features and finishings to reduce energy and water consumption.

Goal H-3

Provide Adequate Sites to Achieve a Diversity of Housing. Provide Opportunities for a Range of Housing Types Suited to Residents of Varying Lifestyle Needs and Income levels.

Policies

- H-3.1 Variety of Housing Choices.** Provide site opportunities for a full range of housing types, locations, and densities to address the diverse needs of Agoura Hills’ residents.
- H-3.2 Residential Sites Inventory.** Maintain an up-to-date sites inventory, and assist developers in identifying land suitable for residential and mixed-use development.
- H-3.3 Residential Mixed Use.** Facilitate the development of higher density residential/commercial mixed-use in the Agoura Village Specific Plan, the Planned Office Manufacturing – Mixed Use District (POM-MXD), and in the Commercial Shopping Center/Mixed Use (CS-MU) district.
- H-3.4 Repurposing Obsolete Commercial.** Pursue opportunities to integrate housing in underutilized commercial centers, and to reuse excess or obsolete commercial buildings for housing. *(New)*
- H-3.5 Accessory Dwelling Units.** Facilitate the creation of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and junior ADUs in all residential districts as a means of dispersing small, affordable units throughout the community. *(Expanded)*
- H-3.6 Mitigate Air Quality Impacts.** Require multi-family housing located along major roadway corridors to incorporate design features that promote ventilation and assist in dispersion of air quality pollutants. (refer to Policy 7.6 in Natural Resource Element) *(New)*
- H-3.7 Reuse of Housing Element Sites.** Pursuant to AB 1397, allow housing developments with at least 20 percent affordable housing by-right, consistent with objective design standards, on lower-income housing sites that have been counted in previous housing element cycles.

Goal H-4

Remove Governmental Constraints. Reduce Governmental Constraints to the Maintenance, Improvement and Development of Housing while Maintaining Community Character.

Policies

- H-4.1 Development Review.** Explore continued improvements to the entitlement process to streamline and coordinate the processing of development permits, design review and environmental clearance.

H-4.2 Objective Standards. Establish objective development standards to create greater certainty for developers, streamline the development review and permitting process, and enable the development of higher density residential projects. (New)

H-4.3 Flexible Development Standards. Provide flexibility in development standards to accommodate new models and approaches to providing housing.

Goal H-5

Promote Equal Housing Opportunities. Promote equal housing opportunities for all residents, including Agoura Hills' special needs populations, so that residents can reside in the housing of their choice.

Policies

H-5.1 Fair Housing Education. Take positive steps to ensure all segments of the population are aware of their rights and responsibilities regarding fair housing.

H-5.2 Fair Housing Services. Continue to support the provision of fair housing services and tenant/landlord mediation to City residents.

H-5.3 Housing for Persons with Disabilities. Address the special housing needs of persons with disabilities through the implementation of reasonable accommodation procedures, the provision of zoning for supportive and group housing, and by encouraging universal design.

H-5.4 Housing Options for Seniors. Support the development and maintenance of affordable senior housing and supportive services to facilitate maximum independence and the ability of seniors to remain in their homes and/or in the community. (New)

H-5.5 Homeless Housing and Services. Work cooperatively with the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG) in providing outreach and assistance to persons experiencing homelessness. (New)

C. HOUSING PROGRAMS

The goals and policies contained in the Housing Element address Agoura Hills' identified housing needs and are implemented through a series of housing programs. Housing programs define the specific actions the City will take to achieve specific goals and policies. The City's overall housing program strategy for addressing its housing needs has been defined according to the five issue areas previously described under goals and policies.

The 2021-2029 Housing Program was prepared in the context of: 1) the nature and extent of housing needs; 2) funding and land availability constraints; and 3) experience gained from implementation of the previous Housing Element. The Housing Program Summary Table V-4 located at the end of this section specifies the following for each program: 2021-2029 objectives; funding sources; and agency responsible for implementation.

CONSERVE AND IMPROVE EXISTING HOUSING

While the majority of existing housing in Agoura Hills is of sound to superior quality, nearly 90 percent of the City's housing is now over 30 years in age, the age at which housing begins to experience rehabilitation needs. The aging of such a large portion of Agoura Hills' housing stock indicates a need for code enforcement and property maintenance to stem potential housing deterioration. Housing conservation also involves maintaining housing affordability, which the City will undertake through protections for existing rental housing through the condominium conversion ordinance and through monitoring of deed-restricted affordable units.

1. Housing Maintenance. The Housing Maintenance program is implemented through a combination of code enforcement, building inspections and the building permit plan process. The Community Development Department maintains a full-time code enforcement officer to address housing and property maintenance issues.

***2021-2029 Program Objective:** Monitor the housing conditions in the City and respond to complaints. Enforce the provisions of the California Building Codes, and continue to adopt updates as available.*

2. Condominium Conversion Ordinance. As a means of maintaining the supply of rental units and preserving the affordable housing stock, the City regulates the conversion of apartment units to condominium ownership. Conversion requirements include tenant noticing, relocation assistance for eligible tenants, and anti-discrimination policies in the sale of converted units. Condominium conversions with ten or more units are also subject to Agoura Hills's inclusionary housing requirements to provide a minimum of 15 percent affordable units, providing potential opportunities to first-time homebuyers.

***2021-2029 Program Objective:** Continue to assure that the requirements of the Condominium Conversion Ordinance are met.*

3. Monitoring of Affordability Covenants. (New) While Agoura Hills does not currently contain any deed-restricted affordable units, it is anticipated that affordable units will be developed during the planning period resulting from the new Affordable Housing Overlay and Inclusionary Housing

requirements. Affordable units produced under these programs will require 55-year affordability covenants in the case of rental housing, and 45-year covenants in the case of ownership housing. To ensure adherence to these covenants, it will be necessary for the City to establish annual monitoring procedures.

***2021-2029 Program Objective:** By 2023, develop and implement monitoring protocols for affordable rental and ownership housing.*

PROVISION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Housing to address the needs of Agoura Hills' lower and moderate-income residents and workforce is not being produced in the private market without some level of subsidy and/or development incentive. The Housing Element sets forth several programs to provide incentives for the production of affordable and mixed income housing, including: inclusionary housing requirements; density bonuses and other regulatory incentives; financial assistance; and a new Affordable Housing Overlay. Adherence to the City's Green Building Program will also enhance affordability through greater energy efficiencies and reduced utility costs to residents.

4. Inclusionary Housing Program and Housing Trust Fund. Section 9133 of the Municipal Code outlines the City's inclusionary housing requirements and was updated in 2018. The program requires residential developments with 10 or more units provide a minimum of 15 percent of units at a cost affordable to low- and moderate- income households as follows - seven (7) percent of all units for very low-income households, four (4) percent of units for low-income households and four (4) percent of units for moderate-income households.

The City's Inclusionary Ordinance specifies that developing all of the required inclusionary units within the residential development is the preferred approach. However, as an alternative, the developer may propose satisfying the inclusionary housing requirements through payment of an in-lieu fee, including providing some of the required inclusionary units on-site and paying an in-lieu fee for any required inclusionary units that are not included in the project.

The City has accumulated approximately \$1.8 million in its Inclusionary Housing Trust Fund, and increased the In-Lieu Fee amounts in 2018 to reflect current market conditions. In order to ensure the strategic expenditure of limited Trust Fund resources, the City will create implementing regulations that establish parameters for allocation of funds towards projects.

***2021-2029 Program Objective:** Continue to implement the City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance and prioritization of on-site provision of affordable units. By 2023, establish implementing regulations for the Inclusionary Housing Trust Fund to provide guidelines for Fund expenditure.*

5. Affordable Housing Development Assistance. The City can play an important role in facilitating the development of quality, affordable and mixed-income housing in the community through provision of regulatory incentives and direct financial assistance. The following are among the types of incentives the City can offer:

- Reduction or deferral in development fees,

- Flexible development standards and parking reductions,
- Density bonuses,
- City support in affordable housing funding applications, and
- Financial and land purchase assistance, as available.

While local City funding is somewhat limited, there are a number of housing assistance programs available (refer to Table IV-5) which can serve to reduce the amount of City assistance needed and provide for deeper levels of affordability, including significant new funding resources available through the State. The City will proactively reach out to developers on an annual basis to discuss development opportunities and also provide technical assistance to developers in support of affordable housing development, including: evaluation of projects for appropriate use of funding sources; assistance in completion of funding applications; and assistance in moving projects forward through the public review process.

2021-2029 Program Objective: *Provide financial assistance through the Housing Trust Fund and regulatory incentives through the Affordable Housing Overlay and density bonuses for the development of affordable and mixed-income housing. Contact property owners of Housing Element sites within one year of Housing Element adoption to discuss development opportunities under the Affordable Housing Overlay and the availability of incentives. Provide information on incentives during individual dealings with property owners. By 2023, issue a request for proposal on the City-owned site on Colodny Drive (Site F) which specifies the City's goals for the site and available development incentives, such as potential land write-down assistance, and explore the feasibility of developing a 100% affordable project, or at a minimum 20% affordable units as required under the Affordable Housing Overlay; select a development partner by 2024.*

6. Affordable Housing Density Bonus. Section 9674 of the Agoura Hills Municipal Code sets forth the City's provisions to implement state density bonus law, providing a process for applicants of residential projects with five or more units to apply for a density bonus and additional incentive(s) if the project provides for one of the following:

- Minimum 5% of the total units for very low-income households; or
- Minimum 10% of the total units for lower income households; or
- Minimum 10% of the total dwelling units in a condominium for moderate income households; or
- 100 percent of units for very low-, low- and moderate-income households (with maximum 20 percent moderate); or
- A senior citizen housing development or mobile home park that limits residency based on age requirements for housing for older persons.

The amount of density bonus varies according to the amount by which the percentage of affordable housing units exceeds the established minimum percentage, but generally ranges from 20-80% above the specified General Plan density. Eligible projects may receive 1-4 additional development zoning concessions or incentives, depending on the proportion of affordable units and level of income

targeting. In addition to the off-street parking concessions required under state law, the City offers the following development concessions and incentives in conjunction with the density bonus:

- A reduction in parcel development standards (coverage, setback, zero lot line and/or reduced parcel sizes),
- Approval of mixed-use zoning in conjunction with the housing project, and
- Other regulatory incentives or concessions proposed by the applicant or the City that would result in identifiable cost reductions.

Pursuant to state requirements and at the request of the developer, the City will also permit a reduced parking ratio for density bonus projects. To the extent the density bonus cannot be accommodated due to the City's development standards, the City will waive or modify applicable standards to accommodate the bonus.

2021-2029 Objective: Encourage the use of density bonus (including associated zoning concessions and incentives) by advertising on the City's website and by providing information on available density and regulatory incentives in conjunction with discussions with development applicants. Update the City's local ordinance for consistency with the most recent state laws (2023).

7. Section 8 Rental Assistance. (Expanded) The Section 8 Rental Assistance Program extends rental subsidies to very low-income households, including families, seniors, and the disabled. The Section 8 Program offers a voucher that pays the difference between the current fair market rent (FMR) and what a tenant can afford to pay (i.e., 30% of household income). The voucher allows a tenant to choose housing that costs above the payment standard, provided the tenant pays the extra cost. Given the significant gap between market rents and what very low-income households can afford to pay for housing, Section 8 plays a critical role in allowing such households to remain in the community, and is a key program to address the needs of extremely low and very low-income households.

2021-2029 Objective: *Through the Los Angeles County Housing Authority, the City will continue to provide Section 8 rental assistance to extremely low to very low-income residents. City staff will contact owners of the major apartment complexes in town to inquire whether they participate in the Section 8 program and encourage them to register with LA County Housing Authority. The City will continue to provide information on the program on the City of Agoura Hills website.*

8. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. (New) In March 2021, the Agoura Hills City Council approved the Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), demonstrating its commitment to conserve energy and reduce emissions through a variety of programs and policies. The CAAP sets forth a wide range of measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including measures that encourage energy efficiency, water conservation, alternative transportation, solid waste reduction, and clean energy. Approval of the Draft CAAP concluded Phase 1 of the process, with Phase 2 to include preparation of the environmental document for CEQA clearance, and Phase 3 to carry out implementation of the CAAP.

2021-2029 Objective: *Implement the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan to achieve measurable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. By the end of 2022, commence implementation of the CAPP.*

ADEQUATE HOUSING SITES

A key element in satisfying the housing needs of all segments of the community is the provision of adequate sites for all types, sizes and prices of housing. Both the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance dictate where housing may be located, thereby affecting the supply of land available for housing.

9. Affordable Housing Overlay and Rezone Program. (New) The City has identified 20 sites in the Housing Element sites inventory, all of which will be designated with an Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO). The AHO will allow for 20 - 25 dwelling units/acre on sites in exchange for inclusion of 20 percent affordable units (10% very low and 10% low income). For mixed use sites, this housing density would be in addition to the permitted commercial development density. For property owners choosing to develop under the AHO, the City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance would not apply and there would not be an option for an in-lieu fee to be paid.

The AHO will include a special set of objective design and development standards so that the identified density can be achieved and developers have incentives to build per the Overlay. Projects using the AHO and providing the required lower income units would be approved "by-right." The objective standards would establish clear parameters to which the development must adhere, and therefore would provide some assurance that the project would reflect the City's values.

The key to the successful application of the AHO is providing sufficient incentives to make a development feasible and more profitable than the underlying zoning. The following are among the incentives to be offered:

- Increased densities,
- Increased height limits,
- Reduced parking,
- Reduced open space standards, and
- By-right development processing.

Adoption of the Affordable Housing Overlay is projected to occur in 2022 after the start of the 6th cycle planning period, resulting in a temporary shortfall in sites with zoning in place to address the City's regional housing needs. Pursuant to state statutes, sites identified for rezoning to address the City's lower income RHNA shortfall shall meet the following requirements:

- Permit owner-occupied and rental multi-family uses by-right in which 20% or more of the dwelling units are affordable to lower income households,
- Permit a minimum density of 20 dwelling units per acre,
- Allow a minimum of 16 dwelling units per site, and

- Ensure a) at least 50% of the lower income shortfall be accommodated on sites designated for residential use only, or b) allow for 100% residential use on mixed use sites and require residential use to occupy at least 50% the floor area in a mixed use project.¹²

2021-2029 Objective: *Develop an Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) and associated objective development standards in 2022 in compliance with the parameters of a rezone program under Government Code section 65583.2(h).*

10. Agoura Village Specific Plan. (Modified) The 135-acre Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP), originally adopted in 2008 and planned as a focal point for future mixed use development, is currently being updated to reflect current market conditions and a new set of guiding principles. The emphasis of the AVSP is shifting from residential being a secondary to a primary use, with housing unit capacities increasing from 293 to over 650 units. Eight sites in the AVSP are included in the Housing Element sites inventory, all of which are designated with the Affordable Housing Overlay to allow increased densities and to incentivize the inclusion of lower income units. A unique set of objective design and development standards are being created for the AVSP, creating greater certainty for developers and shortened review times for project that qualify for ministerial approval (refer to Program 13).

2021-2029 Program Objective: *Update the Agoura Village Specific Plan to provide increased opportunities for residential development and streamlined review on Housing Element sites (2022).*

11a. Promote Accessory Dwelling Units. (Expanded) Agoura Hills adopted a new accessory dwelling unit (ADU) ordinance in August 2021 to align with state law and better facilitate the production of ADUs and Junior ADUs. For example, the City now allows ADUs in all residential zones, as well as in the commercial-mixed use zone and open space restricted zone, both of which allow residential uses. The pace of ADU activity has begun to increase, with four permits issued in 2019, five in 2020, and ~~ten in now nine in the first nine months of~~ 2021. Furthermore, SCAG’s affordability analysis estimates that in the Las Virgenes subregion, two-thirds of ADUs are provided at rents affordable to lower and moderate-income households.

Pursuant to AB 671, the Housing Element is now required to include plans to incentivize and encourage affordable ADU rentals. The City is using SB 2 Planning Grant funds to develop a user-friendly guide to answer frequently asked questions about building an ADU, along with a submittal checklist for homeowners to aid in the ADU development process. As part of this process, the City will be contracting with a design firm to prepare at least three different ADU prototypes that can be pre-approved and customizable at minimal cost to the applicant. The City will also be working with a firm to establish an ADU calculator to estimate construction costs and rents that it will add to its ADU webpage to assist homeowners in evaluating the financial implications of developing an ADU.

2021-2029 Objective: *Achieve the production of an average of 10 ADUs annually, for a total of 80 ADUs over the planning period. Develop an ADU user guide, homeowner checklist and pre-approved ADU construction plans to streamline the development project application and review process, and reduce up-front project costs for the homeowner (2022). Add an ADU Cost calculator*

¹² As presented earlier in the residential sites analysis, more than half of the City’s lower income RHNA shortfall is accommodated on sites designated for residential use only.

to the City's website (2022). [Amend the ordinance to address non-compliance issues identified by the State Department of Housing and Community Development \(2022\).](#)

11b. Track and Monitor Accessory Dwelling Units. (New) The City will track new accessory dwelling units to collect information on the use and affordability of these units. As part of the building permit process, the City will collect information on anticipated occupancy and rent levels and will conduct a mid-cycle review and report to HCD. If actual production and affordability is far from projected trends, the City will rezone an additional site to offset any lower income RHNA shortfall; if actual production and affordability is near projected trends, the City will conduct expanded marketing and outreach.

***2021-2029 Objective:** Establish tracking system in 2022. Conduct mid-cycle review in 2025, and as appropriate, conduct expanded marketing and outreach within six months, or rezoning additional site(s) within one year.*

12. No Net Loss Monitoring. (New) To ensure that the City monitors its compliance with SB 166 (No Net Loss), the City will develop a procedure to track:

- Unit count and income/affordability assumed on parcels included in the sites inventory
- Actual units constructed and income/affordability when parcels are developed
- Net change in capacity and summary of remaining capacity in meeting remaining Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)

***2021-2029 Objective:** Develop a procedure to monitor the development of Housing Element sites by 2022.*

REMOVE GOVERNMENTAL CONSTRAINTS

Like all jurisdictions in California, Agoura Hills has governmental regulations that affect housing development. These include the charging of permit processing and development fees, and processing procedures for tentative tract maps, conditional use permits and variances. Under present state law, the Housing Element must address, and where legally possible, remove governmental constraints affecting the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing. The following programs are designed to lessen governmental constraints on housing development.

13. Objective Design and Development Standards. (New) There are several scenarios in the future in which development projects in Agoura Hills will be required to undergo a “by-right”, non-discretionary approval process. These scenarios include: a) qualified projects being processed under Government Code section 65913.4 (SB 35); b) projects on sites identified in a prior housing element where at least 20% lower income units are included; and c) projects on sites being rezoned with the Affordable Housing Overlay as part of the Housing Element update with at least 20% lower income units. The creation of objective design and development standards is critical to a “by-right” approval process, since qualifying projects may only be required to meet objective, not subjective standards.

The City has contracted with a consultant and is in the process of establishing clear and objective design and development standards to facilitate quality development that can be approved

ministerially. It is anticipated that three separate sets of standards will be prepared corresponding to sites in the housing inventory for: a) the eight sites within the Agoura Village Specific Plan; b) the three large shopping center sites on Kanan Road; and c) the nine other sites in the Housing Element sites inventory. In conjunction with developing objective development standards, Agoura Hills will create an SB 35 checklist and written procedures for processing SB 35 applications.

2021-2029 Program Objective: *Establish objective design and development standards to create greater certainty for developers and streamline the development review and permitting process. Create an SB 35 checklist and written procedures for processing SB 35 applications (2022).*

14. Zoning Text Amendments for Special Needs Housing. (New) As presented under the Governmental Constraints analysis and pursuant to state law, several revisions to the Agoura Hills Zoning Code have been identified as appropriate to better facilitate the provision of a variety of housing types. These Code revisions include:

- Allow transitional and supportive housing in all zones where residential is permitted, including mixed use zones, subject to the same restrictions as similar residential uses in the same zone (per SB 2),
- Allow supportive housing as a use by right in all zones where multi-family and mixed use is permitted; eliminate parking requirements for supportive housing located within one-half mile of public transit (per AB 2162),
- Amend parking standards for emergency shelters from a ratio based on the size of the structure to a ratio based on to the number of shelter staff (per AB 139),
- Develop by right processing procedures for Low Barrier Navigation centers in mixed use and non-residential zones permitting multi-family uses, and should the city receive an application for these uses, process them as required by state law (per SB 48),
- Amend the Zoning Code to remove subjective findings related to neighborhood character as necessary to ensure reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and other protected classes, and
- ~~Review and amend the Zoning Code to ensure requirements for group homes of more than six persons are consistent with state law and fair housing requirements.~~

The City will also amend the Agoura Hills Municipal Code to specify incentives for the development of housing for extremely low-income households (30% AMI). Incentives will include: priority development processing, fee waivers/deferrals, and flexible development standards.

2021-2029 Objective: *Amend the Zoning Code by 2022 to facilitate housing for Agoura Hills' special needs and extremely low income (ELI) populations.*

PROMOTE EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

In order to provide for the housing needs of all segments of the community, the housing program must include actions that promote housing opportunities for all persons regardless of race, religion, sex, family size, marital status, ancestry, national origin, color, age, or physical disability. More

generally, this program component entails ways to further fair housing practices, including accommodations for persons with disabilities.

15. Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with Disabilities. (Modified) As Agoura Hills' population continues to age, providing housing that is accessible to people of all abilities becomes increasingly important. The City regularly adopts updates to Uniform Building and Housing Codes to reflect current accessibility requirements in new construction, and has adopted procedures for requesting a Reasonable Accommodation with respect to zoning, permit processing, and building codes for persons with disabilities

The North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC) is among 21 regional centers operated by the State Department of Developmental Services to provide services and support for adults and children with developmental disabilities. The NLACRC provides services to approximately 210 developmentally disabled residents within the greater Agoura Hills 91301 zip code. Approximately 98 percent of these disabled residents live with a parent, family member or other guardian, and as these guardians age and become frailer, the disabled individuals they care for may require alternative housing options. The Regional Center has identified several community-based housing types appropriate for persons living with a developmental disability, including: licensed community care facilities and group homes; supervised apartment settings with support services; and for persons able to live more independently, rent subsidized, affordable housing.

Agoura Hills currently supports the provision of housing for its disabled population, including persons with developmental disabilities, through several means, including:

- By-right zoning for licensed residential care facilities (six or fewer residents) in all residential zones, and provisions for larger care facilities (seven or more residents) in multi-family residential, mixed use and certain commercial zones, subject to a conditional use permit;
- Treatment of supportive and transitional housing as a residential use of property, and subject only to those restrictions and processing requirements that apply to other residential dwellings of the same type in the same zone;
- Procedures for an individual with a disability to request a Reasonable Accommodation from zoning and building standards. No special permit or fee is required;
- Programs to facilitate affordable housing, including Inclusionary Zoning, Affordable Housing Development Assistance, Density Bonuses and a new Affordable Housing Overlay; and
- Supporting the creation of accessory dwelling units in all districts permitting residential uses.

In its review of Agoura Hills' Housing Element, the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) identified the City's CUP requirement for large community care facilities as a potential constraint on housing for persons with disabilities. In order to address this concern, the City will amend the Zoning Code to ensure requirements for community care facilities of more than six persons are consistent with State law and fair housing requirements, including replacing or modifying the CUP requirement to provide greater objectivity and certainty.

~~In its review of 6th Cycle Housing Elements, the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has identified the cities' exclusion of large community care facilities from single-family zone districts as a potential constraint on housing for persons with disabilities. In order to~~

~~address this concern, the City will review and amend the Zoning Code to ensure requirements for community care facilities of more than six persons are consistent with state law and fair housing requirements.~~

HCD also raised concerns that requirements to consider impacts to surrounding uses when reviewing requests for reasonable accommodation is similar to a Conditional Use Permit, and thus could act as a constraint on housing for persons with disabilities. The City will remove this subjective finding to ensure for reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and other protected classes.

2021-2029 Objective: *Continue to support a variety of housing types to help address the diverse needs of persons living with disabilities, and work with the NLACRC to publicize information on available resources for housing and services. Evaluate use of state and Federal funds available for supportive housing and services in future affordable housing developments. Review and amend the Code regarding reasonable accommodations and for community care facilities of more than six persons. Add information to the City website on Universal Design and Visitability in development.*

16. Fair Housing/Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. (Expanded) As a participating jurisdiction in the Urban County CDBG program, the Housing Rights Center (HRC) is the designated provider of fair housing and tenant-landlord information in Agoura Hills. The HRC provides fair housing investigation and coordinates referral services to assist individuals who may have been the victims of discrimination. Many of the people who contact HRC have basic questions about landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities; HRC’s housing counselors provide clients with comprehensive information to help resolve tenant/landlord issues. HRC conducts extensive fair housing education and outreach throughout the San Fernando Valley.

Appendix B summarizes the fair housing issues and concerns in Agoura Hills based on the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) analysis conducted as part of this Housing Element update. The Table V-3 below presents a summary of the issues, contributing factors, and the City’s actions to address these issues.

Table V-3: Summary Matrix of Fair Housing Issues and Actions for Mitigation

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
<p>A. Fair Housing Outreach to Lower Income Residents <i>(Housing Mobility/ Displacement)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower income residents have a higher % of tenant/landlord complaints compared to their % of the City’s population overall. • Outreach is needed in a variety of formats. • Additional resources need to be made available to the public. 	<p>Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the Fair Housing Program, including directing inquiries to the Housing Rights Center (HE Program 16). • <u>By the end of 2022 have additional fair housing information posted at the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center and on their digital platforms. Hold an informational workshop in conjunction with their senior programming in 2023 and 2026.</u> • In 2023 and 2026, conduct a public information session before City Council

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
			<p>with the HRC or similar group on fair housing issues and ways the City can help to further fair housing resources. <u>Invite local non-profit agencies to attend.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By the end of 2022, have fair housing information posted on non-traditional media, such as Instagram and Facebook, <u>and conduct targeted outreach to tenants and other lower income and special needs populations.</u> <p><i>Community Development Department, Community Services Department</i></p>
<p>B. Affordable Housing Options Throughout Agoura Hills <i>(Place Based Strategies/New Opportunities)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High levels of overpayment High rents Availability of affordable housing in all areas of the City, including those where rents and sales prices have become exclusive or at risk of becoming exclusive 	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of affordable housing throughout <u>High Resource areas in Agoura Hills</u> through the Affordable Housing Overlay (HE Program 9), <u>providing sites for over 280 lower income units.</u> Reach out to local housing nonprofits during creation of the design standards for the Overlay areas for input. Create pre-approvable ADU prototypes in 2023 (HE Program 11a). Reach out to local housing nonprofits and other interested parties during the development of the ADU guide and prototypes for feedback, <u>and seek to issue permits for at least ten units annually.</u> Develop a public information campaign, using data and graphics from the HE, to illustrate quality multi-family and mixed income housing options (2023). In compliance with SB 9, a <u>Adopt an ordinance to expand the housing supply in High Resource single-family zones by allowing for lot splits and duplexes under the parameters of SB 9. to be constructed in single-family zones. In coordination with research being conducted at the state level, evaluate opportunities to incentivize and provide funding assistance for homeowners to provide affordable units under SB 9 (2023, 2025).</u> <u>Require affordable developers receiving public funds to prepare an affirmative marketing plan, and encourage private developers with affordable units in their</u>

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
			<p><u>projects to prepare an affirmative marketing plan. The affirmative marketing plan shall ensure marketing materials for new developments are designed to attract renters and buyers of diverse demographics, including persons of any race, ethnicity, sex, handicap, and familial status.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support applications for affordable housing funds for projects or programs that are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Housing Element. • Add additional information and resources, such as County assistance as they become available to the City’s Affordable Housing webpage. <p><i>Community Development Department</i></p>
<p><u>C. Protect Existing Residents from Displacement (Displacement/Housing Mobility)</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>High levels of overpayment</u> • <u>High rents</u> • <u>Availability of affordable housing in all areas of the City, including those where rents and sales prices have become exclusive or at risk of becoming exclusive</u> 	<p><u>High</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>At least twice during the Housing Element Cycle (2023 and 2026) work with The Housing Rights Center (HRC) to contact landlords of multifamily complexes and provide fair housing information and assistance. This outreach will focus on promoting the Section 8 voucher program to landlords that have not previously participated in the program and should include multi-lingual materials.</u> • <u>Provide information on the City’s website and non-traditional media regarding services being provided by the San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, particularly regarding interim and permanent housing resources (through September 2022).</u> • <u>By 2023, adopt the Affordable Housing Overlay and update the density bonus ordinance to effectively integrate affordable units in market rate projects.</u> • <u>By 2023, issue an RFP on the City-owned site on Colodny Drive which specifies the City’s goals for the site and available development incentives, such as potential land write-down assistance, and explore the feasibility of developing a 100% affordable project.</u>

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Establish annual monitoring procedures for rent restricted units provided through City incentives and/or financial assistance.</u> <i>Community Development Department</i>
<p>C. Removal of Subjective Standards in the Agoura Hills' Zoning Code <i>(New Opportunities)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain Zoning Code standards 	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include outreach to the public and interested groups during the development of a streamlined review process, including objective design standards (HE Program 13). <i>Community Development Department</i>

Table V-4: Housing Program Summary 2021-2029

Housing Program	Program Goal	2021-2029 Objective	Funding Source	Responsible Agency	Time Frame
CONSERVE AND IMPROVE EXISTING HOUSING					
1. Housing Maintenance	Provide for detection and prevention of deterioration in residential areas.	Monitor housing conditions throughout the City and respond to complaints.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning and Building Divisions	2021 - 2029
2. Condominium Conversion Ordinance	Provide tenant protections in apartments proposed for conversion to condominium ownership.	Implement City Ordinance, and require conversions to comply with City inclusionary requirements.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	2021 - 2029
3. Monitoring of Affordability Covenants	Preserve affordable housing through long-term affordability controls and monitoring.	Develop and implement monitoring protocols for deed-restricted affordable housing.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	Develop monitoring protocols by 2023.
DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING					
4. Inclusionary Housing Program and Housing Trust Fund	Integrate affordable units within market rate developments, and generate in-lieu fees in support of affordable housing.	Prioritize on-site provision of affordable units. Establish implementing regulations for Housing Trust Fund.	Developer-provided affordable units and In-Lieu Fees	Community Development Department – Planning Division; City Manager’s Office	Develop Trust Fund regulations by 2023.
5. Affordable Housing Development Assistance	Facilitate development of affordable and mixed-income housing through incentives to private developers.	Provide financial and regulatory assistance. Promote through outreach to property owners and developers.	Inclusionary Housing Trust Fund and other state and Federal resources	Community Development Department – Planning Division; City Manager’s Office	Contact property owners of HE sites within one year of adoption. Issue RFP on City-owned site by 2023, and select developer by 2024.
6. Affordable Housing Density Bonus	Provide density and other incentives to facilitate affordable housing development.	Update the local ordinance for consistency with current state requirements.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	Update the ordinance in 2023.

Table V-4: Housing Program Summary (cont'd)

Housing Program	Program Goal	2021-2029 Objective	Funding Source	Responsible Agency	Time Frame
7. Section 8 Rental Assistance	Extend rental subsidies to extremely low and very low-income families and seniors.	Outreach to landlords to encourage their participation. Continue to provide information and a link to the program on the City's website.	HUD Section 8 Vouchers	Community Development Department – Planning Division; LA Co Housing Authority	Landlord outreach in 2023
8. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP)	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Implement measures identified in CAAP.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division; City Manager's Office	Beginning in 2022
ADEQUATE HOUSING SITES					
9. Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) & Rezone Program	Rezone adequate sites to address the City's RHNA, and provide meaningful incentives for development of affordable housing.	Develop an AHO and associated objective development standards. Provide incentives for development under the AHO, including increased densities, increased heights, reduced parking, reduced open space, and ministerial processing.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	Adopt the AHO in 2022 in compliance with the parameters of a rezone program.
10. Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP)	Provide expanded sites for multi-family and mixed-use housing development.	Update the AVSP to provide increased residential capacity and streamlined review on Housing Element sites.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	Adopt the updated AVSP in 2022
11a. Promote Accessory Dwelling Units	Provide opportunities for small rental units within existing neighborhoods.	Achieve production of an average of 10 ADUs annually. Develop an ADU user guide, homeowner checklist, ADU cost calculator and pre-approved ADU construction plans. <u>Amend the ordinance to address compliance issues identified by HCD.</u>	General Fund; SB 2 Planning Grant	Community Development Department – Planning and Building Divisions	Provide pre-approved plans and other ADU materials, <u>and amend the ordinance</u> during 2022.
11b. Track and Monitor Accessory Dwelling Units	Provide opportunities for small rental units within existing neighborhoods.	Establish ADU tracking system; conduct mid-cycle review and report to HCD. As necessary, expand Marketing within 6 months, or rezone within one year.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning and Building Divisions	Tracking system (2022). Conduct review in 2025.

Table V-4: Housing Program Summary (cont'd)

Housing Program	Program Goal	2021-2029 Objective	Funding Source	Responsible Agency	Time Frame
12. No Net Loss Monitoring	Maintain adequate sites for the City's RHNA allocation by income level throughout the planning period.	Develop procedure to monitor development of Housing Element sites. Provide information on available sites and development on City website.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	Develop monitoring procedures in 2022.
REMOVE GOVERNMENTAL CONSTRAINTS					
13. Objective Design and Development Standards	Facilitate quality development that can be approved ministerially.	Establish objective standards and ministerial processing procedures, including for SB 35 applications, to streamline the review process.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	2022
14. Zoning Text Amendments for Special Needs Housing	Provide zoning standards to facilitate the provision of housing for persons with special needs.	Amend the Zoning Code to facilitate housing for special needs populations consist with requirements under state law.	General Fund	Community Development Department – Planning Division	Amend the Zoning Code in 2022.
PROMOTE EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY					
15. Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with Disabilities	Support a range of housing options for persons with disabilities.	Coordinate with NLACRS to publicize info on resources. Pursue state/Federal funds for supportive housing in affordable housing projects. Review/amend the Code re: reasonable accommodations & community care facilities with 6+ residents.	Low Income Housing Tax Credits; other State and Federal funds.	Community Development Department – Planning Division	Pursue supportive housing funding in conjunction with affordable projects. Amend the Code in 2022.
16. Fair Housing Program	Promote fair housing practices and unrestricted access to housing for all residents of the City.	Continue to contract with LA Co./Housing Rights Center to provide fair housing services and educational programs. Assist in program outreach through referrals and distribution of informational materials.	CDBG	LA Co/ Housing Rights Center; Community Development Department – Planning Division	2021-2029

Summary of Quantified Objectives

The following table summarizes the City of Agoura Hills’ quantified objectives for the 2021-2029 Housing Element planning period. The objectives include the City’s new construction objectives to meet its regional housing needs (RHNA) and conservation objectives which reflect preservation of Agoura Hills’ two primary apartment complexes as rental housing. The City does not have a housing rehabilitation program, but works towards maintaining the housing stock through a combination of code enforcement, building inspections and the building permit plan process. Based on review of residential code enforcement records, the City averages 25 units annually undergoing rehabilitation improvements, translating to a rehabilitation goal for 200 units over the planning period.

Table V-5: 2021-2029 Quantified Objectives

Income Level	New Construction Objectives	Rehabilitation Objectives	Conservation Objectives
Extremely Low (0% - 30% AMI)	63	--	--
Very Low (31% - 50% AMI)	64		
Low (51% - 80% AMI)	72	--	--
Moderate (81% - 120% AMI)	55	--	511 (Archstone Agoura Hills and Oak Creek)
Above Moderate (>120% AMI)	64	<u>200</u>	
Totals	318	<u>200</u>	511

Appendix A

Glossary

Appendix A: Glossary

This glossary is for ease of use of the Agoura Hills Housing Element only; for full definitions related to the City of Agoura Hills Zoning Code, please see Chapter 1, Part 3 - Definitions.

A. Abbreviations

ACS:	American Community Survey
ADA:	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADU:	Accessory Dwelling Unit
AFFH:	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
AFH:	Assessment of Fair Housing
AHO:	Affordable Housing Overlay
AI:	Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
AMI:	Area Median (Household) Income
APN:	Assessors Parcel Number
CBC:	California Building Code
CDBG:	Community Development Block Grant
CDC:	Los Angeles County Community Development Commission
CEQA:	California Environmental Quality Act
CHAS:	Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy
CHPC:	California Housing Partnership
CUP:	Conditional Use Permit
DDS:	California Department of Social Services
DFEH:	California Department of Fair Employment and Housing
DOF:	California Department of Finance
EDD:	California Employment Development Department
EIR:	Environmental Impact Report
ELI:	Extremely Low Income
FAR:	Floor Area Ratio
FEMA:	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEHA:	California Fair Employment and Housing Act
FHA:	Fair Housing Act
GHG:	Greenhouse Gas
HACoLA:	Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles
HCD:	California Department of Housing and Community Development
HMDA:	Home Mortgage Disclosure Act
HOME:	HOME Investment Partnership Program
HRC:	Housing Rights Center
HUD:	U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development

LACEP:	Los Angeles County Energy Program
LAHSA:	Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority
LRA:	Local Responsibility Area
LVMCOG:	Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments
LVMWD:	Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
LVUSD:	Las Virgenes Unified School District
MPROP:	Mobile Home Park Rehabilitation and Resident Ownership Program
NLACRC:	North Los Angeles County Regional Center
R/ECAP:	Racial and Ethnic Characteristics/Concentrations
RHNA:	Regional Housing Needs Allocation
SCAG:	Southern California Association of Governments
SEA:	Significant Ecological Areas
SPA:	Service Planning Area
SRO:	Single Room Occupancy
TCAC:	California Tax Credit Allocation Committee
UBC:	Uniform Building Code
UWMP:	Urban Water Management Plan
VHFHSZ:	Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
VLI	Very Low Income

B. Definitions

Accessory Dwelling Unit: An accessory dwelling unit (also known as second units or granny flats) is an attached or detached structure that provides independent living facilities for one or more persons and includes permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel as a single-family dwelling unit.

Acreage: Gross acreage refers to the entire acreage of a site. Most communities calculate gross acreage to the centerline of proposed bounding streets and to the edge of the right-of-way of existing or dedicated streets. Net acreage refers to the portion of a site that can actually be built upon. Public or private road right-of-way, public open space, and flood ways are not included in the net acreage of a site.

Accessible Housing Unit: An accessible housing unit is designed and built to be usable to a person with physical disabilities.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH): This new legislation requires all housing elements due on or after January 1, 2021 contain an Assessment of Fair Housing to ensure that laws, policies, programs, and activities affirmatively further fair housing opportunities throughout the community for all persons regardless of race, religion, sex, marital status, ancestry, national origin, color, familial status, disability, and other characteristics protected by the California Fair Employment and Housing Act.

Affordable Housing Overlay: The Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) is being developed as part of this Housing Element. The AHO would provide density and other incentives in exchange for including at least 20% lower income housing units on identified sites.

Affordable Unit: A dwelling unit within a housing development which will be reserved for, and restricted to, income qualified households at an affordable rent or is reserved for sale to an income qualified household at an affordable purchase price.

American Community Survey: The American Community Survey (ACS), part of the United States Census Bureau, collects sample population and housing data on an ongoing basis, January through December. The Housing Element update uses the five year average ACS data from the 2014-2018 period.

Area Median Income: As used in State of California housing law with respect to income eligibility limits established by HUD. The Area Median Income referred to in this Housing Element is that of Los Angeles County.

At Risk: Deed-restricted affordable housing projects at risk of converting to market rate.

California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD): The State agency that has principal responsibility for assessing, planning for, and assisting communities to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income households. HCD is responsible for reviewing Housing Element's and determining whether they comply with State housing statutes.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): A State law requiring State and local agencies to regulate activities with consideration for environmental protection.

Census: The official decennial enumeration of the population conducted by the federal government.

City Council: The City Council serves as the elected legislative and policy-making body of the City of Agoura Hills, enacting all laws and directing any actions necessary to provide for the general welfare of the community through appropriate programs, services, and activities.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): This grant allots money to cities and counties for housing and community development activities, including public facilities and economic development.

Conditional Use Permit (CUP): Conditional Use Permits are required for uses which may be suitable only in specific locations in a zoning district, or which require special consideration in their design, operation or layout to ensure compatibility with surrounding uses.

Condominium: A condominium consists of an undivided interest in common in a portion of real property coupled with a separate interest in space called a unit, the boundaries of which are described on a recorded final map, parcel map, or condominium plan in sufficient detail to locate all boundaries thereof.

Condominium Conversion: The conversion of existing real estate and/or structures to separate, salable condominium units, regardless of present or prior use and whether substantial improvements have been made to such structures.

Default Density: Housing Element statutes provide for the use of "default densities" to assess affordability when evaluating the adequacy of sites to address the affordability targets established by the RHNA. Based on its population and location within Los Angeles County, Agoura Hills falls within the default density of 20 units per acre for providing sites affordable to very low and low income households.

Density Bonus: An increase in the density (number of dwelling units allowed per acre or parcel), above that normally allowed by the applicable zoning district, in exchange for the provision of a stated percentage of affordable units.

Development Fees: City imposed fees to partially cover the costs for processing and providing services and facilities; and fund capital improvements related to fire, police, parks, and libraries and correlate the increased demands on these services.

Dissimilarity Index: A measure of residential segregation is the dissimilarity index, which is a commonly used measure of community-level segregation.

Dwelling Unit: Any building or portion thereof which contains living facilities, including provisions for sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation, for not more than one family.

Emergency Shelter: An establishment operated by an Emergency Shelter Provider that provides homeless people with immediate, short-term housing for no more than six months in a 12-month period, where no person is denied occupancy because of inability to pay.

Environmental Impact Report (EIR): Required by CEQA, this document serves to inform governmental agencies and the public of a project's potential environmental impacts and provides mitigation measure if impacts are found to be significant.

Family: A group of persons who maintain a single common household, but who otherwise are not a Community Care Facility.

General Plan: A statement of policies, including text and diagrams setting forth objectives, principles, standards, and plan proposals, for the future physical development of the city or county (see Government Code Sections 65300 et seq.). California State law requires that a General Plan include elements dealing with seven subjects—circulation, conservation, housing, land use, noise, open space and safety—and specifies to various degrees the information to be incorporated in each element.

Homeless: Persons and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Includes those staying in temporary or emergency shelters or who are accommodated with friends or others with the understanding that shelter is being provided as a last resort. California Housing Element law requires all cities and counties to address the housing needs of the homeless.

Household: All persons living in a housing unit.

Householder: The head of a household.

Housing Element: One of the seven State-mandated elements of a local general plan, it assesses the existing and projected housing needs of all economic segments of the community, identifies potential sites adequate to provide the amount and kind of housing needed, and contains goals, policies, and implementation programs for the preservation, improvement, and development of housing.

Infill Development: Development of land (usually individual lots or left-over properties) within areas that are already largely developed.

Infrastructure: Public services and facilities, such as sewage-disposal systems, water-supply systems, other utility systems, and roads.

Land Use Regulation: A term encompassing the regulation of land in general and often used to mean those regulations incorporated in the General Plan, as distinct from zoning regulations (which are more specific).

Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (LVMCOG): A joint powers authority of the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu and Westlake Village. These member cities work together to address regional priorities.

Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (CDC): The CDC is comprised on two separate legal entities, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) and the CDC. The CDC administers the County's CDBG program. Agoura Hills is served by both the HACoLA and falls under the Urban County designation for the County's CDBG program.

Lot or Parcel: A portion of land shown as a unit on a recorded subdivision map or an approved minor subdivision map, parcel map or otherwise existing as of record with the Los Angeles County Office of the Assessor.

Low Income Household: A household earning less than 80 percent of the Los Angeles County median income based on information provided by HCD/HUD.

Manufactured Housing/Mobile Home: A dwelling unit built in a factory in one or more sections, transported over the highways to a permanent occupancy site, and installed on the site either with or without a permanent foundation.

Mixed-use: The combination of various uses, such as office, retail and residential, in a single building or on a single site in an integrated development project with significant functional interrelationships and a coherent physical design.

Moderate Income Household: A household earning 80% to 120% of the Los Angeles County median income based on information provided by HCD/HUD.

Multi-family Residential: Usually two or more dwelling units on a single site, which may be in the same or separate buildings.

Ordinance: A law or regulation set forth and adopted by a governmental authority, usually a city or county.

Overcrowding: Household living in a dwelling unit where there are more than 1.01 persons per room, excluding kitchens, porches and hallways. Severe overcrowding is where there are more than 1.51 persons per room.

Overpayment: Housing overpayment occurs when a household spends more than 30 percent of its income on housing costs; severe overpayment refers to spending greater than 50 percent of income on housing.

Persons with Disability: A person with a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition that impairs their mobility, ability to work, or ability for self-care.

Planning Commission: The Agoura Hills Planning Commission conducts public hearings and makes decisions on applications for discretionary projects, considers appeals of decisions by the Community Development Director, and serves as the advisory body to the Agoura Hills City Council on planning issues.

Poverty Level: As used by the U.S. Census, families and unrelated individuals are classified as being above or below the poverty level based on a poverty index that provides a range of income cutoffs or "poverty thresholds" varying by size of family, number of children, and age of householder. .

Reasonable Accommodation: The federal Fair Housing Act and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act impose an affirmative duty on local governments to make reasonable accommodations in their zoning and other land use regulations when such accommodations may be necessary to afford disabled persons an equal opportunity to use a dwelling.

Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RNHA): A quantification by SCAG and HCD of existing and projected housing need -- the City's fair share of the regional housing needs by household income group.

Rezoning: An amendment to the map and/or text of a zoning ordinance to effect a change in the nature, density, or intensity of uses allowed in a zoning district and/or on a designated parcel or land area.

Single-family Residential: A single dwelling unit on a building site.

Special Needs Population: Under Housing Element statutes, special needs populations include the elderly, persons with disabilities, female-headed households, large households, and the homeless.

Supportive Housing: Permanent affordable housing with no limit on length of stay that is linked to on- or off-site services that assist the supportive housing resident in retaining the housing, improving his or her health status, and maximizing his or her ability to live, and where possible, work in the community.

Transitional Housing: A dwelling unit or group of dwelling units for residents in immediate need of temporary housing. Transitional housing is configured as rental housing, but operated under program requirements that call for the termination of assistance and recirculation of the assisted unit to another eligible program recipient at some predetermined time, which shall be no less than six months.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): A cabinet-level department of the federal government that administers housing and community development programs.

Vacant: Lands or buildings that are not actively used for any purpose.

Very Low Income Household: A household with an annual income usually no greater than 50 percent of the area median family income, based on the latest available eligibility limits established by HCD/HUD.

Zoning Ordinance: Regulations adopted by the City which govern the use and development of land within its boundaries and implements policies of the General Plan.

Zoning District: A designated section of a city or county for which prescribed land use requirements and building and development standards are uniform.

Appendix B

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING

All Housing Elements due on or after January 1, 2021 must contain an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with the core elements of the analysis required by the federal Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Final Rule of July 16, 2015.¹ Under state law, affirmatively further fair housing means “taking meaningful actions, in addition to combatting discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on projected characteristics”.² The AFFH analysis must contain the following:

Part 1: Outreach

Part 2: Assessment of Fair Housing

- Fair Housing Enforcement and Outreach Capacity
- Integration and segregation patterns and trends
- Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty or affluence
- Disparities in access to opportunity
- Disproportionate housing needs within the jurisdiction, including displacement risk

Part 3: Sites Inventory

Part 4: Identification of Contributing Factors

Part 5: Goals and Actions

While this appendix provides a focused analysis of fair housing issues in Agoura Hills, several other sections of the housing element address the issue and are included in this appendix by reference.

¹ California Department of Housing and Community Development, *AB 686 Summary of Requirements in Housing Element Law*, April 23, 2020.

² Government Code Section 8899.50 (a)(1)

PART 1. OUTREACH

The City provides information on its website regarding fair housing resources, and directs any inquiries regarding tenant/landlord disputes to the Housing Rights Center. The City also uses social media and the City website to promote available housing assistance programs, such as the COVID-19 rental relief programs available through the County and State.

A. HOUSING ELEMENT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Detailed information about the Housing Element public participation program is provided in the Introduction to the Housing Element. As required by State law, all economic segments of the community were provided an opportunity to review and comment on the Housing Element. Highlights include:

Housing Element Website

A City website specifically for the Housing Element update was established to provide: 1) an overview of the Housing Element process; 2) FAQs; 3) allow for citizen input on potential housing sites and for providing other comments to the City; and 4) to announce future events (i.e., workshops, survey). In addition, presentations from public outreach meetings were available for viewing, and documents related to the Housing Element were linked to the website, including the results of the Senior Needs surveys. This is the webpage link:

[Housing Element Update | City of Agoura Hills, CA \(agourahillscity.org\)](https://www.agourahillscity.org/housing-element-update)

Public Input Meetings

The City conducted five public input meetings during preparation of the draft Housing Element prior to finalizing the Draft Element and submittal to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for review. At the community workshop held at the City Recreation and Event Center on August 4, 2021, staff focused on educating the public about the Housing Element update and discussing potential housing sites under consideration. Participants at the workshop, which included approximately 30, were encouraged to fill out question and comment cards, which were then responded to at the meeting.

The City received the following question at the community workshop, which provided the opportunity to explain the new AFFH requirements and City's goal through the Affordable Housing Overlay to further integrate affordable units within the fabric of the community.

Why can't the Agoura Village plan to have more very low-income units and less above moderate units?

Under the new Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) requirements of the Housing Element, jurisdictions are required to disperse affordable housing sites throughout the community, and not concentrate lower income units in any single area. Given that Agoura Hills is identified as having high levels of opportunity throughout the community, the City's most important strategy to affirmatively further fair housing is to promote mobility among under-served populations by removing barriers and enhancing access to affordable housing City-wide.

Senior Housing Needs Survey

In order to solicit input from one of Agoura Hills' most vulnerable populations – senior citizens – the City conducted a Senior Housing Needs survey. A total of 96 seniors completed the Survey. Highlights of the survey responses include:

- 55% of respondents participate in programs provided by the Community Services Department at the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center.
- Approximately half of respondents were connected to the City via various electronic newsletters (Community Connect, City Newsletter, Monday Morning). Just one-quarter of respondents received the print copy Senior Moments newsletter.
- On a scale of 1-5 (5 being highest), the need for affordable senior housing received the highest average score (3.57), followed by having senior housing near medical facilities and shopping (3.47), having senior housing near transit (3.05) and receiving assistance with housing maintenance (3.04).
- 13% of respondents would like information on how to provide an ADU on their property (which the city subsequently provided).

The survey results show that, at least among those responding to the survey, Agoura Hills' seniors are fairly well informed through City Hall. And despite the City's relative affluence, affordable housing is a concern among the City's seniors.

1. Outreach to Groups Representing Lower Income Populations

As part of the Housing Element update, the City conducted outreach to a variety of stakeholders who represent lower income and other vulnerable populations, including the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG), Calvary Community Church, Abundant Housing, The People Concern, Habitat for Humanity and The Housing Rights Center (refer to Appendix D for the list of stakeholders who received ongoing email notification of meetings and release of documents for the 6th cycle Housing Element). Input from these stakeholders was considered and incorporated into the Housing Element update. For example, input from the COGs homeless outreach coordinator indicates they visit areas of the City almost daily and provide outreach to any unhoused individuals they encounter and help direct them to services. Follow up visits are carried out by the COG coordinator to see if the individuals can access the services needed. Consultation with the Disaster Recovery Coordinator at Westlake Village Calvary Community Church indicated they are currently assisting an uninsured senior citizen in Old Agoura who lost their home in the Woolsey Fire to coordinate needed services and rebuild their home. The church works with a variety of agencies to assist the homeless and persons at-risk of homelessness, and reports that many individuals are only a paycheck away from losing their housing,

Written input received from Abundant Housing LA, a pro-housing education and advocacy organization working to help improve the Southern California housing crisis, including the following recommendations which have been addressed in the Element:

- Housing Element updates should use an HCD-recommended "safe harbor" methodology for forecasting future ADU production. These safe harbor forecasts would allow the City to count between 52 and 160 ADUs for its 6th cycle Housing Element. Given the increasing ADU production trends in Agoura Hills, including ten ADUs issued permits in 2021 and an additional 14 in process, combined with additional marketing and incentives

to come on line in 2022, the Housing Element projects ten ADUs will be produced annually, or 80 over the 2021-2029 planning period. These projections are realistic and well within the upper range of HCDs safe harbor forecast.

- Housing Elements must prioritize high-opportunity census tracts and well-resourced areas when selecting sites for lower income housing opportunities in order to affirmatively further fair housing. All of Agoura Hills' census tracts are identified as highest resource.³ Through creation of the Affordable Housing Overlay which incentivizes mixed income housing developments, the Housing Element provides geographically dispersed sites for over 280 lower income units which foster a more inclusive community.
- Housing Elements should include the HCD-recommended buffer of at least 15-30% extra capacity in the site inventory in order to avoid violating the No Net Loss requirement. Agoura Hills Housing Element sites inventory provides for a total lower income sites capacity (including ADUs) of 281 housing units, a 41% buffer above the City's RHNA for 199 units.

³ While census tract 8003.26 is identified as Moderate Resource, a large portion of this tract falls outside the City boundaries, and due to an inaccuracy in the reported education score, this tract should in fact be designated a Highest Resource tract like the balance of the City (refer to footnote to Table B-4).

PART 2. ASSESSMENT OF FAIR HOUSING

A. KEY DATA AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Los Angeles County Library website provides a community history of Agoura Hills. The area that would become Agoura Hills was familiar territory for Native Americans who would search in the area for game and other food. The Spanish began a ranch culture in the late 1700s that would last until the beginning of the 1900s. At that point, crops such as lettuce and wheat replaced ranch lands. In the mid-1950s, the provision of outside water sources allowed for the community to grow into what Agoura Hills is today⁴.

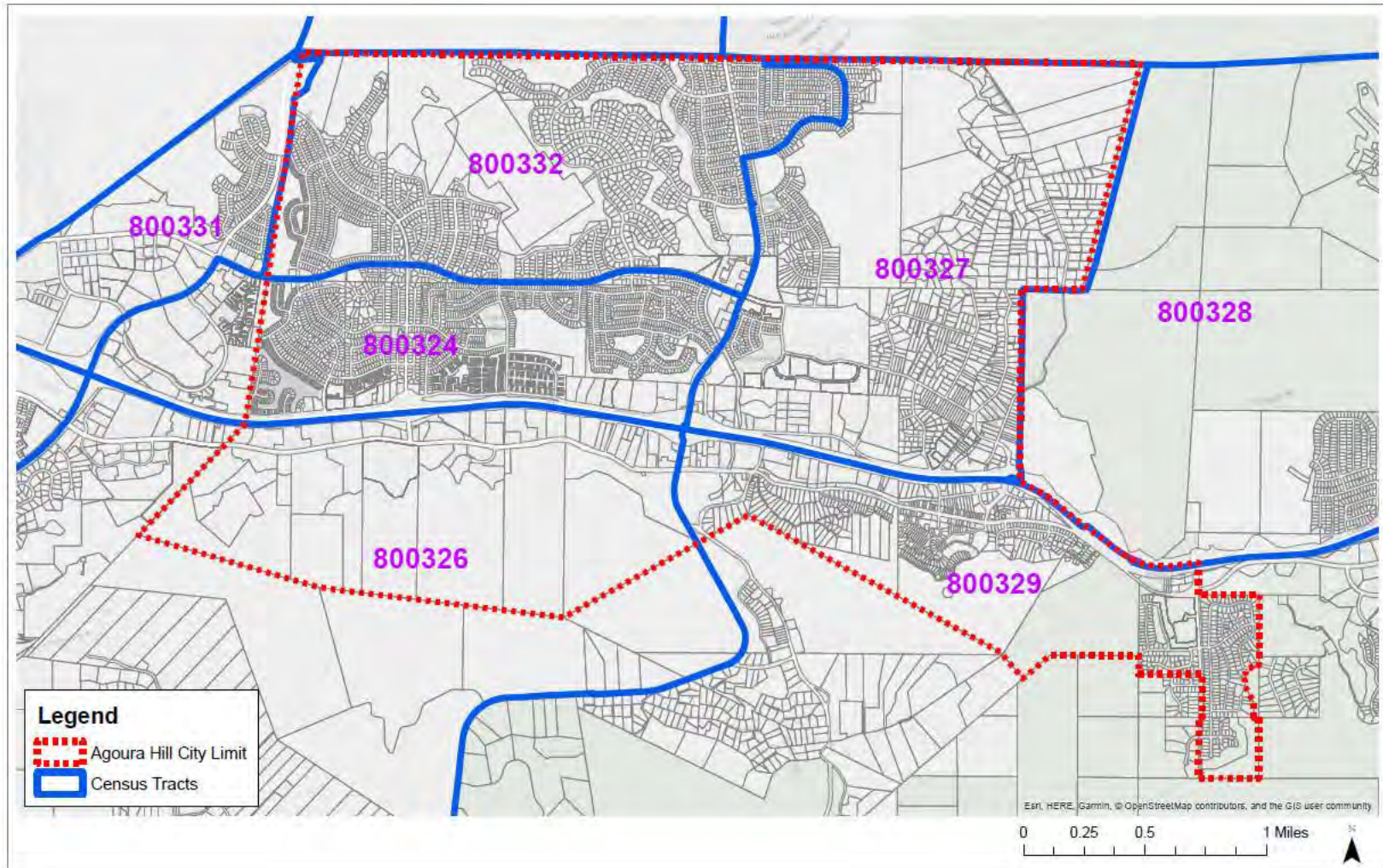
Both the Los Angeles County Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (County AI) and the Housing Element Needs Assessment examine key demographic factors for Agoura Hills and the County as a whole, summarized below. Additional regional and local analysis is provided under Part 2 of this section.

- Between 2010 and 2020, the population in Agoura Hills grew by one percent, lower than the four percent Countywide;
- Agoura Hills' senior population (65+ years) continues to grow and was 14 percent of the City's population in 2020, which was the same percentage Countywide. Agoura Hills' median age in 2020 was 44.0 years while the County's was 36.7 years;
- In 2020, three-fourths of the City's population (75%) was White, eleven percent was Hispanic, eight percent was Asian/Pacific Islander and three percent was African American. Agoura Hills is less diverse than the County as a whole.
- In 2020, Agoura Hills' population had more families with children (33%) compared to the County (27%).
- Between 2010 and 2020, the housing stock grew by less than one percent (0.7%) while the County's housing stock grew by four percent.
- Agoura Hills has a higher percentage of owner-occupied units than Los Angeles County, with a homeownership rate of 77 percent, compared to 45 percent for the County.

Agoura Hills is comprised of five census tracts, although three of these extend beyond the City's boundaries. The two tracts south of the Ventura Freeway cover large areas south of Agoura Hills that are mainly undeveloped lands in the Santa Monica Mountains. Figure B-1 shows the tract boundaries. Fair housing analysis is provided at the tract level in the subsequent sections of this AFFH analysis.

⁴ Los Angeles County Library website: <https://lacountylibrary.org/agoura-hills-local-history/>.
CITY of AGOURA HILLS

Figure B-1: Agoura Hills Census Tracts



B. FAIR HOUSING ENFORCEMENT AND OUTREACH CAPACITY

1. Los Angeles County

The City of Agoura Hills is one of 47 cities participating in the Urban County of the County of Los Angeles (CDC) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The CDC and Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) formed a joint effort to prepare, conduct and submit to HUD their certification for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, as presented in their Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), adopted March 7, 2018.

For the Los Angeles County AI, a variety of community participation tools were utilized to find out about the fair housing issues facing the county as a whole. These included regional discussion groups; three sets of four focus groups each, aimed at addressing disability and access, education, employment and transportation, and healthy neighborhoods; Resident Advisory Board Meetings; community input meetings and the 2017 Resident Fair Housing Survey. In addition, there was also a stakeholder survey and a planning and zoning survey.

The Los Angeles County Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) describes the departments and organizations that handle fair housing enforcement and outreach in Agoura Hills. These include the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), and the Housing Rights Center (HRC), which primarily operates in Los Angeles County. The HRC services includes intake of discrimination allegations, mediation, systemic rental tests, fair housing counseling and reasonable accommodation/modification requests. The Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) provides fair housing resources for residents via its website.

The County AI reports that HRC and its subcontractors met and exceeded various categories of fair housing services assistance in relation to the County's goals and strategies for FY 2015 – 2016 and FY 2014 – 2015. As compared to the annual goal of 3,700 general and fair housing services, the County fair housing contractors provided service to 3,239 direct clients, or 88 percent of their annual goal in FY15-16 and 3,490 clients, or 94 percent of the goal in FY14-15. Their services also provided 191,229 client contacts through their outreach and education efforts last year, while their services provided assistance through 49,486 client contacts in FY14-15.

A total of 269 fair housing inquiries were received in FY15-16, with 159 clients counseled, 77 cases opened, 25 cases referred to other agencies, and 8 cases pending. In FY14-15, a total of 232 inquiries were received and dispositions taken, with 125 clients counseled, 85 cases opened, 14 cases referred, and 8 cases pending.

HUD data from 2008 through 2016 for the Los Angeles County Service Area is outlined in the County AI. During that time period, a total of 2,610 complaints were received by HUD. The highest number of annual complaints was in 2008 with 456 complaints. Almost half (46%) of the complaints were made on the basis of a disability.

Of the 2,610 complaints logged, all of them were closed, dismissed or settled in a variety of ways. Over half (57%) were determined to have no cause. Of the complaints found with cause, the most common issue was failure to make reasonable accommodation.

2. Agoura Hills

As outlined in the Needs Assessment of the Housing Element, Agoura Hills has procedures in place to address potential impediments to fair housing choice to persons with disabilities and other special needs populations. The City continues to participate with the Housing Rights Center (HRC) in the provision of fair housing services.

Table B-1 below details the services provided by the HRC to Agoura Hills residents between Fiscal Years 2016 and 2020. A total of 39 households received services during the five-year period. Tenant/landlord services were provided to 36 Agoura Hills households (92%), while assistance with discrimination inquiries were provided to three households (8%). The overall demographics illustrates that the predominance of inquiries were made by extremely low-income households (62%) and persons who identify as either White (46%) or Other (46%). Approximately 10 percent of inquiries were made by persons with a disability, 10 percent were made by senior citizens and two percent were made by female-headed households.

For the landlord/tenant services, general inquiries and substandard conditions were the largest issues (25% and 14% respectively). Three-fourths (75%) of the inquiries were resolved, while other outcomes included referrals to Legal Aid (8%), referrals to Consumer Affairs (6%), Small Claim Court (6%) and others such as mediation and referrals to Project Place, the monthly rental listing service operated by HRC that can help people locate housing opportunities in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

As shown in the table, of the three discrimination inquiries, two resulted in cases being opened. One case was based on a physical disability while the other was based on a mental disability. One case was withdrawn by the client while the second case had successful conciliation.

**Table B-1: Fair Housing and Tenant/Landlord Services
in Agoura Hills: FY 2016-2020**

Overall Demographics	# of Households Assisted by Housing Rights Center	% of Total Households Assisted
Race		
White	18	46%
Other	18	46%
Black	2	5%
Asian	<u>1</u>	<u>3%</u>
Total	39	100%
Ethnicity		
Not Hispanic/Latino	30	77%
Other Hispanic/Latino	5	13%
Mexican/Chicano	<u>4</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	39	100%
Type of Caller		
In-Place Tenant	27	69%
Landlord	8	21%
Rental Home seeker	3	8%
Management Company	<u>1</u>	<u>3%</u>
Total	39	100%
Income Level		
Extremely Low	24	62%
Very Low	3	8%
Low	5	13%
Moderate	<u>7</u>	<u>18%</u>
Total	39	100%
Special Groups		
Disabled	4	40%
Senior	4	40%
Gov't Subsidized	1	10%
Female Headed HH	<u>1</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	10	100%
Tenant/Landlord Services		
Housing Issue		
General Info	9	25%
Substandard Conditions	5	14%
Notices	4	11%
Rent Increase	3	8%
Other Info	3	8%

Lease Terms	3	8%
Eviction	2	6%
Repairs	2	6%
Seeking Housing	2	6%
Section 8 Information	1	3%
Security Deposit	1	3%
Utilities	<u>1</u>	<u>3%</u>
Total	36	100%
Disposition		
Resolved	27	75%
Legal Aid	3	8%
Consumer Affairs	2	6%
Small Claims Court	2	6%
Mediation	1	3%
Project Place	<u>1</u>	<u>3%</u>
Total	36	100%
Discrimination Inquiries and Cases		
Inquiries Counseled	1	33%
Cases Opened	2	67%
Physical Disability	(1)	(50%)
Mental Disability	(1)	(50%)
Disposition of Cases Opened		
Successful Conciliation	(1)	(50%)
Client Withdrew	(1)	(50%)
Total	3	100%

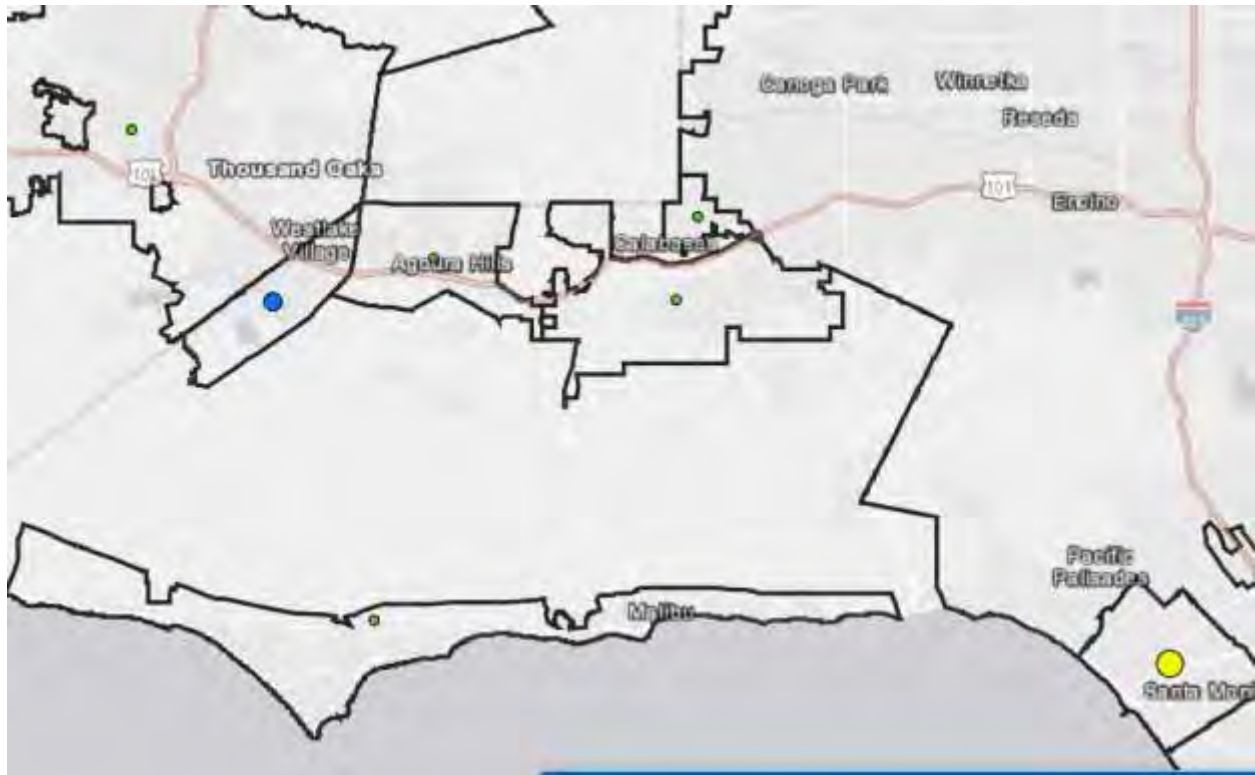
Source: Housing Rights Center, May 2021.

In addition to the HRC, a Public Records Act request was submitted to both the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to see if any fair housing cases from Agoura Hills had been submitted to their agencies between 2014 and 2020.

The search by DFEH did not find any cases for Agoura Hills. HUD's records showed one case for Agoura Hills that was during the 2013-2014 time period. The issue was discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate based on the individual's sex. The case was closed due to a no cause determination.

Figure B-2 shows the HUD data for Fair Housing Enforcement and Outreach Cases between 2013 and 2021. The figure illustrates the number of inquiries per one thousand people. Agoura Hills falls into the category of less than 0.25 inquiries per one thousand people. This is similar to the neighboring jurisdictions of Malibu, Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Thousand Oaks (in Ventura County). The City of Westlake Village has a higher rate of 0.5 inquires per 1,000 people.

**Figure B-2: Fair Housing and Outreach Inquiries
In Northwest Los Angeles County**



- City/Town Boundaries
- (R) FHEO Inquiries by City (HUD, 2013-2021)
- < .25 Inquiries
- < .5 Inquiries
- < 1 Inquiry
- Greater than 1 Inquiry

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C. INTEGRATION AND SEGREGATION

1. Race and Ethnicity

Table B-2 shows the racial and ethnic makeup of Agoura Hills from the 2014-2018 American Community Census. Figure B-3 shows the racial demographics by block group in Agoura Hills as well as northwest Los Angeles County and southeastern Ventura County. Figure B-4 shows the Diversity Index from HCD's AFFH Data Viewer.

The County AI describes the racial and ethnic make-up in its services area as follows:

- The largest areas of Hispanic populations are located in East Los Angeles, Bell Gardens, Maywood, and Florence-Firestone, in Los Angeles south of the downtown area, San Fernando, and Palmdale.
- Cities such Cerritos, Diamond Bar, and San Gabriel contain high concentrations of Asian (non-Hispanic) residents, as do Alhambra, Rosemead, and the Koreatown neighborhood west of Downtown Los Angeles.
- The communities with the largest Black (non-Hispanic) populations are Athens-Westmont View Park/Windsor Hills, Carson, and unincorporated areas to the south and southeast of Downtown Los Angeles.
- Claremont, West Hollywood, and Calabasas contain the highest clusters of White (non-Hispanic) residents.
- The highest concentrations of Mexican-born residents in the service area appear in unincorporated East Los Angeles; the city cluster of Bell, Bell Gardens, and Maywood; unincorporated Florence-Firestone; San Fernando; and in La Puente and the surrounding unincorporated areas.
- The next most-common nation of origin for residents in the Urban County is China, with the largest concentrations occurring in San Gabriel, unincorporated Northeast San Gabriel, and Arcadia. There are also smaller pockets near Diamond Bar in unincorporated Rowland Heights.

As described in the Housing Element Needs Assessment, the City experienced only minor change in ethnic composition over the last two decades, with Whites continuing to make up a large majority (75%) of the City's population. In contrast, Whites comprise just 26 percent of the population Countywide. Table B-2 illustrates the racial and ethnic makeup of Agoura Hills by census tract. Tract 8003.27 in the northeast area of Agoura Hills has the lowest percentage of White residents (69%) and highest percentage of Hispanic residents (18%) in the city. The racial makeup of Agoura Hills is similar to the neighboring communities, such as Calabasas, Malibu and Westlake Village, while the San Fernando area of the City of Los Angeles to the east is much more diverse as is the western portion of Thousand Oaks.

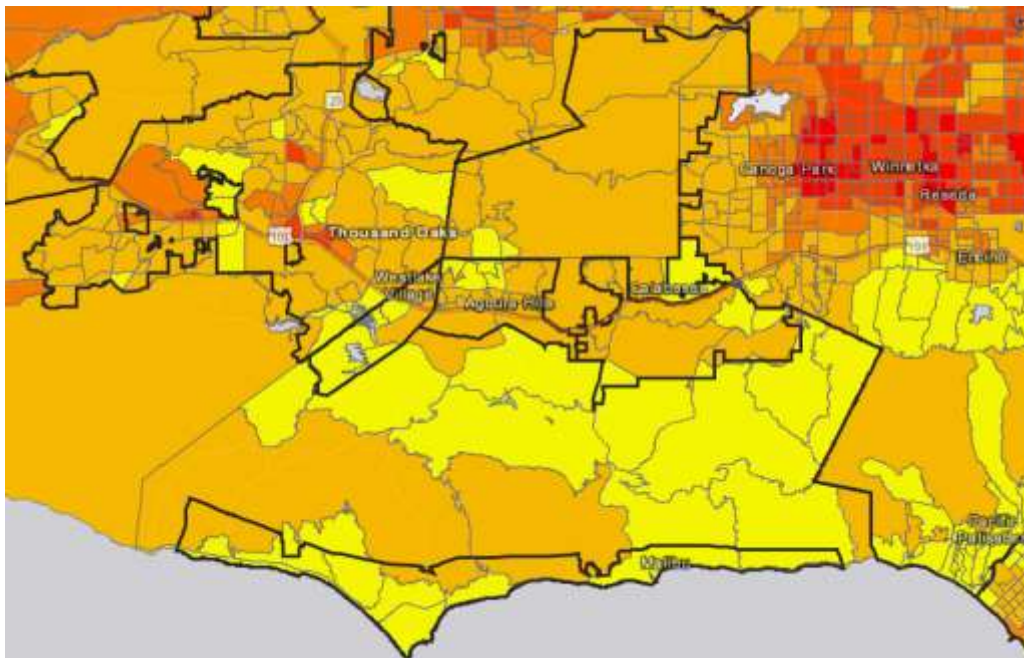
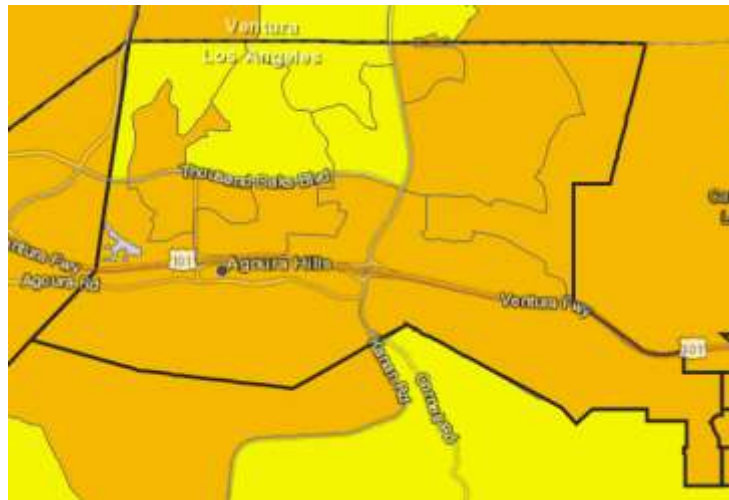
Table B-2: Agoura Hills Race/Ethnicity by Census Tract

Census Tract	Race/Ethnicity			
	% White	% Hispanic	% Asian/Pacific Islander	% Black
8003.24*	75%	9%	9%	4%
8003.26*	75%	9%	8%	5%
8003.27	69%	18%	6%	4%
8003.29*	79%	8%	9%	<1%
8003.32	80%	7%	8%	<1%
Citywide	75%	11%	8%	3%

Source: HUD AFFH Mapping and Data Tool, American Community Survey, 2014-2018

*These tracts cover areas outside of Agoura Hills city boundaries.

Figure B-3: Racial Demographics (% of Non-White Population) in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County



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City/Town Boundaries

(R) Racial Demographics (2018) - Block Group

≤ 20%

21 - 40%

41 - 60%

61 - 80%

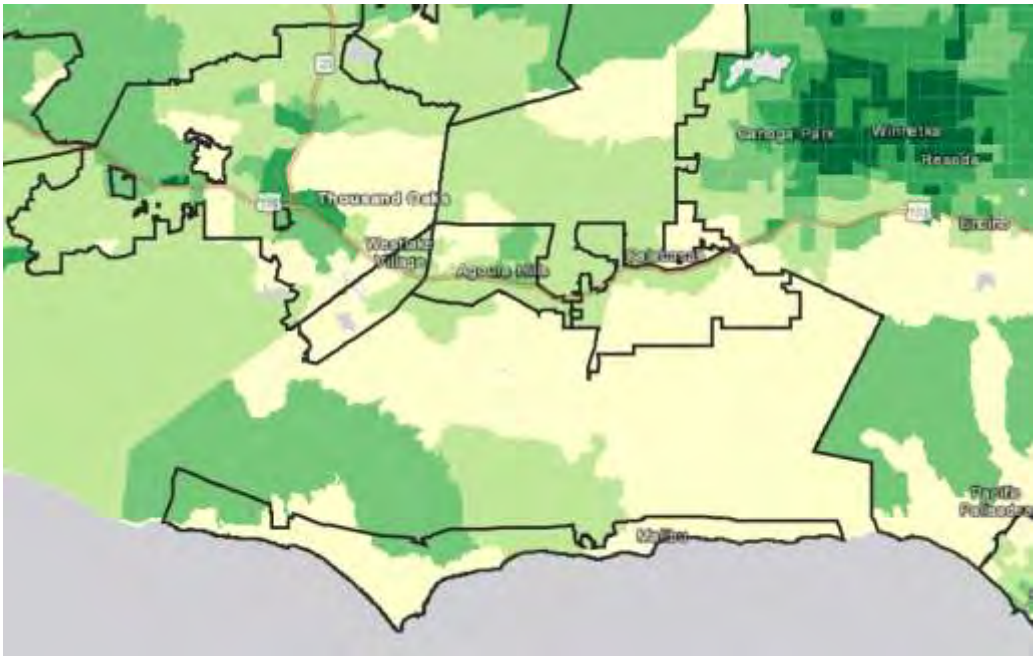
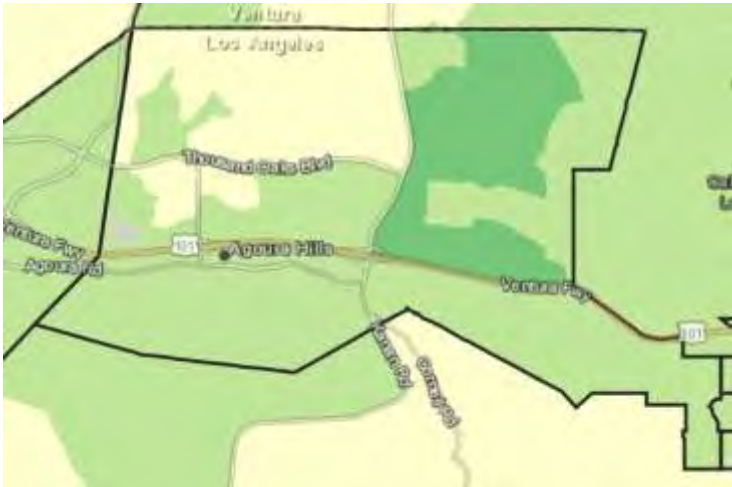
> 81%

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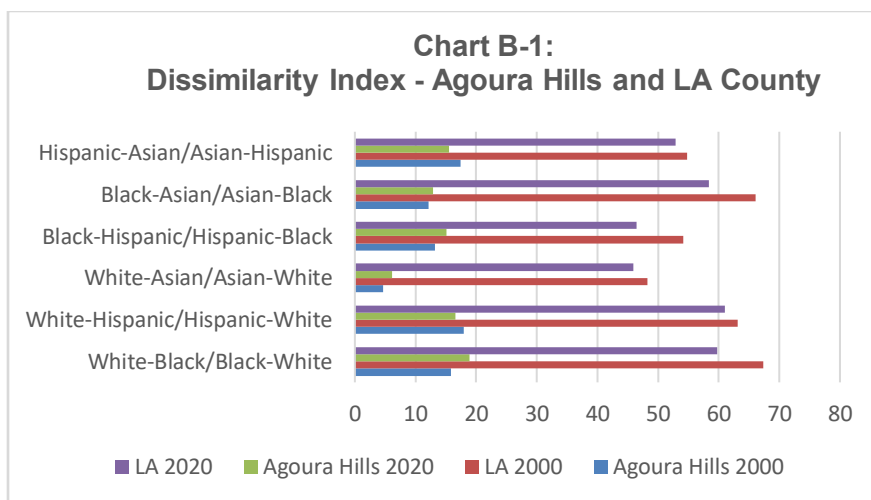
Figure B-4: Diversity Index in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County



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The dissimilarity index is a commonly used measure of community-level segregation. As defined by HUD, the dissimilarity index represents the extent to which the distribution of any two groups (frequently racial or ethnic groups) differs across census tracts. The values of the dissimilarity index range from 0 to 100, with a value of zero representing complete integration between the racial/ethnic groups and a value of 100 representing complete segregation. HUD indicates that a dissimilarity index of less than 40 is considered low segregation, 40-54 is considered moderate segregation and greater than 55 is considered high segregation.

The following chart shows the dissimilarity index between different groups for Agoura Hills and the County during 2000 and 2020. Using the thresholds described above, the dissimilarity index in Agoura Hills for all groups was considered low in 2000 and 2020. The index levels in Agoura Hills are similar to the neighboring cities of Malibu and Calabasas and are far less than the County as a whole. The County locations with the highest index values are Long Beach and Los Angeles, while Baldwin Park, Bellflower, Downey and Paramount have the lowest index values.



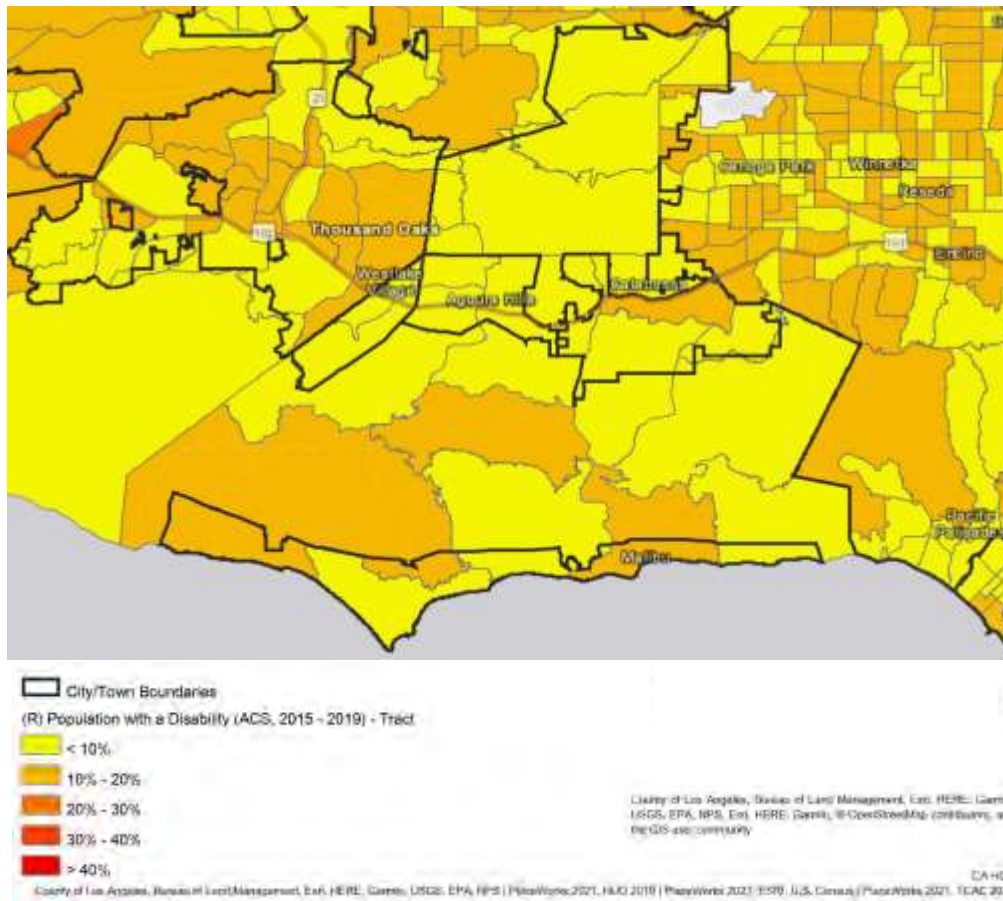
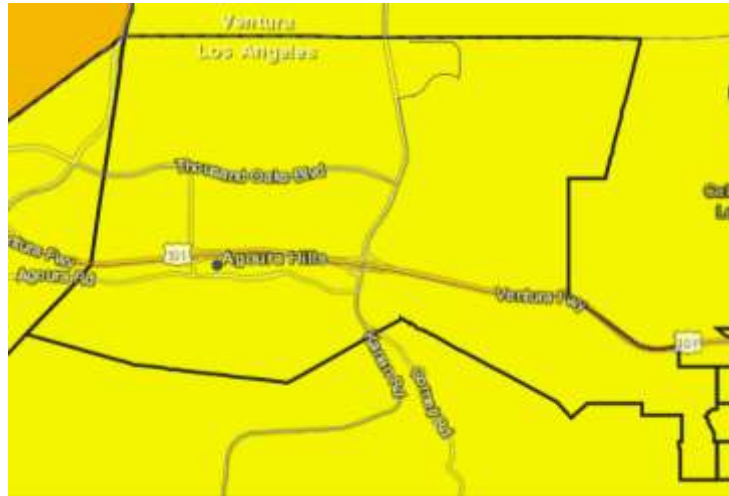
Source: Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences at Brown University

2. Persons with Disabilities

The Los Angeles County AI discusses disability and access for the LA region. There do not appear to be areas of particularly high concentrations of residents with disabilities in R/ECAPs (racially/ethnically concentrated areas of poverty – see section D), although a few areas do stand out as containing moderate concentrations within the region. For instance, the city of Glendale, El Monte, northwestern Los Angeles, and Rolling Hills/Rolling Hills Estates appear to have such a concentration of residents with disabilities aged 65 and older. Central Los Angeles County, northern Los Angeles County near Palmdale, and Santa Ana appear to have moderate concentrations of residents with disabilities aged 18-64.

Figure B-5 shows the population with a disability in Agoura Hills as well as the larger regional area. Approximately nine percent of the Agoura Hills' population has a disability. The census tracts range from 7.7 percent to 9.8 percent, with the highest percentage in tract 8003.32. Single-family homes make up the vast majority (92%) of the housing stock in this tract. The percentage of seniors in this area (19%) is higher than the City-wide average (15%), which could contribute to slightly higher levels of disability.

Figure B-5: Population with a Disability in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County



Supportive services for the disabled in Agoura Hills include a Meals-on-Wheels program that delivers meals to individuals who are temporarily or permanently disabled. In addition, Agoura Hills Dial-A-Ride provides transportation within the City limits of Agoura Hills and the Malibu Lake area. There are also trips to Westlake Village, Thousand Oaks, and Oak Park and Appointment Based Destinations to Woodland Hills for an increased fare. Agoura Hills supports the provision of housing for persons with disabilities, and has adopted provisions in its Zoning Code to enable community care facilities and supportive housing, and ensure reasonable accommodation. Housing Element programs to facilitate affordable housing - including Inclusionary Housing Zoning, Housing Trust Fund, Affordable Housing Development Assistance, and Density Bonus Incentives – can also assist residents with developmental disabilities.

The senior population continues to grow in Agoura Hills, with the percentage of seniors doubling between 2000 and 2020 and now comprising fourteen percent of the population. Senior citizens are considered to have special housing needs because of their fixed incomes, higher health care costs and physical disabilities make it more difficult to find suitable and affordable housing. Approximately 30 percent of elderly residents in Agoura Hills have some type of disability, which may limit their ability to live independently. Agoura Hills has four residential care facilities for the elderly licensed through the State of California. All but one of these facilities are in a small, group home setting, with six or fewer occupants, with one large facility – Meadowbrook at Agoura Hills - providing capacity for up to 185 seniors. A fifth facility – Oakmont of Agoura Hills – is currently under construction and will provide 75 units of assisted living and memory care. The City's Community Services Department organizes senior programs and classes offered through the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center. Several different exercise classes are offered at the Recreation Center as well as senior groups for book clubs, card games and excursions. Also, the Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center offers classes and programs.

3. Familial Status

Family makeup, including married couples (with or without children), persons over the age of 18 living alone and female-headed households can provide insight into potential segregation issues in a community. Maps of familial status derived from the HCD AFFH Data Viewer are shown in the figures which follow for both Agoura Hills and the surrounding region.

- The western portion of Agoura Hills has 60 to 80 percent of its residents living with their spouse or partner. The eastern portion of the City has a lower percentage (between 40 to 60%). These percentages are similar in the nearby jurisdictions, while portions of Thousand Oaks and the San Fernando Valley have pockets of lower percentages.
- The areas west of Kanan Road have a very high percentage of children from married couple households (>80%). The eastern portion of the city is also high with between 60 to 80 percent of children from married couple households. These percentages are seen throughout the neighboring jurisdictions. Portions of the San Fernando Valley, Santa Monica and Oxnard have fewer children from married couple households.
- Less than 20 percent of adults in Agoura Hills live alone, similar throughout much of the region. Pockets of 20 to 40 percent of adults living on their own can be found in Malibu, Thousand Oaks, the San Fernando Valley, Santa Monica and the West Los Angeles area.
- Throughout Agoura Hills, less than 20 percent of children are from female headed households. This percentage is seen throughout the region, with some areas showing between 20 to 40 percent of children from female headed households.

Figure B-6: Familial Status – Percent of Population 18 and Over Living with Spouse/Partner in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County

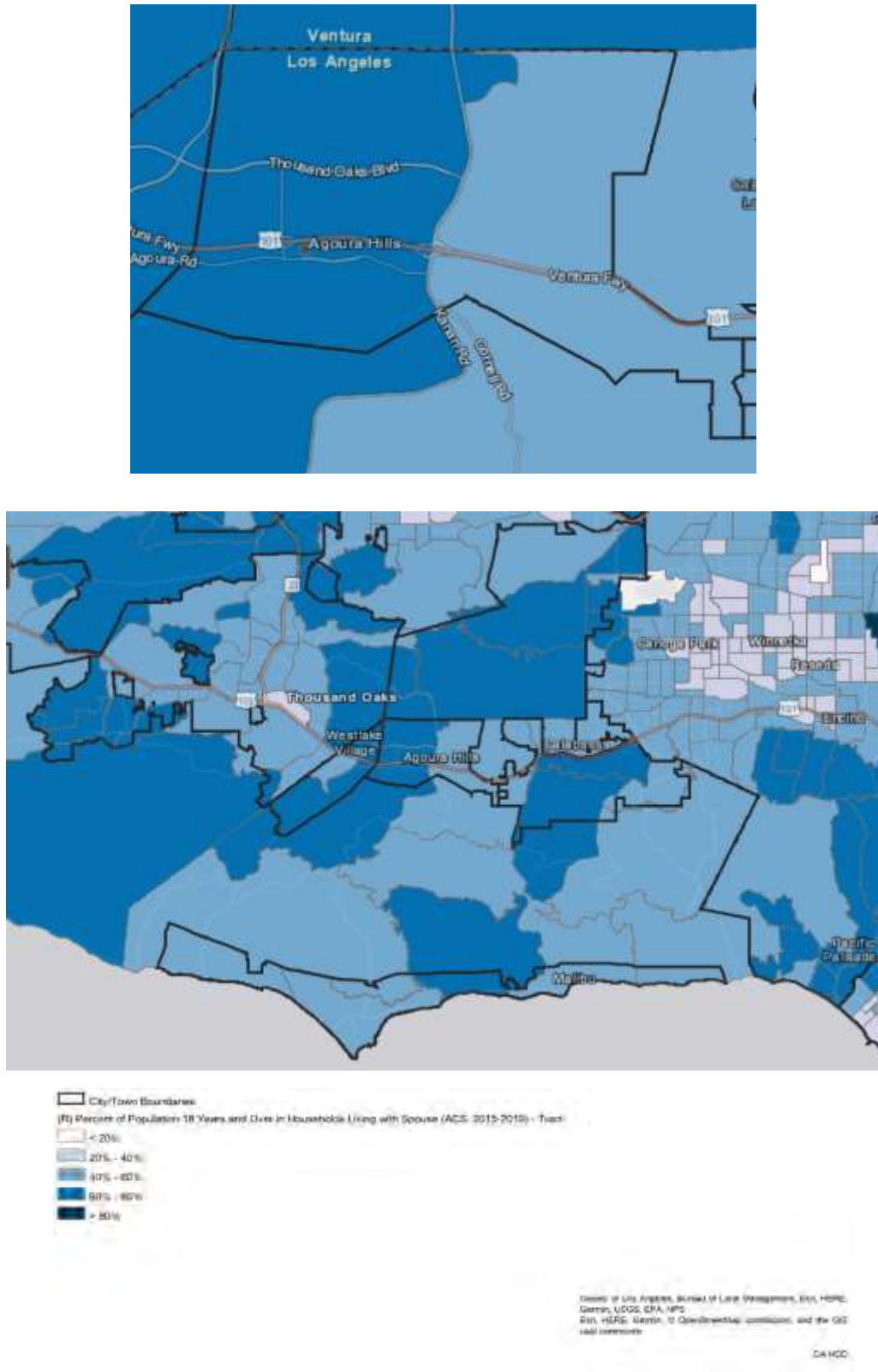
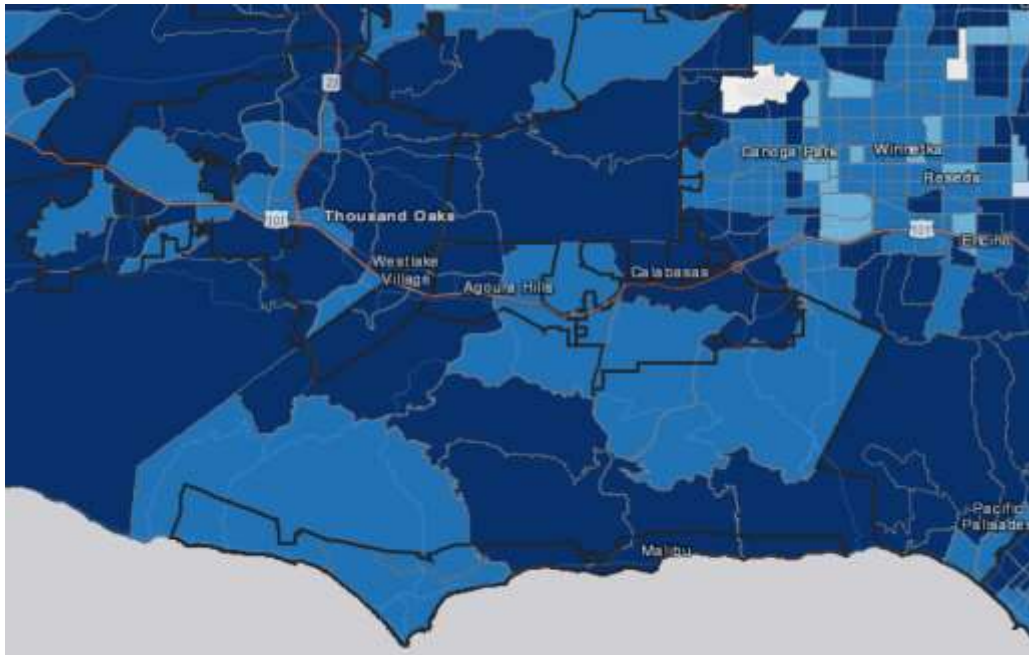
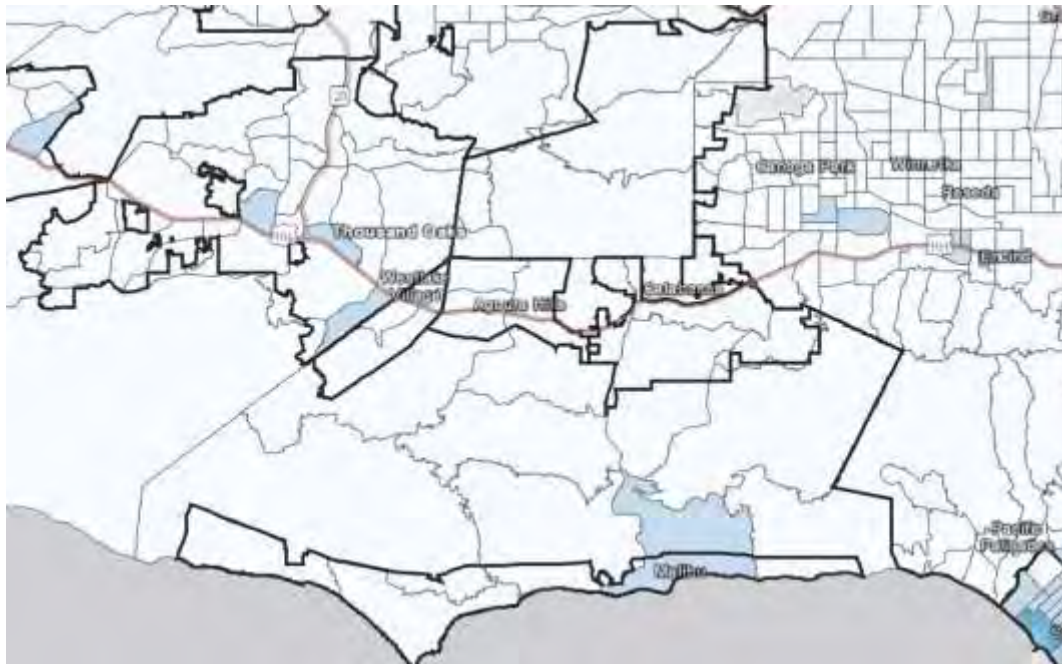


Figure B-7: Familial Status – Percent of Children in Married Couple Households in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County



City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Land Management, City, YES!E, General Agreement #, 1005 EPA, EIS, 1006, General #, 2001/02/03, 1001/02/03, 1001/02/03, and the QIC (see community).

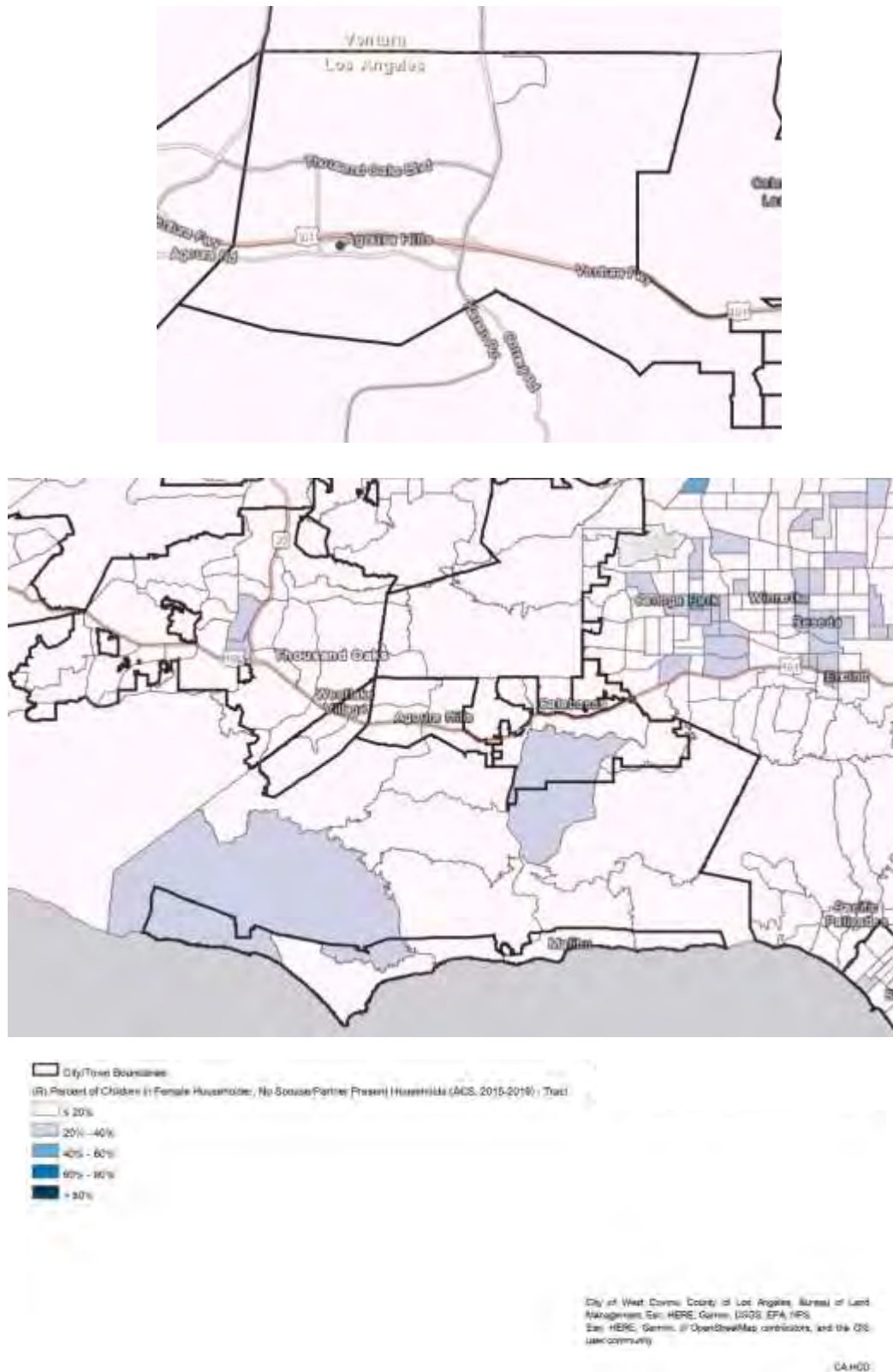
Figure B-8: Familial Status – Percent of Population 18 and Over Living Alone in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County



City of Agoura Hills, County of Los Angeles, Bureau of Land Management, Del Norte County, U.S. EPA, NPS, etc. HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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Figure B-9: Familial Status – Percent of Children in Female-Headed Households in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County



4. Income Level

Another factor that can contribute to either integration or segregation is income level. The HCD AFFH Data Viewer has information on poverty levels as well as low- and moderate-income households. Figure B-10 illustrates that, overall, Agoura Hills has less than ten percent of its population living under the poverty level (the range is from three to seven percent across the City's census tracts). Several areas in the region have higher percentages of residents below the poverty level, particularly in the San Fernando Valley.

Figure B-11 depicts the proportion of low- and moderate-income households by census block group. As shown, the greatest proportion of low and moderate households are generally located east of Kanan Road. Two census block groups (Tract 8003.27 Block Groups 1 and 3) north of the Ventura Freeway are shown as having between 50 and 75 percent low- and moderate-income households, though they do fall at the bottom end of the range with 55 and 51 percent low- and moderate-income households, respectively. Also, important to note is that the tracts south of the Ventura Freeway cover large areas outside of Agoura Hills. In the southwest portion of the City the land uses are commercial, business parks and undeveloped land which are designated in Specific Plan areas. Therefore, the income data for these tracts is most likely reflecting the surrounding communities. At the regional level, many areas have more than half of households earning low to moderate incomes.

Figure B-10: Percent of the Population Below the Poverty Level in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County

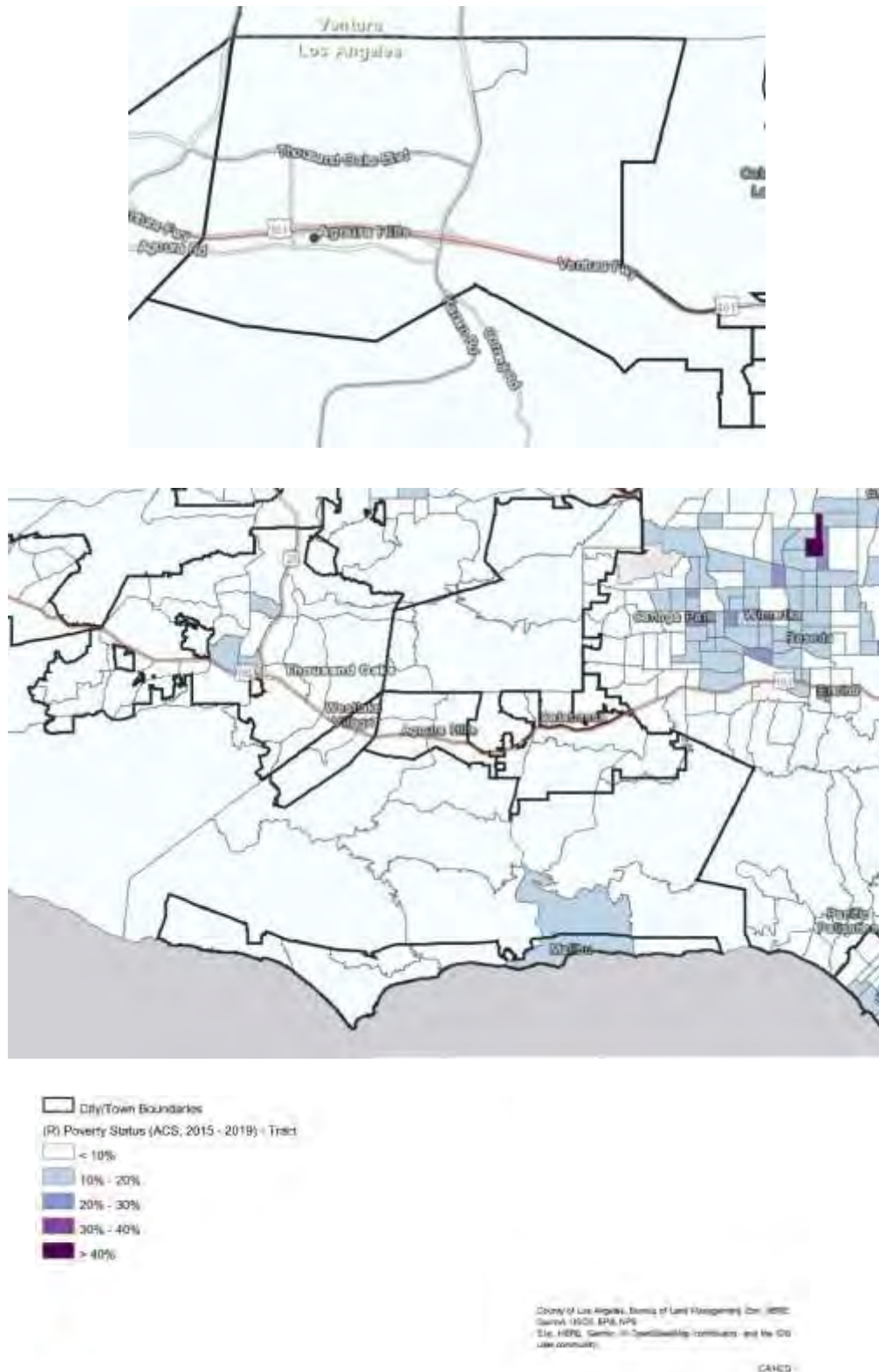
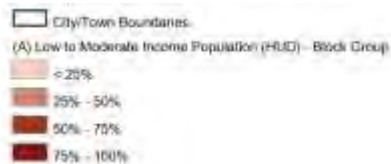
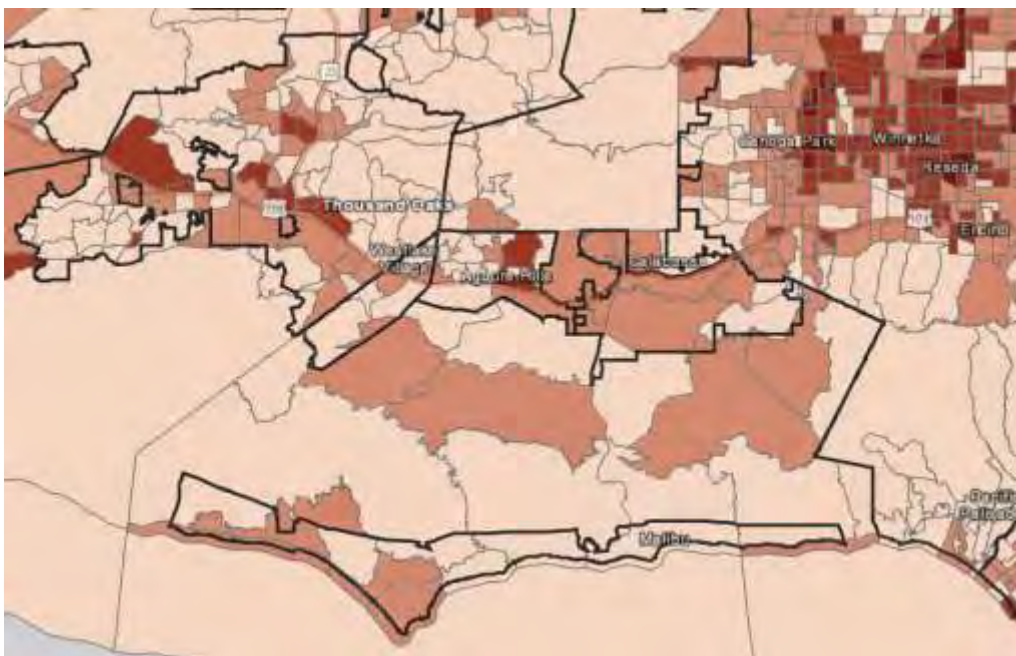
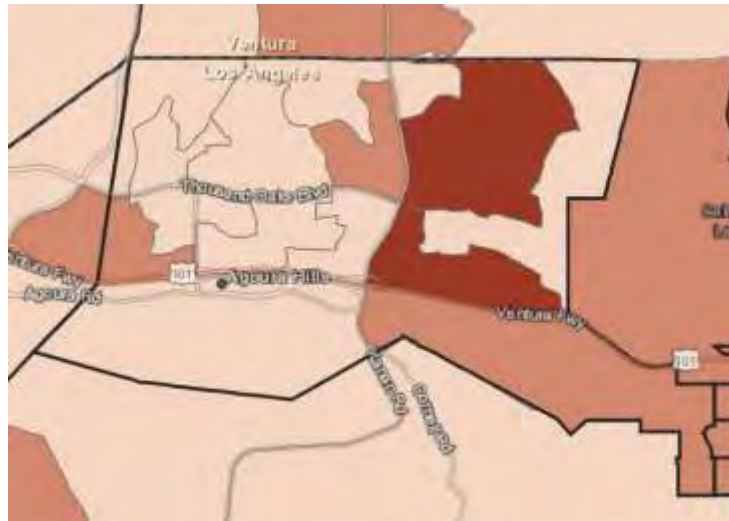


Figure B-11: Percentage of Low- and Moderate-Income Households in Agoura Hills and Northwest LA County/Southeast Ventura County



County of Los Angeles, Bureau of Land Management, Inc. (BLM),
 Census, USGS, DPA, HHS,
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D. RACIALLY OR ETHNICALLY CONCENTRATED AREAS)

1. Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAP)

The HUD database website (<https://data.world/hud/recap>) defines Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAP) as an area that has a non-white population of 50 percent or more. For the poverty threshold, Wilson (1980) defines neighborhoods of extreme poverty as “Census Tracts with 40 percent or more of individuals living at or below the poverty line” (HUD RECAP dataset website). No Agoura Hills census tracts are R/ECAP areas. Additionally, none of the County AI maps indicate Agoura Hills as having R/ECAP tracts. The County AI identifies the largest groupings of R/ECAP census tracts in downtown Los Angeles, Long Beach and a few tracts near San Fernando and the in the Lancaster/Palmdale area.

As shown in Figures B-10 and B-11 above, the poverty level across Agoura Hills is low; however, many areas of the City have at least a quarter or higher low- and moderate-income households.

2. Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Affluence (RCAA)

According to HCD’s AFFH Guidance Memo, “segregation is a continuum, with polarity between race, poverty, and affluence, which can be a direct product of the same policies and practices”. Therefore, both sides of the continuum must be examined.⁵ While HCD does not have a standard definition for RCAAs, evaluating the percentage of the population that is White combined with median household incomes can provide a good indicator for areas of affluence.

Table B-3 looks at the median household incomes of white residents in Agoura Hills as well as the County as a whole. As can be seen, the percentage of White residents in Agoura Hills is higher than the County, as is the median income. However, as shown, the median income among Whites is only two percent higher than the Agoura Hills population as a whole. This is different than the disparity between median incomes among Whites and all households Countywide, where Whites on average earn 30% more than the overall County median income. The group with the highest median income in Agoura Hills is the Asian population (\$129,234). In contrast, the Black population in Agoura Hills has a median income of \$102,563 while for the Hispanic population it is \$78,935. The area in Agoura Hills with the lowest median income (< \$87,100) is the southeast portion of the City, east of Kanan Road and south of the Ventura Freeway. Portions of Thousand Oaks and the San Fernando Valley also have areas with median incomes less than \$87,100, while most other nearby jurisdictions have high median income levels.

Table B-3: White Median Household Income and Population – Agoura Hills and Los Angeles County

	Agoura Hills	Los Angeles County
Median HH Income		
White Alone	\$124,299	\$83,847
All Households	\$121,896	\$64,251
% of White Population	75%	26%

Source: U.S. Census 2000; ACS 2014-2018

⁵California Department of Housing and Community Development, *Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: Guidance for All Public Entities and for Housing Elements*, April 2021 Update.

The following is a summary of information found throughout this AFFH that relates to the general areas of affluence in Agoura Hills and the immediate surrounding areas. The associated contributing factors to fair housing and meaningful actions to address barriers to fair housing are summarized in the latter sections of this AFFH.

While Agoura Hills lies just west of the San Fernando Valley, growth didn't begin to occur until the late 1960s after the 101 Ventura Freeway was built, dividing the community into northern and southern sections. During the late 1960s and the 1970s, expansion continued as large housing tracts and shopping areas developed. The majority of residential subdivisions were constructed in the more developable areas north of the Ventura Freeway, away from the steep slopes and County designated Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) to the south, with commercial uses being developed along the freeway corridor. In 1982, residents voted in favor of Cityhood, and Agoura Hills became the 83rd city in Los Angeles County.

Despite the majority of the housing stock being built after 1960, similar to many communities, evidence of racial covenants may still be present in Agoura Hills. While the Supreme Court ruling in 1948 banned the use of racial covenants on property deeds, this language can still exist for properties built prior to 1948 since there has not been a systematic way to remove the language. In September of 2021, the Governor signed AB 1466 into law, which requires the County recorder of each County to establish a program to redact unlawful covenants.

As described in the Housing Element Needs Assessment, the City experienced only minor change in ethnic composition over the last two decades, with Whites continuing to make up a large majority (75%) of the City's population. In contrast, Whites comprise just 26 percent of the population Countywide. The racial makeup of Agoura Hills is similar to the neighboring communities, such as Calabasas, Malibu and Westlake Village, while the San Fernando area of the City of Los Angeles to the east is much more diverse as is the western portion of Thousand Oaks (please refer to Figures B-3 and B-4).

Table B-3 shows the median income of Agoura Hills compared to the County. The median income of the City is \$121,896. Portions of Thousand Oaks and the San Fernando Valley also have areas with median incomes less than \$87,100, while most other nearby jurisdictions have high median income levels.

E. DISPARITIES IN ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY

Since 2017, the California Fair Housing Task Force has provided research, evidence-based policy recommendations and other strategic recommendations to HCD and other state agencies to further fair housing goals. Part of this research involves opportunity mapping. Areas of opportunity are places that provide resources people need to thrive, including education, quality employment, transportation and low poverty.

The most recent opportunity maps (known as the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee/State Housing and Community Development, or TCAC/HCD Maps) were adopted in December of 2020. The following indicators were used by the Fair Housing Task Force to determine the opportunity level by census tract and indicator score (0-100) for each category:

- **Economic**
 - *Poverty* – percent of population with income above 200% of federal poverty line
 - *Adult Education* – percent of adults with a bachelor’s degree or above
 - *Employment* – percent of adults ages 20-64 who are employed in the civilian labor force or in the armed forces
 - *Job Proximity* – number of jobs filled by workers with less than a BA that fall within a given radius of each census tract population
 - *Median Home Value* – value of owner-occupied units

- **Education**
 - *Math and Reading Proficiency* – percentage of 4th graders who meet or exceed math and literacy proficiency standards
 - *High School Graduation Rates* – percentage of high school cohort that graduated on time
 - *Student Poverty Rate* – percentage of students not receiving free or reduced-price lunch

- **Environmental**
 - *CalEnviroScreen 3.0 indicators* - such as Ozone, PM2.5, drinking water – the higher the index score, the greater the exposure.

Figure B-12 maps the TCAC/HCD Opportunity Levels for the City and surrounding areas, and Table B-4 provides a compilation of various resource data about Agoura Hills by census tract. As shown, all but one of Agoura Hills’ census tracts are designated “highest resource”, similar to the surrounding areas outside the City. Tract 8003.26, in the southwest portion of the City has a “moderate resource” designation. However, this designation is due to the census tract receiving an education index score of 2 (while the rest of Agoura Hills has scores in the 90s). Given that all of Agoura Hills is located in the Las Virgenes Unified School District and the schools have very high scores, it is possible that this was a miscalculation. An inquiry was made to the Othering and Belonging Institute at the University of California, Berkeley. According to its response, the education score for this tract is a compilation of three high schools, including two lower performing charter schools located in Thousand Oaks in Ventura County. It should also be noted that the HUD AFFH Data Table Number 7 (Demographics and School Proficiency) shows that the portion of tract 8003.26 in Agoura Hills (Block Group 1) has a school proficiency score of 89 out of a possible 100. As such, the education score and resulting “Moderate” Resource Opportunity score is not truly reflective of this portion of Agoura Hills.

Figure B-12: TCAC/HCD Opportunity Areas

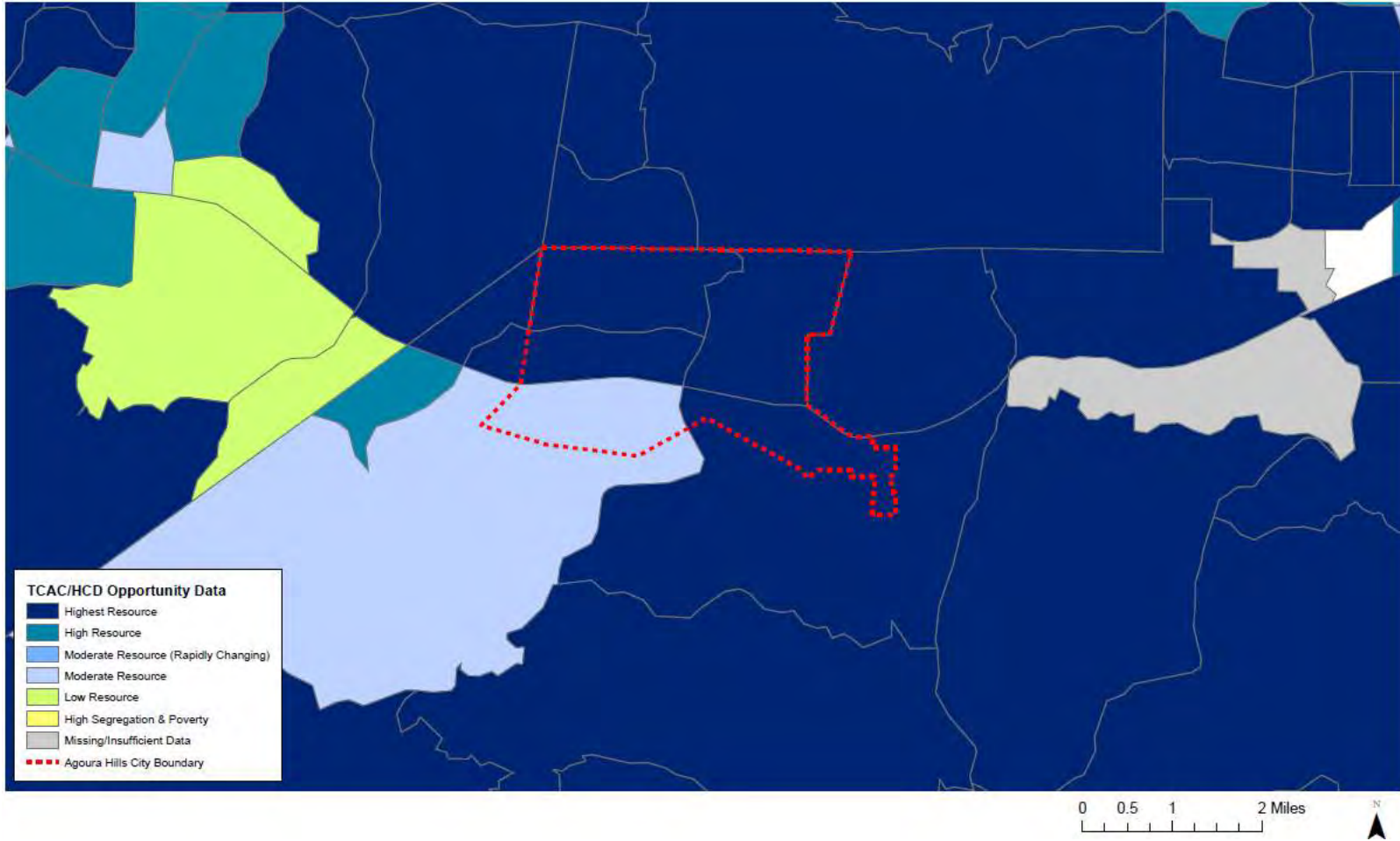


Table B-4: Resource Indicators by Census Tract

	Census Tract					Citywide
	8003.24*	8003.26*	8003.27	8003.29*	8003.32*	
TCAC Resource Level	Highest	<i>Moderate</i> ***	Highest	Highest	Highest	Moderate -Highest
TCAC Economic Index	78	77	58	70	79	58-79
TCAC Education Index	94	2***	95	93	94	2-94
TCAC Environmental Index**	87	83	82	76	95	76-95
Race/Ethnicity						
White	75%	75%	69%	79%	80%	75%
Hispanic	9%	9%	18%	8%	7%	11%
Asian/Pacific Islander	9%	8%	6%	9%	8%	8%
Black	4%	5%	4%	<1%	<1%	3%
Low Poverty Score	90	75	45	94	97	45-97
% of Population in Poverty	4%	3%	6%	7%	7%	3%-7%
% of Population that is Disabled	8.5%	9.1%	7.7%	9.2%	9.8%	9.2%
<u>% of Population 65 and over</u>	<u>16.3%</u>	<u>26.9%</u>	<u>11.5%</u>	<u>15.8%</u>	<u>18.8%</u>	<u>16%</u>
Transit Trips	71	73	69	61	69	61-73
Total #/ Type of Housing	2,468 units 97% single-family 3% multi-family	2,135 units 69% single-family 13% multi-family	2,308 units 65% single-family 35% multi-family	2,685 units 61% single-family 39% multi-family	2,268 units 98% single-family 2% multi-family	7,787 units 85% single-family 15% multi-family
Age of Housing Stock						
<30 yrs old	14%	21%	19%	28%	4%	11%
>30 yrs old	86%	79%	81%	72%	96%	89%

	Census Tract					Citywide
	8003.24*	8003.26*	8003.27	8003.29*	8003.32*	
% Owner Households	86%	81%	54%	58%	92%	77%
% Renter Households	14%	19%	46%	42%	8%	23%
% of Total Rental Units Affordable to ELI and VLI Households	0%	19%	3%	<1%	7%	0% - 19%
Overcrowding						
Owner	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	<1%
Renter	0%	3%	11%	0%	7%	7%
Severe	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Overpayment						
Owner	28%	39%	40%	49%	42%	41%
Renter	19%	22%	21%	13%	22%	22%
Severe	8%	25%	29%	49%	40%	27%
Land Uses	Single-family residential, multi-family residential, open space, commercial, commercial/mixed-use	Business park/ Manufacturing, commercial, Agoura Village SP, Ladyface Mountain SP	Single-family residential, multi-family residential, open space, business park, school, commercial, significant ecological area	Single-family residential, multi-family residential, open space, business park, Agoura Village SP, significant ecological area	Single-family residential, commercial, commercial/mixed-use, open space, school, park	Various

Source: HUD AFFH Mapping and Data Tool; California TCAC Opportunity Mapping, HCD AFFH Data Tool, Homepage, Open Street Map and CARTO/Otherings & Belonging Institute; City of Agoura Hills Zoning Map, ACS 2014-2018.,

Note: *Tracts that cover areas outside of the Agoura Hills city boundaries.

**The Environmental Index is inverse to the Economic and Education Indexes. A low number means less exposure to environmental hazards.

***A large portion of tract 8003.26 is outside of the Agoura Hills city boundaries. In addition, the census tract is located in the Las Virgenes Malibu Unified School District, which has high school proficiency scores. An inquiry was made to the Othering and Belonging Institute at the University of California, Berkeley. According to their response, the education score for this Tract is a compilation of three high schools, including two lower performing charter schools located in Thousand Oaks in Ventura County. (Samir Gambhir, Director, UC Berkeley Equity Metrics Program, Email message to Lori Parrington, October 1, 2021). It should also be noted that the HUD AFFH Data Table Number 7 (Demographics and School Proficiency) shows that the portion of tract 8003.26 in Agoura Hills (Block Group 1) has a school proficiency score of 89 out of a possible 100. As such, the education score and resulting "Moderate" Resource Opportunity score is not truly reflective of this portion of Agoura Hills, and should more accurately be designated as Highest Resource like all other areas in the City.

As shown in Table B-4, the largest measures of disparity for protected classes are as follows:

- Tract 8003.26 has the highest percentage (26.9%) of seniors aged 65 and older in the city. While this tract has the greatest number of rental units (19%) affordable to extremely low and low income residents, overpayment for both renters and owners is still an issue.
- Tract 8003.27 has the highest percentage of Hispanic residents in Agoura Hills along with one of the highest percentages of multi-family development. Two census block groups (Tract 8003.27 Block Groups 1 and 3) north of the Ventura Freeway are shown as having between 50 and 75 percent low- and moderate-income households, though they do fall at the bottom end of the range with 55 and 51 percent low- and moderate-income households, respectively. The tract also has the highest percentage of rental overcrowding in the city (11%).
- Tract 8003.32 has the highest percentage of disabled residents (10%). While the tract has the highest percentage of owner households in Agoura Hills, 96 percent of the units are over 30 years old. The limited rental opportunities in the area may explain the level of renter overcrowding (7%) and severe renter overpayment (40%).

1. Education

The County AI describes overall school proficiency in the Urban County Area in relation to race and ethnicity. White and Asian residents generally enjoyed greater access to proficient schools, particularly in Santa Monica and Glendora. Conversely, Hispanic and Black residents living in Palmdale, Inglewood, and Montebello lived among schools with the lowest levels of proficiency found anywhere in the service area. The range of values for the opportunity index in the service area was 56.3 value points (that is, the difference between the maximum value and the minimum value among the entitlements), indicating a moderate degree of variation among the race/ethnic groups. The largest concentration of low scores occurs near Downtown Los Angeles.

As shown on the Resource Indicators Table B-4, all the census tracts except one in Agoura Hills have school proficiency levels designated as high, with the index in the mid-90s. Tract 8003.26 in the southwest corner of the City has an education value of 2. As explained above, given that all of Agoura Hills is located in the Las Virgenes Unified School District with very high scores, and the HUD AFFH Data (Demographics and School Proficiency) shows that the portion of tract 8003.26 in Agoura Hills has a school proficiency score of 89, this low education score is not an accurate reflection of school quality in the area. An inquiry to the Program Director at UC Berkeley responsible for this data indicated that the education score for this tract is a compilation of three high schools, including two lower performing charter schools outside the school district in Thousand Oaks, which resulted in dragging down the education value.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Local Profile of Agoura Hills shows that the K-12 public school enrollment in the City decreased by 418 students, or about eight percent, between 2000 and 2018. In 2018, approximately 4,800 students were enrolled in Agoura Hills public schools.⁶

⁶ Southern California Association of Governments, 2019 Profile of the City of Agoura Hills, May 2019.

Agoura Hills is served by the Las Virgenes Unified School District (LVUSD). The District also encompasses Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Westlake Village. According to the California Department of Education's School District Dashboard website (www.caschooldashboard.org), the District had 10,886 students enrolled in 2020. The racial/ethnic make-up is: 72 percent White, 12 percent Hispanic, 6 percent Asian/Pacific Islander, 5 percent two or more races and 2 percent African American. Approximately 12 percent of students come from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, 5 percent are English learners and 11 percent are students with disabilities. Schools in the District exceed both the English Language Arts and Math State standards and the graduation rate is 93.9 percent.

2. Economic

The County AI shows the scores for the Urban County Area by race/ethnicity. For job proximity, the scores were similar for Whites, Black, and Asian/Pacific Islander while the score for Hispanics was slightly lower. However, for the labor market engagement, the index values were significantly higher for Whites and Asian/Pacific Islanders compared to African Americans and Hispanics. In Agoura Hills, the TCAC Economic index scores range from 58 to 79. The lowest index score (58) is for tract 8003.27. This tract, located in the northeastern portion of Agoura Hills, is located entirely in the City. A variety of retail and restaurants are north of the Ventura Freeway. It should also be noted that this tract has more exposure to poverty than other areas of the city, has one of the highest percentages of multi-family housing (35%) and has the highest Hispanic population in Agoura Hills (18%).

As described in the Needs Assessment of this Element, the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) Demographics and Growth Forecast estimates there was a total of 13,600 jobs in Agoura Hills in 2016, and projects a 13 percent increase in Agoura Hills' employment by 2045, with 15,300 jobs⁷. SCAG's Local Profile for Agoura Hills lists jobs by various sectors in the City. As of 2017, professional and management was the largest employment sector at 32 percent, followed by education (15.6%), leisure (11.7%), and retail (11.2%). While the percentage of jobs in the professional, retail and construction sectors increased between 2007 and 2017, the manufacturing sector saw a decrease. Almost one-third of Agoura Hills's employment is in lower paying retail, hospitality, construction and service-related industries, with wages generally below the level necessary to afford live in the city. The Census documents that ninety-five percent of the 9,736 persons employed within Agoura Hills commute in from outside the City limits, indicative of the shortage of local affordable housing opportunities for the community's workforce.⁸

Two factors in measuring the Economic Opportunity Score are job proximity and labor market engagement. In Los Angeles County, higher job proximity scores are found along the major transportation corridors (including the 405, 10, 5, and 710 Freeways). In Agoura Hills, the job proximity scores range from 64 to 97, with the highest scores being located west of Kanan Road on either side of the Ventura Freeway.

In terms of labor market engagement, the HUD AFFH data tool shows Agoura Hills having relatively high labor market index scores ranging from 71 to 86. Tract 8003.27 has the lowest score (71) which, as mentioned earlier, has the highest percentage of Hispanic residents in the city. In terms of the County overall, the HUD data tool shows that higher labor market engagement is found in the northwest (including Agoura Hills), the San Gabriel Valley and along the coast.

⁷ Southern California Association of Governments. Connect SoCal Demographics and Growth Forecast Technical Report. Adopted on May 7, 2020.

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau - 2017 OnTheMap Application. <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>

Lower engagement scores are found in the San Fernando Valley as well as the central/interior portions of the County including Downtown LA, Huntington Park, Compton and Carson.

3. Transportation

The HUD AFFH Data Tool shows transit trends for LA County. The majority of the County shows high transit trip scores, with the northwest area (bordering Ventura Co) and areas such as Santa Clarita and Palmdale in the far north of the County having lower scores overall. Table B-4 shows the transit trip index for Agoura Hills, which ranges from 61 to 73 out of 100 by census tract.

The City is served by a Los Angeles County Metro route (Line 161), which provides 13 stops throughout the City along Agoura Road, Roadside Drive, Kanan Road and Thousand Oaks Boulevard. Metro buses run from 6 am to 8 pm every 30 minutes on weekdays, and every 60 minutes on weekends. The Metro Line 161 connects Agoura Hills with Westlake Village to the west, and Calabasas, Woodland Hills and Canoga Park to the east, with transfers available to locations throughout greater Los Angeles. Fares are \$1.75 one-way with 2 hours of free transfers, \$3.50 for a one-day pass, or \$12.50 for a seven-day pass. Agoura Hills has three primary locations of multi-family housing which presumably have higher proportions of lower income households and protected classes than the community's single-family neighborhoods. Each of these locations is served by a nearby Metro bus stop: Town and County, and Avalon Oakcreek by bus stops on Kanan Road, and the older condominiums along Colodny Drive via a pedestrian freeway overpass to a stop at Roadside Drive/Lewis Road.



In addition to Metro bus lines, the LA Department of Transportation operates a Commuter Express that provides service between Thousand Oaks, Agoura Hills, Hollywood and Downtown Los Angeles. The Express bus has a stop at Kanan Road/Thousand Oaks Boulevard in the City, and runs approximately every 20-30 minutes westbound on weekday mornings from 6 to 9 am, with similar headways eastbound from 2:30 to 6:30 pm.

The City funds a Dial-A-Ride program, serving primarily senior citizens, which transports passengers between any two points within Agoura Hills and the Malibou Lake area on weekdays for \$1.50 per one-way trip. Trips to appointment-based destinations in Woodland Hills and Westlake Village/Thousand Oaks/Oak Park areas are available for \$3.00 per one-way trip. Annual City funding ranges between \$100,000 - \$200,000, with pre-COVID ridership averaging between 8,000 – 9,000 trips annually for Agoura Hills' residents. During the summer, there is a beach bus for residents to go to and from Zuma Beach in Malibu.

In summary, lower income and protected groups in Agoura Hills have access to various reasonably priced transportation options to provide access to employment, shopping and other activities of daily living.

4. Environmental

The County AI outlines the Environmental Health Index, or potential exposure to harmful toxins at a neighborhood level. In general, those areas with the greatest exposure are located in most of the central, southern and eastern portions of the County. When looking at race and ethnicity, Whites have less exposure than other groups, while Hispanics generally have the highest exposure.

The index is based on CalEnviroScreen 3.0 indicators - such as Ozone, PM2.5, and drinking water contamination. Agoura Hills' census tracts have environmental indices ranging from 76 to 95, with the higher scoring tracts likely a reflection of noise and air pollution from the 101 Freeway. ~~The Natural Resources and Community Services Element has been updated to include policies addressing air quality and housing sites near the Ventura Freeway.~~

Senate Bill 1000 (2016) amended the State Government Code §65302 to require that a city that has disadvantaged communities (defined in Govt. Code §65302) incorporate environmental justice policies into its General Plan to address unique or compounded health risks in such communities by decreasing pollution exposure, increasing community assets, and improving overall health. The City does not contain designated disadvantaged communities, so environmental justice can be addressed in various policies of the Land Use, Safety, and Circulation Element updates, and a stand-alone Environmental Justice Element is not required. The Natural Resources and Community Services Element has been updated to include policies addressing air quality and housing sites near the Ventura Freeway. These policies include:

- Policy NR-7.5: Minimize Pollution to Residential Uses. Minimize pollution exposure of residential uses near the freeway and along major arterials, such as Kanan Road, Agoura Road west of Kanan Road, and Thousand Oaks Boulevard.
- Policy NR-7.6: Design That Promotes Ventilation Along Roadway Corridors. New multi-family housing projects in areas of high levels of localized air pollution shall be designed in consideration of the following components to assist in pollutant dispersion:
 - High efficiency filtration systems to achieve good indoor air quality
 - Buildings of varying heights, shapes, articulation and other design features to break up massing
 - Site design with open spaces between buildings to encourage air flow (e.g., outdoor landscaped or recreation spaces)
 - Vegetation, including trees and shrubs, selected and arranged for their ability to alter pollutant transport and dispersion
 - Consider the use of decoratively treated solid barriers and walls in conjunction with screening landscaping, where appropriate along freeway proximate properties, to increase the vertical dispersion of pollutants.

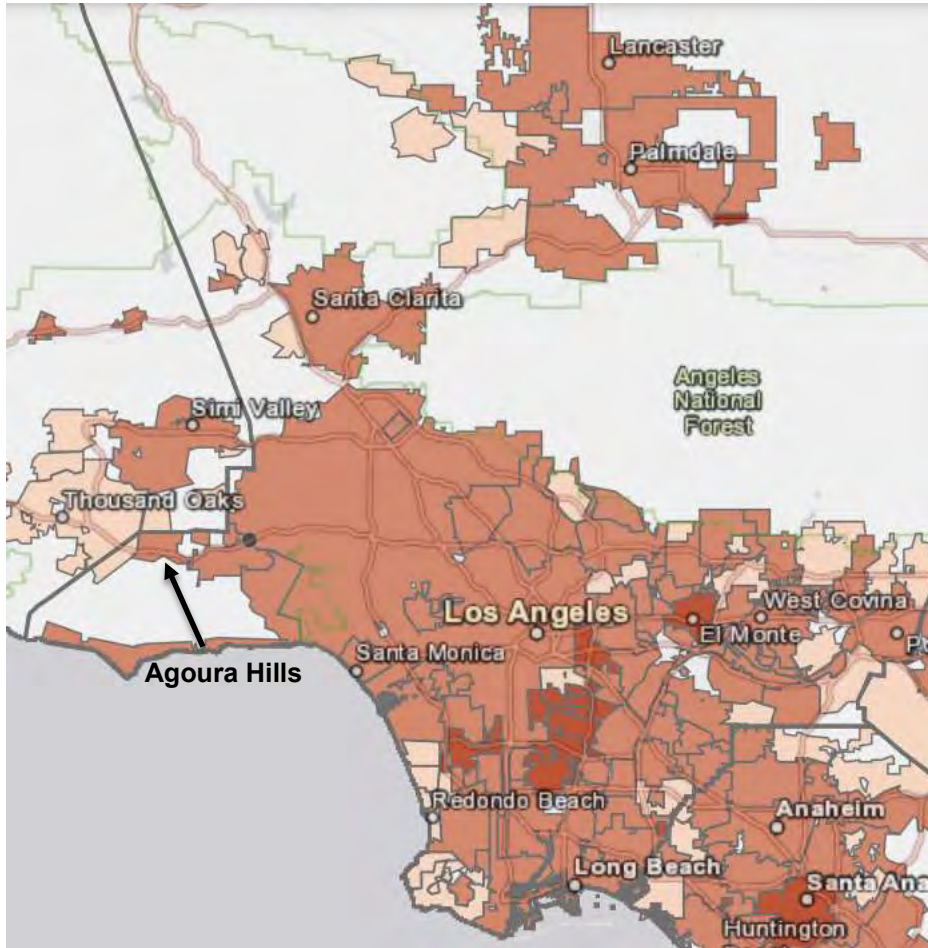
Agoura Hills' Safety Element is being updated concurrently with this Housing Element. Technical amendments will be made to the Safety Element to achieve compliance with state, regional, and local policies and guidelines. The technical amendments will address flooding, geologic hazards, and wildlife hazards, as well as address vulnerability to climate change, and incorporate policies and programs from the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

F. DISPROPORTIONATE HOUSING NEEDS AND DISPLACEMENT RISK

As described in the LA County AI, HUD identifies four discrete housing problems: lack of complete kitchen facilities, lack of complete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room and monthly housing costs (including utilities) exceeding 30 percent of monthly income. For the Los Angeles County Service Area, the following areas experience the greatest percentage of households with one or more housing problems: in and around Downtown Los Angeles (where the greatest concentration of R/ECAPs in the region are located); in the City of Long Beach; in southeast Los

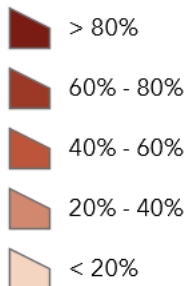
Angeles County, near Pomona; the area around San Fernando north of Los Angeles; and in north LA County near Lancaster and Palmdale. Figure B-13 is from HCD's AFFH Data Viewer tool and shows the percent of households with one or more severe housing problems in LA County. Severe housing problems include lack of complete kitchen facilities, lack of complete plumbing facilities, more than 1.51 occupants per room and cost burden greater than 50 percent. As can be seen, a vast majority of the County has 20 to 40 percent of households experiencing at least one severe housing problem, with areas such as Hawthorne, Southgate and Compton experiencing higher percentages of severe housing problems. For Agoura Hills, 20 percent of households have at least one severe housing problem.

Figure B-13: Percent of All Households With Any of the Four Severe Housing Problems In Los Angeles County



County Boundaries

Percent of all households with any of the 4 severe housing problems



Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, EPA, NPS

CA HCD

1. Housing Vacancy

As described in the Needs Assessment, the vacancy rate measures the overall housing availability in a community and is often a good indicator of how efficiently for-sale and rental housing units are meeting the current demand for housing. A vacancy rate of two percent for ownership housing is generally considered healthy while a vacancy rate of five percent for rental housing suggests that there is a balance between the supply and demand of housing. According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, the residential vacancy rate in Agoura Hills was 0.5 percent for ownership units, indicating a high pent-up demand for ownership housing in the City. Meanwhile, the rental vacancy rate was shown at 4.8 percent, indicating sufficient supply to meet rental demands.

2. Cost Burden/Housing Overpayment

Overpayment remains a critical issue for low and moderate-income households, who are disproportionately affected by this burden compared to other households. The 2014-18 American Community Survey data compiled by SCAG identifies 22 percent (366 households) of renters in Agoura Hills as spending between 30 and 50 percent of their total income on housing, with an additional 27 percent (445 households) spending more than half their income on housing. This level of severe overpayment has declined since 2010, when it measured at 34 percent for Agoura Hills' renters. Among owner households in Agoura Hills, 41 percent (1,884 households) were facing overpayment. Overpayment for both renters and owners is slightly lower than the County as a whole.

Among lower income renter households, overpayment is most pronounced. All renter households earning less than \$50,000 in Agoura Hills face severe overpayment and approximately 87 percent of households earning between \$50,000 and \$75,000 face either overpayment or severe overpayment.

3. Overcrowding

The State defines an overcrowded housing unit as one occupied by more than 1.01 persons per room (excluding kitchens, porches, and hallways). A unit with more than 1.51 occupants per room is considered severely overcrowded. The incidence of overcrowded housing is a general measure of whether there is an available supply of adequately sized housing units.

Owner overcrowding in Agoura Hills is very low at zero percent for overcrowding and 0.4 percent for severe overcrowding. This is lower than the County's percentages, which are four percent and two percent, respectively.

Regarding renter overcrowding, seven percent of the City's households face overcrowding; however, no households experience severe overcrowding. These percentages are lower than the County's percentages (9% for overcrowding and 7% for severe overcrowding).

It should be noted that two census tracts in Agoura Hills do experience higher renter overcrowding than the rest of the City: For tract 8003.27, 11 percent of households faced overcrowding while seven percent of households in Tract 8003.32 experienced renter overcrowding.

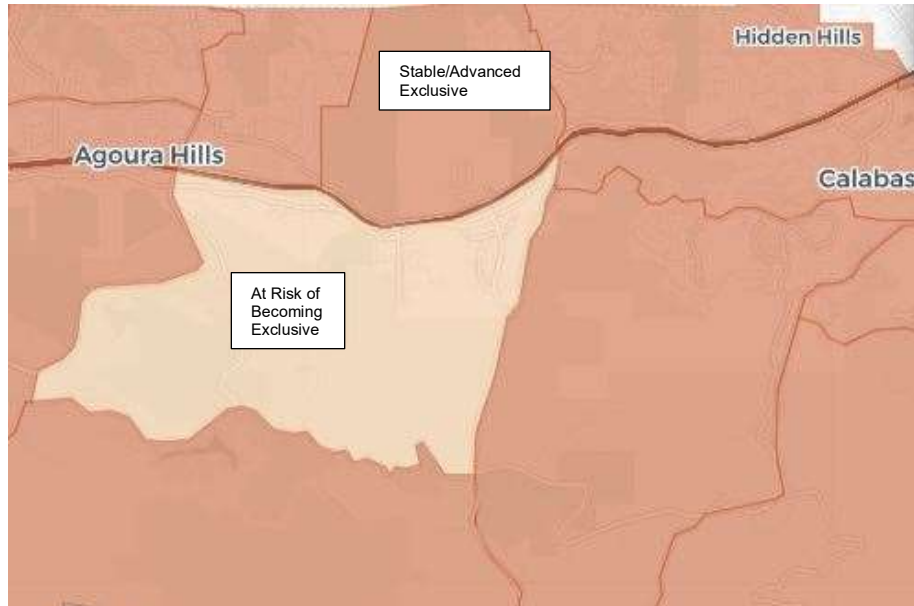
4. Displacement Risk

Agoura Hills does not currently have any rent restricted housing in its jurisdiction. While the regulatory agreement associated with the tax-exempt bond issue on Archstone Agoura Hills previously required the property owner to maintain 20 percent of the units for occupancy by low-income tenants, the income restrictions on this project have long since expired. Future projects provided through the City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance and new Affordable Housing Overlay will carry minimum 55-year affordability covenants.

The Urban Displacement Project shows the census tracts throughout the County by level of displacement risk⁹. As shown on Figure B-14, the majority of Agoura Hills is considered stable/advanced exclusive meaning that housing is affordable to high or mixed high-income households only. census tract 8003.29 is considered "at risk of becoming exclusive", with housing affordable to middle, high, mixed moderate and mixed high-income households (2018). Median rents in Agoura Hills exceed levels affordable to low- and moderate-income households.

⁹ Urban Displacement Project, <https://www.urbandisplacement.org/los-angeles/los-angeles-gentrification-and-displacement>, March 2021.

Figure B-14: Displacement Risk



MODIFIED TYPES	CRITERIA
LOW-INCOME/SUSCEPTIBLE TO DISPLACEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low or mixed low-income tract in 2018
DISORGANIC CENTER OF DISPLACEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low or mixed low-income tract in 2018 Absolute loss of low-income households, 2000-2018
DISORGANIC CENTER OF DISPLACEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-income or mixed low-income tract in 2018 Housing affordable to low or mixed low-income households in 2018 Didn't gentrify 1990-2000 OR 2000-2018 Marginal change in housing costs OR Zillow home or rental value increases in the 90th percentile between 2012-2018 Local and nearby increases in rent were greater than the regional median between 2012-2018 OR the 2018 rent gap is greater than the regional median rent gap
EARLY/MID-LEVEL GENTRIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-income or mixed low-income tract in 2018 Housing affordable to moderate or mixed moderate-income households in 2018 Increase or rapid increase in housing costs OR above regional median change in Zillow home or rental values between 2012-2018 Gentrified in 1990-2000 or 2000-2018
ADVANCED GENTRIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate, mixed moderate, mixed high, or high-income tract in 2018 Housing affordable to middle, high, mixed moderate, and mixed high-income households in 2018 Marginal change, increase, or rapid increase in housing costs Gentrified in 1990-2000 or 2000-2018

STABLE MODERATE/MIXED INCOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate, mixed moderate, mixed high, or high-income tract in 2018
STABLE MODERATE/MIXED INCOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate, mixed moderate, mixed high, or high-income tract in 2018 Housing affordable to middle, high, mixed moderate, and mixed high-income households in 2018 Marginal change or increase in housing costs
STABLE MODERATE/MIXED INCOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate, mixed moderate, mixed high, or high-income tract in 2018 Housing affordable to middle, high, mixed moderate, and mixed high-income households in 2018 Rapid increase in housing costs Absolute loss of low-income households, 2000-2018 Declining low-income in-migration rate, 2012-2018 Median income higher in 2018 than in 2000
STABLE/ADVANCED EXCLUSIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-income tract in 2000 and 2018 Affordable to high or mixed high-income households in 2018 Marginal change, increase, or rapid increase in housing costs

Source: The Urban Displacement Project, UC Berkeley, <https://www.urbandisplacement.org>.

5. Substandard Housing

The vast majority of housing in Agoura Hills is in good condition. However, as shown in Table B-4, almost ninety percent of the housing stock is more than 30 years old. Homes in the City's older neighborhoods are now approaching the age at which more significant improvements become necessary, such as new plumbing or roofing. The aging of such a large portion of the Agoura Hills' housing stock indicates a need for code enforcement, property maintenance and housing rehabilitation programs. Agoura Hills implements a complaint-based code enforcement program and maintains a full-time code enforcement officer. Code violations typically relate to aesthetic issues, outdoor storage, overcrowding and development within setback areas; few structural issues are present. The City's Building and Safety Department are effective in addressing housing and property maintenance issues

The 2014-2018 American Community Survey estimates the number of housing units without kitchen facilities and/or complete plumbing, another indicator of the condition of the housing stock. Within Agoura Hills, the ACS identifies 90 occupied dwelling units as lacking kitchen facilities. These units represent 1.2 percent of the City's households. No occupied housing units were identified by the ACS as lacking complete plumbing. These percentages are lower than the County, where the substandard conditions affect approximately two percent of the housing stock (1.5 percent lack complete kitchen facilities and 0.4 percent lack complete plumbing facilities).

6. Homelessness

Homelessness is a major issue in Los Angeles County. The County AI states that homelessness increased by 23 percent between 2016 and 2017 to 57,794 persons (pg. 476).

Due to the relative inaccessibility and distance from urban centers, Agoura Hills does not attract many transitional homeless individuals or families, and the 2020 Los Angeles Point in Time Count identified two homeless persons in the City (Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority). In November 2020, according to City staff the number of homeless persons witnessed in the City was five. Most of these individuals are located around the city's two shopping centers.

In order to assist the homeless population, the City has a team that includes the Agoura Hills Deputy City Manager, the City's Public Safety Liaison Officer and the Homeless Coordinator from the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG). This team works together to provide outreach and help homeless persons access services and the COG homeless coordinator visits areas of the city daily. The City has a log to keep track of cases and provide follow up if needed. Agoura Hills residents can use the community mobile app SeeClickFix to notify City staff of the presence of homeless individuals.

A variety of services are available through Los Angeles County, including the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). LAHSA has created the Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal (LA-HOP), which is designed to assist people experiencing homelessness in LA County with outreach services. Los Angeles Family Housing, located in North Hollywood, provides services including: outreach, housing placement assistance and a variety of supportive services.

One of Los Angeles County’s largest social services agencies, The People Concern, provides a fully integrated system of care – including mental and medical health care, substance abuse services, and permanent supportive housing – tailored to the unique needs of homeless individuals, survivors of domestic violence, challenged youth, and others who have nowhere else to turn.

Other service providers in the Conejo Valley include Lutheran Social Services and Harbor House. Calvary Community Church in Westlake Village works with a variety of agencies to assist the homeless and persons at-risk of homelessness in the Conejo Valley, and has an active Disaster Recovery and Relief Committee involved in helping individuals impacted by the Woolsey Fire to access housing and services. The City’s website has information and links to a variety of homeless assistance resources, including LA Family Housing, Village Family Service (for youth aged 14-24), LA-HOP and The People Concern. The City’s website also includes a virtual brochure about homelessness that was created by the member cities of the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments.

7. Local Knowledge

Neighborhood Development and Housing

Historical Patterns of Development

While Agoura Hills lies just west of the San Fernando Valley, growth didn’t begin to occur until the late 1960s after the 101 Ventura Freeway was built, dividing the community into northern and southern sections. During the late 1960s and the 1970s, expansion continued as large housing tracts and shopping areas developed. The majority of residential subdivisions were constructed in the more developable areas north of the Ventura Freeway, away from the steep slopes and County designated Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) to the south, with commercial uses being developed along the freeway corridor. In 1982, residents voted in favor of Cityhood, and Agoura Hills became the 83rd city in Los Angeles County. The community is characterized by rolling hills and a blend of semi-rural and suburban development. The City functions as a residential suburb to Los Angeles, and is located approximately 35 miles west of downtown LA.

Agoura Hills’ housing stock is comprised primarily of single-family residential (85%), with multi-family making up the remaining 15 percent of housing units. As described in the Housing Resources section of this Element, Agoura Hills contains approximately 2,000 acres of undeveloped land, including large acreages of unspoiled hillsides. However, the vast majority of this land is restricted open space, subject to a variety of environmental and infrastructure constraints that preclude housing development, including steep slopes and significant ecological areas (SEAs). Approximately two-thirds of the land area of the City is within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity zone (VHFHSZ) identified by CAL FIRE. The entire portion of the City south of U.S. Highway 101 is in the VHFHSZ.

As a maturing community, remaining sites for residential infill in Agoura Hills are limited. The following areas have been designated as future development sites with the city:

- The City’s 2035 General Plan established a new Planned Development district (Subarea 5), informally known as the “North Agoura Road Planning Area,” where mixed use development is desired. The General Plan defines this area as a future Mixed Use Center, “providing for a mix of commercial and residential uses and

development densities to provide economic value.” The General Plan provides for an estimated 72 units¹⁰ within the North Agoura Road Planning Area (Subarea 5), subject to preparation of a specific regulatory planning document to address the feasibility of housing in this location and to establish specific development standards;

- In June 2006, after a multi-year public participation and planning process, City Council adopted the Agoura Village Specific Plan, providing significant additional capacity for residential development in an area previously designated for commercial use. A cornerstone of the Plan is achieving diversity and character through a mixed-use village environment, including both a horizontal and vertical mix of residential, commercial, office and entertainment uses. Residential development is limited to different types of attached multi-family development, such as apartment and condominiums. a maximum number of dwelling units is defined by the Specific Plan for each specific plan zone. These dwelling unit caps were developed based on an evaluation of the most likely areas for residential development within each zone.
- More than one-third of the land in Agoura Hills is designated open space. Due to the topography and environmental constraints in and around Agoura Hills, development is focused in clusters and main corridors. The Ventura Freeway serves as a focus for the commercial and business uses in the City. The Hillside Management and Grading ordinances help to protect both the surrounding natural areas as well as the community.

Historical Patterns Due to Racial Covenants

Despite the majority of the housing stock being built after 1960, similar to many communities, evidence of racial covenants may still be present in Agoura Hills. While the Supreme Court ruling in 1948 banned the use of racial covenants on property deeds, this language can still exist for properties built prior to 1948 since there has not been a systematic way to remove the language. In September of 2021, the Governor signed AB 1466 into law, which requires the County recorder of each County to establish a program to redact unlawful covenants.

Infrastructure and Accessibility Improvements

Every year the City completes a Concrete Rehabilitation Project and a Pavement Rehabilitation Project. Both projects may include ADA ramp improvements within City right-of-way (sidewalks).

Additionally, Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) usually include ADA improvements. For example, in the last and current fiscal years, the City has worked on the following CIP:

- Palo Comado Interchange (ADA accessibility included)
- Roadside Bridge Widening (ADA accessibility included)

Other CIP Projects completed recently and currently under construction include:

¹⁰ The EIR for the Agoura Hills General Plan estimates development of 72 units within the west of Kanan/north of Agoura Planned Development District.

- Forest Cove Park Rehabilitation and Maintenance Project (CDBG funded – Completed FY 2020/21)
- Sumac Park Restroom Rehabilitation Project (currently under construction)
- Recreation & Event Center Outdoor Accessibility Project (CDBG funded – currently out to bid for construction)

Future CIP which will include ADA improvements include the Park Restrooms located at the Kanan/Agoura Intersection.

By continuing to provide ADA improvements, the City is improving public access for persons with disabilities, families with young children, and the City's growing senior citizen population.

Zoning Provisions and Project Processing

The following lists recent Zoning Code amendments that the City has undertaken to update standards related to affordable housing:

- In 2014, Ordinance 14-409 was adopted by the Agoura Hills City Council establishing a Mixed Use Overlay District. This overlay is applied to specific parcels designated Planned Office and Manufacturing that are located between Highway 101 and Agoura Road, west of Kanan Road. The purpose of the overlay is to provide a limited number of multi-family dwellings allowed conditionally to support the other land uses as part of a mixed use project. The allowable density is between 15 and 25 dwelling units per acre.
- Section 9133 of the Municipal Code outlines the City's inclusionary housing requirements and was updated in 2018. These requirements apply to all new residential development with 10 or more units.
- Section 9674 of Agoura Hills' Municipal Code sets forth the City's density bonus incentives consistent with Government Code Sections 65915 through 65918.
- In 2020 the City adopted an urgency ordinance to comply with changes in State law (Section 9283 of the Municipal Code) for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), and adopted a permanent ordinance in August 2021.
- In January 2012, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 11-393, the Reasonable Accommodation Ordinance, consistent with federal and state laws regarding providing reasonable accommodation to persons with disabilities.
- The City has conducted a review of zoning and building code requirements, and has not identified any barriers to the provision of accessible housing. Agoura Hills accommodates most accessibility modifications through issuance of a simple remodel permit. Required accessible features (e.g., guardrail, ramp) are permitted to intrude into the standard setbacks required under zoning to allow first floor access for physically disabled residents. More significant accessibility modifications, such as a ramp with several switchbacks visible from the public sidewalk, may require a general site plan for Planning and Community Development Department staff to review the project's aesthetics.

- The City's Zoning Ordinance specifies that the Planning Commission can reduce parking requirements for senior housing by up to 25 percent based on the proximity of shopping and transit, and the proportion of covered spaces by 50 percent to the extent senior housing is provided for lower and moderate-income households. The Planning Commission also maintains the discretion to reduce parking requirements for projects with unusual circumstances that warrant a reduction in the City's standard parking requirements.

Currently, the Agoura Hills Municipal Code contains objective standards, but also subjective standards and guidelines that need to be identified and revised. The City is using a portion of the awarded SB 2 grant funds to develop a streamlined review process for projects that meet certain affordability requirements (Per SB 35). The modifications and changes of the Agoura Hills Municipal Code will help refine design standards, revise subjective standards, and clarify the SB 35 application process for applicants, all of which would contribute to housing production.

Agoura Hills was recently awarded grant funds as part of the State's Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) Grant Program. A portion of these funds is being used to update the General Plan for consistency with the updated Housing Element.

PART 3. SITES INVENTORY

1. Proposed Sites

Figure B-15 shows the sites inventory for this RHNA cycle, and the distribution of sites in Agoura Hills. As described in the Housing Element (Section V.B), Agoura Hills' sites inventory consists of the following components:

- Rezoning and Affordable Housing Overlay (including for sites located in the Agoura Village Specific Plan)
- Accessory Dwelling Units

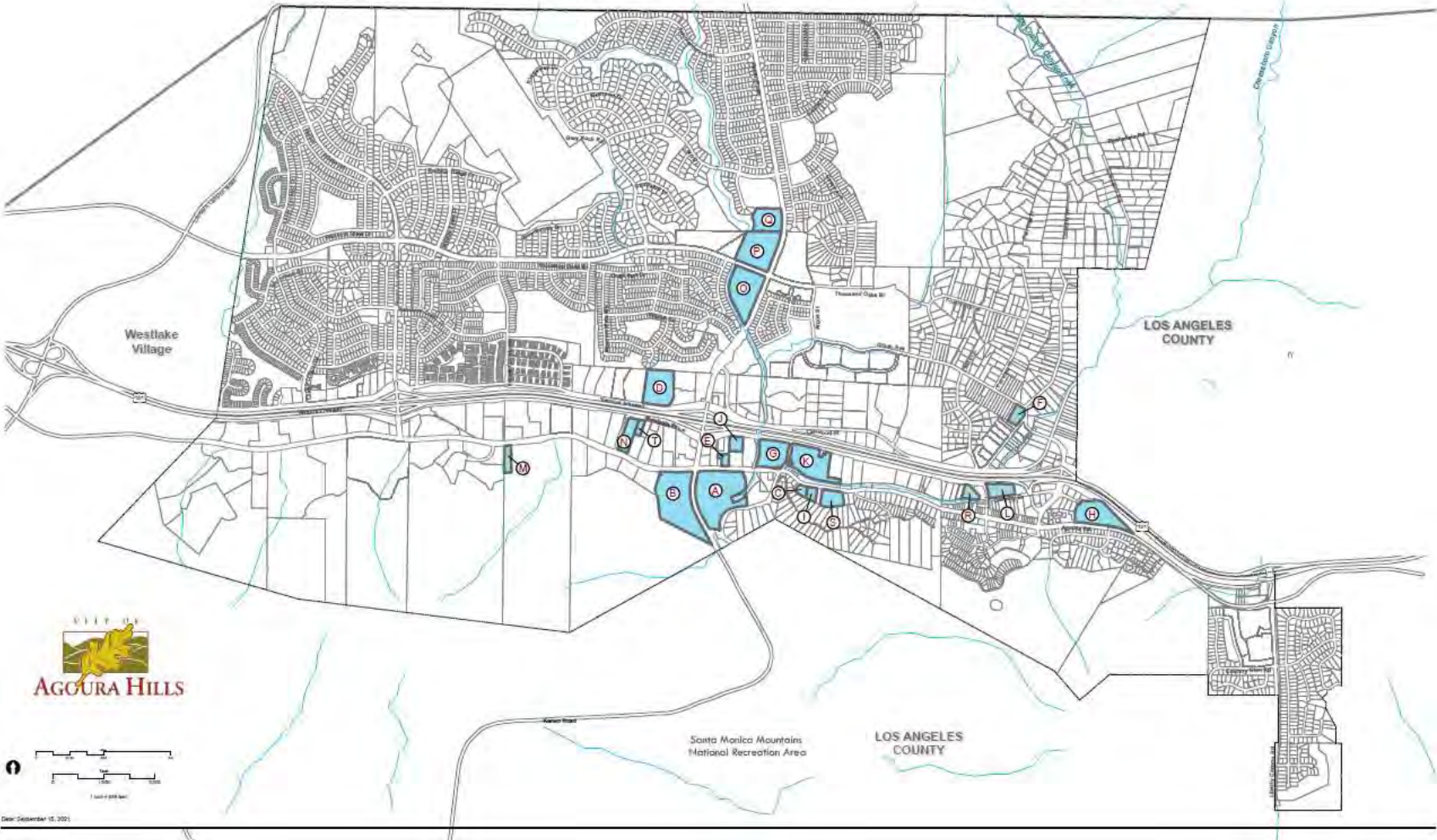
A brief description of each of these components is provided below. Table B-5 compares Agoura Hills' RHNA for new units with the City's aggregate residential sites inventory. As shown, Agoura Hills has provided more than adequate sites to fulfill its regional housing needs by income category.

Table B-5: Comparison of Sites Inventory with Regional Housing Growth Need (RHNA)

Income Group	Minimum Density Guidelines	Affordable Housing Overlay Opportunity Sites	Accessory Dwelling Units	Total Unit Potential	RHNA
Very Low	20 du/acre	140	14	154	127
Low		140	34	174	72
Moderate	20 du/acre	0	5	5	55
Above Moderate	15 du/acre	1,111	27	1,138	64
Total		1,391	80	1,471	318

Note: While the sites inventory shows a shortfall of sites to address the City's moderate income RHNA, the additional site capacity for lower income units may be applied towards moderate income.

Figure B-15: Agoura Hills Sites Inventory



Rezoning of Opportunity Sites

As shown on Figure B-15, the sites inventory includes twenty sites throughout Agoura Hills, in contrast to the current 5th cycle Housing Element where all sites were located within the Agoura Village Specific Plan. Implementation of the Housing Element will result in rezoning these twenty sites so that housing, or in the case of sites already residentially zoned, increased housing density can be achieved. The seven sites located within the Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP Planned Development Zone) would continue to have a base density of 20 dwelling units per acre (Sites A, B, C, E, G, J and K), and would allow commercial use in addition to the residential density. The three shopping center sites (Sites O, P, Q) would maintain the current CS-MU (Commercial Shopping Center Mixed Use) zoning, but would increase the permitted density to 15 units per acre and allow both horizontal and vertical mixed use. The remaining ten sites would be rezoned Residential Medium Density (RM, 6-15 dwelling units per acre).

Affordable Housing Overlay Zone

In order to increase the production of affordable housing beyond what is allowed under the base zoning, the City intends to apply an Affordable Housing Overlay zone (Overlay) to all 20 sites identified on the sites inventory. The density permitted as part of the Overlay will be a minimum of 20 dwelling units per acre and a maximum of 25 dwelling units per acre, with projects eligible for additional densities and incentives/concessions under state density bonus law. A developer would need to provide at least 20 percent of the total units for very low- and low-income households (10% each for very low and low) and affordable units must be built on-site. Applicants opting to build under the Overlay would be eligible for by right processing, in contrast to discretionary review procedures required for development under the base zoning district.

Three separate sets of Overlay design and development standards will be created: one for the sites within the AVSP, one for the three shopping center sites, and one for sites to be redesignated Residential Medium Density. The standards would reflect the special characteristics of that part of the City.

Accessory Dwelling Units

Since 2018, Agoura Hills has issued building permits for 17 ADUs, with 8 permits issued during the first nine months of 2021 alone. The City recognizes the benefit ADUs can offer in providing modestly priced housing within existing neighborhoods for family members, elderly, in-home health care providers, persons with disabilities and others. In addition, homeowners who add an ADU can benefit from added rental income and an increased sense of security. As a cost-effective alternative for producing housing units, the City hopes ADUs will contribute to the overall housing inventory. Agoura Hills is using a portion of its State SB 2 Planning Grant funds to develop a user-friendly guide to answer frequently asked questions about building ADUs. The guide will include prototypes and a submittal checklist for homeowners to aid in the ADU development process. The City will also be working with a firm to establish a local ADU calculator to estimate construction costs and rents that it will add to its ADU webpage to assist homeowners in evaluating the financial implications of developing an ADU.

2. Analysis of Sites and AFFH Data

The following is a comparison of the proposed site locations with the data in this appendix. The sites inventory aims to distribute multi-family development throughout Agoura Hills, thereby increasing housing opportunities for various income levels.

Improved Conditions:

- The spacial analysis showed that mixed-income sites are located throughout the City and are not concentrated in one area. Also, the southeast portion of the City (east of Kanan Rd and south of the Ventura Freeway) has the lowest median income (\$87,100). The sites inventory includes several locations in this area, providing opportunities for a mix of market rate and affordable housing.
- Census tract 8003.29 is considered “at risk of becoming exclusive”, with housing affordable to middle, high, mixed moderate and mixed high-income households (2018). The four sites located in this area are all designated with the Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO), and their development under the AHO would provide housing options for existing modest income residents to stay in the area.

Segregation and Integration:

- The sites inventory offers a variety of affordable housing opportunities throughout the high resource areas in the community where development is not constrained by topographic or other environmental constraints.
- Four of the sites are located in the central-north portion of Agoura Hills, which currently has the lowest percentage of multi-family housing in the city. These sites total approximately 13 net acres.

Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Influence:

- Accessory dwelling units provide opportunities to integrate affordable units in areas of the city that have development constraints due to topography, wildfire zones and other environmental constraints.
- As described earlier in this appendix, while the overall median income in Agoura Hills is higher than the County, the median income among whites is only two percent higher than the Agoura Hills population as a whole. The group with the highest median income in Agoura Hills is the Asian population (\$129,234). In contrast, the Black population in Agoura Hills has a median income of \$102,563 while the Hispanic population has a median income of \$78,935.
- The southeast portion of the City (east of Kanan Rd and south of the Ventura Freeway) has the lowest median income (\$87,100). The sites inventory includes several locations in this area, providing opportunities for a mix of market rate and affordable housing.

Access to Opportunity:

- The Affordable Housing Overlay provides an opportunity for development without the requirement for a General Plan amendment or zone change, thereby removing governmental constraints. It incentivizes very-low and low-income housing development.
- The residential/commercial mixed-use opportunity sites will provide economic opportunities for Agoura Hills residents with new businesses locating in the city.

Disproportionate Housing Needs and Displacement Risk:

- Several of the sites are located in census tracts considered “at risk of becoming exclusive”, meaning new development could cause gentrification (see Figure B-14). Projects that integrate affordable housing, developed either through the Affordable Housing Overlay or under the City’s Inclusionary Housing requirements, will provide opportunities for existing residents to stay in the area.
- Sites are distributed among census tracts with less than 25% low/moderate income households, and between 25-50% low/moderate income households. Just one site is located in the census tract identified as having between 50-75% low/moderate income households (see Figure B-11).

Figure B-25 at the beginning of this section depicts the location of Housing Element sites throughout the City. Table B-6 further evaluates the geographic distribution of these sites by projected income category and socio-economic characteristics of each census tract. Sites are grouped into four geographies: northwest, southwest, southcentral and east. As shown, sites identified to meet the lower income RHNA are distributed across Moderate¹¹ and Highest resource neighborhoods, increasing the potential for mixed income communities and a variety of housing types to meet Agoura Hills’ housing needs. Sites are located in census tracts ranging from 17 to 28 percent minority (non-White) population, and 3.4 to 7.1 percent poverty. By comparison, the minority population countywide is 74 percent, and population in poverty is 14.9 percent. Given Agoura Hills’ high opportunity levels throughout the community, the City’s most important strategies to affirmatively further fair housing are to promote mobility by removing barriers and enhancing access to housing in areas of opportunity. The sites inventory accomplishes this goal by providing zoning for a variety of housing types throughout Agoura Hills, improving issues of segregation/integration, access to opportunity and disproportionate housing needs.

¹¹

Table B-6: Agoura Hills' Sites Inventory AFFH Analysis (new Table)

Site ID	Census Tract	# Households	Realistic Capacity (Net Units)	Income Distribution of Potential Units			TCAC Resource Level ¹	% of Minorities in Census Tract (non-White residents)	% of Census Tract Population in Poverty
				Lower Income	Moderate Income	Above Moderate Income			
Northwest Agoura Hills (North of 101 Freeway/West of Kanan Road)									
D	8003.24	2,441	140	28	14	98	Highest	28%	3.8%
O	8003.24	2,441	67	13	7	47	Highest	28%	3.8%
P	8003.32	2,265	73	14	7	52	Highest	17%	6.5%
Q	8003.32	2,265	47	7	4	36	Highest	17%	6.5%
Northwest Subtotal Units:			327	62	32	233			
Southwest Agoura Hills (South of 101 Freeway/West of Kanan Road)									
A	8003.26	1,832	207	40	20	147	Moderate	17%	3.4%
B	8003.26	1,832	124	24	12	88	Moderate	17%	3.4%
E	8003.26	1,832	15	3	2	10	Moderate	17%	3.4%
J	8003.26	1,832	29	6	3	20	Moderate	17%	3.4%
M	8003.26	1,832	30	6	3	21	Moderate	17%	3.4%
N	8003.26	1,832	76	15	7	54	Moderate	17%	3.4%
T	8003.26	1,832	22	4	2	16	Moderate	17%	3.4%
Southwest Subtotal Units:			503	98	49	356			
Southcentral Agoura Hills (South of 101 Freeway/East of Kanan Road)									
C	8003.29	2,591	14	3	1	10	Highest	23%	7.1%
G	8003.29	2,591	104	21	10	73	Highest	23%	7.1%
I	8003.29	2,591	25	5	2	18	Highest	23%	7.1%

Table B-6: Agoura Hills' Sites Inventory AFFH Analysis (new Table)

Site ID	Census Tract	# Households	Realistic Capacity (Net Units)	Income Distribution of Potential Units			TCAC Resource Level ¹	% of Minorities in Census Tract (non-White residents)	% of Census Tract Population in Poverty
				Lower Income	Moderate Income	Above Moderate Income			
K	8003.29	2,591	167	33	16	118	Highest	23%	7.1%
S	8003.29	2,591	50	10	5	35	Highest	23%	7.1%
Southcentral Subtotal Units:			360	72	34	254			
Eastern Agoura Hills (East of Derry Avenue)									
F	8003.27	2,190	33	7	3	23	Highest	28%	5.7%
H	8003.29	2,591	99	20	10	69	Highest	23%	7.1%
L	8003.29	2,591	50	10	5	35	Highest	23%	7.1%
R	8003.29	2,591	29	6	3	20	Highest	23%	7.1%
Southcentral Subtotal Units:			211	43	21	147			

¹ While census tract 8003.26 is identified as Moderate Resource, a large portion of this tract falls outside the City boundaries, and due to an inaccuracy in the reported education score, this tract should in fact be designated a Highest Resource tract like the balance of the City (refer to footnote to Table B-4).

PART 4. IDENTIFICATION OF CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Through the analysis in this appendix, several items have been identified as contributing factors to fair housing issues in Agoura Hills.

Fair Housing Outreach to Lower Income Residents (Housing Mobility/Displacement)

Similar to its neighboring communities, the proportion of people in Agoura Hills that registered fair housing complaints or inquiries between 2013 and 2021 was low at less than 0.25 per 1,000 population (refer to Figure B-2). However, it is important to analyze if certain households experience fair housing or tenant/landlord issues at a greater rate. Based on the 39 Agoura Hills households receiving services from The Housing Rights Center between fiscal years 2016 and 2020 (refer to Table B-1), extremely low-income residents, seniors and persons with disabilities face housing issues at a greater rate than others in the City. Hispanics made up a larger percentage of the landlord/tenant complaints compared to their proportion of Agoura Hills' total population (23% vs 11%), whereas Whites made up lower percentages (46% vs 75%).

The City conducted a senior survey regarding the fair housing issues for the Housing Element and the AFFH. This was a successful effort and should continue over the course of this housing cycle including reaching out in a variety of ways (print, digital media and information at the Senior Center).

Contributing Factors:

- Outreach to seniors due to digital divide/unaware of available resources
- Certain racial/ethnic groups have a higher percentage of tenant/landlord complaints compared to their percentage of the City's population overall
- More education needed by the public sector for residents to be familiar with resources

~~As shown in the fair housing section presented in Part 1, extremely low income residents face housing issues at a greater rate than others in the City. While the City has less than ten percent of residents living below the poverty level, 62 percent of fair housing inquiries were made by extremely low income households (62%) to The Housing Rights Center.~~

~~Contributing Factors:~~

- ~~• Lower income residents have a higher percentage of tenant/landlord complaints compared to their percentage of the City's population overall~~
- ~~• Outreach is needed in a variety of formats~~
- ~~• Additional resources need to be made available to the public~~
- ~~•~~

Affordable Housing Options Throughout Agoura Hills to Promote Mobility (Place Based Strategies, New Opportunities)

Agoura Hills is characterized as Highest Resource throughout the community. As such, the most important strategies to affirmatively further fair housing are to promote mobility by removing barriers and enhancing access to housing in areas of opportunity. The Housing Element seeks to accomplish this goal by providing sites for a variety of housing types and mix of incomes throughout Agoura Hills. In addition, accessory dwelling units will continue to allow the integration

of lower cost units in portions of the City where multi-family development is precluded due to topographical constraints. And additional housing opportunities will be provided in High Resource single-family zones by allowing for lot splits and duplexes under the parameters of SB 9.

Contributing Factors:

- Need for affordable housing options throughout the City
- Community concern about housing densities

~~The Housing Element sites inventory includes the development of a new Affordable Housing Overlay (Overlay) that would be applied to all 20 sites identified on the inventory. The density permitted as part of the Overlay will be a minimum of 20 dwelling units per acre and a maximum of 25 dwelling units per acre, with projects eligible for additional densities and incentives/concessions under state density bonus law. A developer would need to provide at least 20 percent of the total units for very low and low income households (10% each for very low and low) and units must be built on-site. Applicants opting to build under the Overlay would be eligible for by right processing, in contrast to discretionary review procedures required for development under the base zoning district.~~

~~In addition to the Overlay, this Housing Element encourages the development of ADUs in the City. ADUs can offer modestly priced housing within existing neighborhoods, particularly areas that have topographical constraints.~~

**Protect Existing Residents from Displacement
(Displacement/Housing Mobility)**

Median rents in Agoura Hills exceed levels affordable to very low, low and moderate income households. Housing overpayment is an issue for Agoura Hills residents, particularly for low-income households. All renter households earning less than \$50,000 in Agoura Hills face severe overpayment, spending greater than half their incomes on rent, and 87 percent of households earning between \$50,000 and \$75,000 face either overpayment or severe overpayment. The community's special needs populations – seniors, persons with disabilities and female-headed households with children – are the most vulnerable to losing their housing due to an inability to pay.

Contributing Factors:

- High levels of overpayment
- High rents
- Availability of affordable housing in all areas of the City, including those where rents and sale prices have become exclusive or at risk of becoming exclusive (as shown on the Displacement Map – Figure B-14)
- Affordable housing opportunities needed for special needs groups

Removal of Subjective Standards in the Agoura Hills' Zoning Code (New Opportunities)

Currently, the Agoura Hills Municipal Code contains objective standards, but also subjective standards and guidelines that need to be identified and revised. The City is going to use a portion of the awarded SB 2 grant funds to develop a streamlined review process and objective design standards for projects that meet certain affordability requirements (Per SB 35). The modifications and changes to the Agoura Hills Municipal Code will help refine design standards, revise subjective standards, and clarify the SB 35 application process for applicants and contribute to housing production.

In addition, the Affordable Housing Overlay (Overlay) provides an opportunity for development without the requirement for a General Plan amendment or zone change, thereby removing governmental constraints. A developer would need to provide at least 20 percent of the total units for very low and low income households (10% each for very low and low) and units must be built on-site. Applicants opting to build under the Overlay would be eligible for by right processing, in contrast to discretionary review procedures required for development under the base zoning district.

As a cost-effective alternative for producing housing units, the City hopes ADUs will contribute to the overall housing inventory. Agoura Hills plans on using a portion of its State SB 2 Planning Grant funds to develop a user-friendly guide to answer frequently asked questions about building ADUs. The guide will include prototypes and a submittal checklist for homeowners to understand the ADU development process.

Contributing Factors:

- Certain Zoning Code standards

PART 5. GOALS AND ACTIONS

The biggest fair housing issues facing Agoura Hills are: fair housing outreach to lower income residents, strategies to enhance mobility, and providing affordable housing options throughout Agoura Hills and ~~removal of subjective standards in the Agoura Hills' Zoning Code~~. Table B-76 connects fair housing issues with the corresponding contributing factors and the meaningful actions Agoura Hills can take to address them.

Table B-76: Agoura Hills Fair Housing Issues and Meaningful Actions

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
<p>A. Fair Housing Outreach to Lower Income Residents (<i>Housing Mobility/Displacement</i>)</p>	<p>1. <u>Outreach to seniors due to digital divide/unaware of available resources</u></p> <p>2. <u>Certain racial/ethnic groups have a higher percentage of tenant/landlord complaints compared to their percentage of the City's population overall</u></p> <p>3. <u>More education needed by the public sector for residents to become familiar with available resources</u></p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>City Action: Continue the Fair Housing Program, including directing inquiries to the Housing Rights Center (HE Program 16).</p> <p>City Action: <u>By the end of 2022 have additional fair housing information posted at the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center and on their digital platforms. Hold an informational workshop in conjunction with their senior programming in 2023 and 2026.</u></p> <p>City Action: In 2023 and 2026, conduct a public information session before City Council with the HRC or similar group on fair housing issues and ways the City can help to further fair housing resources <u>in Agoura Hills. Invite local nonprofit agencies to attend.</u></p> <p>City Action: By the end of 2022, have fair housing information posted on non-traditional media, such as Instagram and Facebook, <u>and conduct targeted outreach to tenants and other lower income and special needs populations.</u></p> <p>Action Outcomes: <u>Through the above steps, the City's goal will be to increase the distribution of fair housing materials by at least 25 percent and to increase</u></p>

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
			<p><u>awareness of fair housing options among residents. Throughout the informational workshops and Council workshops, develop a comprehensive list of interested nonprofits, property owners and community members that can be utilized for future outreach.</u></p> <p><i>Planning and Community Development Dept, Community Services Dept</i></p>
<p>B. Affordable Housing Options Throughout Agoura Hills <u>to Promote Mobility (Housing Mobility/ Place Based Strategies/New Opportunities)</u></p>	<p><u>1. Need for affordable housing options throughout the City</u></p> <p><u>2. Community concern about housing densities</u></p> <p>1. High levels of overpayment</p> <p>2. High rents</p> <p>3. Availability of affordable housing in all areas of the City, including those where rents and sales prices have become exclusive or at risk of becoming exclusive (as shown on the Displacement Map— Figure B-14)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>City Action: Support the development of affordable housing throughout <u>High Resource areas in Agoura Hills through the Affordable Housing Overlay (HE Program 9), providing sites for 280 lower income units.</u> Reach out to local housing nonprofits during the development of the design standards for the Overlay areas for input.</p> <p>City Action: Create pre-approvable ADU prototypes in 2023 (HE Program 11a). Reach out to local housing nonprofits and other interested parties during the development of the ADU guide and prototypes for feedback, <u>and seek to issue permits for at least ten units annually.</u></p> <p>City Action: Develop a public information campaign, using data and graphics from the HE, to illustrate quality multi-family and mixed income housing options. (2023).</p> <p>City Action: In compliance with SB-9, a<u>Adopt an ordinance to expand the housing supply in High Resource single-family zoning by allowing for lot</u></p>

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
			<p><u>splits and duplexes under the parameters of SB 9. to be constructed in single-family zones. In coordination with research being conducted at the state level, evaluate opportunities to incentivize and provide funding assistance for homeowners to provide affordable units under SB 9 (2023, 2025).</u></p> <p>City Action: <u>Require affordable developers receiving public funds to prepare an affirmative marketing plan, and encourage private developers with affordable units in their projects to prepare an affirmative marketing plan. The affirmative marketing plan shall ensure marketing materials for new developments are designed to attract renters and buyers of diverse demographics, including persons of any race, ethnicity, sex, handicap, and familial status.</u></p> <p>City Action: Support applications for affordable housing funds for projects or programs that are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Housing Element.</p> <p>City Action: Add additional information and resources, such as County assistance as they become available to the City's Affordable Housing webpage.</p> <p>Action Outcomes: <u>An increased variety of housing options available to Agoura Hills residents throughout the city, including areas that have traditionally only had single-family ownership housing. Provide adequate sites for over 300 lower</u></p>

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
			<p><u>income households, over 100 moderate income households, and over 1,000 above moderate income households, exceeding the City's RHNA requirements.</u></p> <p><i>Planning and Community Development Department</i></p>
<p><u>C. Protect Existing Residents from Displacement (Displacement/Housing Mobility)</u></p>	<p><u>1. High levels of overpayment</u></p> <p><u>2. High rents</u></p> <p><u>3. Availability of affordable housing in all areas of the City, including those where rents and sales prices have become exclusive or at risk of becoming exclusive (as shown on the Displacement Map – Figure B-14)</u></p>	<p>High</p>	<p>City Action: <u>At least twice during the Housing Element Cycle (2023 and 2026) work with The Housing Rights Center (HRC) to contact landlords of multifamily complexes and provide fair housing information and assistance. This outreach will focus on promoting the Section 8 voucher program to landlords that have not previously participated in the program and should include multi-lingual materials.</u></p> <p>City Action: <u>Provide information on the City's website and non-traditional media regarding services being provided by the San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, particularly regarding interim and permanent housing resources (through September 2022).</u></p> <p>City Action: <u>By 2023, adopt the Affordable Housing Overlay and update the density bonus ordinance to effectively integrate affordable units in market rate projects.</u></p> <p>City Action: <u>By 2023, issue an RFP on the City-owned site on Colodny Drive which specifies the City's goals for the site and available development incentives, such as potential land write-down assistance, and explore the</u></p>

Fair Housing Issue	Contributing Factors	Priority Level	Action
			<p><u>feasibility of developing a 100% affordable project.</u></p> <p>City Action: <u>Establish annual monitoring procedures for rent restricted units provided through City incentives and/or financial assistance.</u></p> <p>Action Outcomes: <u>The actions identified above will help existing residents at risk of displacement due to high housing costs remain in the community.</u></p> <p><i>Planning and Community Development Department</i></p>

Based on this assessment and the contributing factors to fair housing, the City has identified housing mobility strategies, providing new affordable housing opportunities, place based and anti-displacement strategies as priorities to further fair housing. These actions identified in Table B-7 have been included to affirmatively further fair housing and to address disparities in access to affordable rental and ownership opportunities and disparities in access to suitable housing.

Appendix C

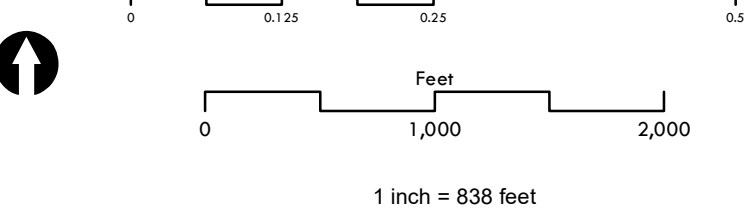
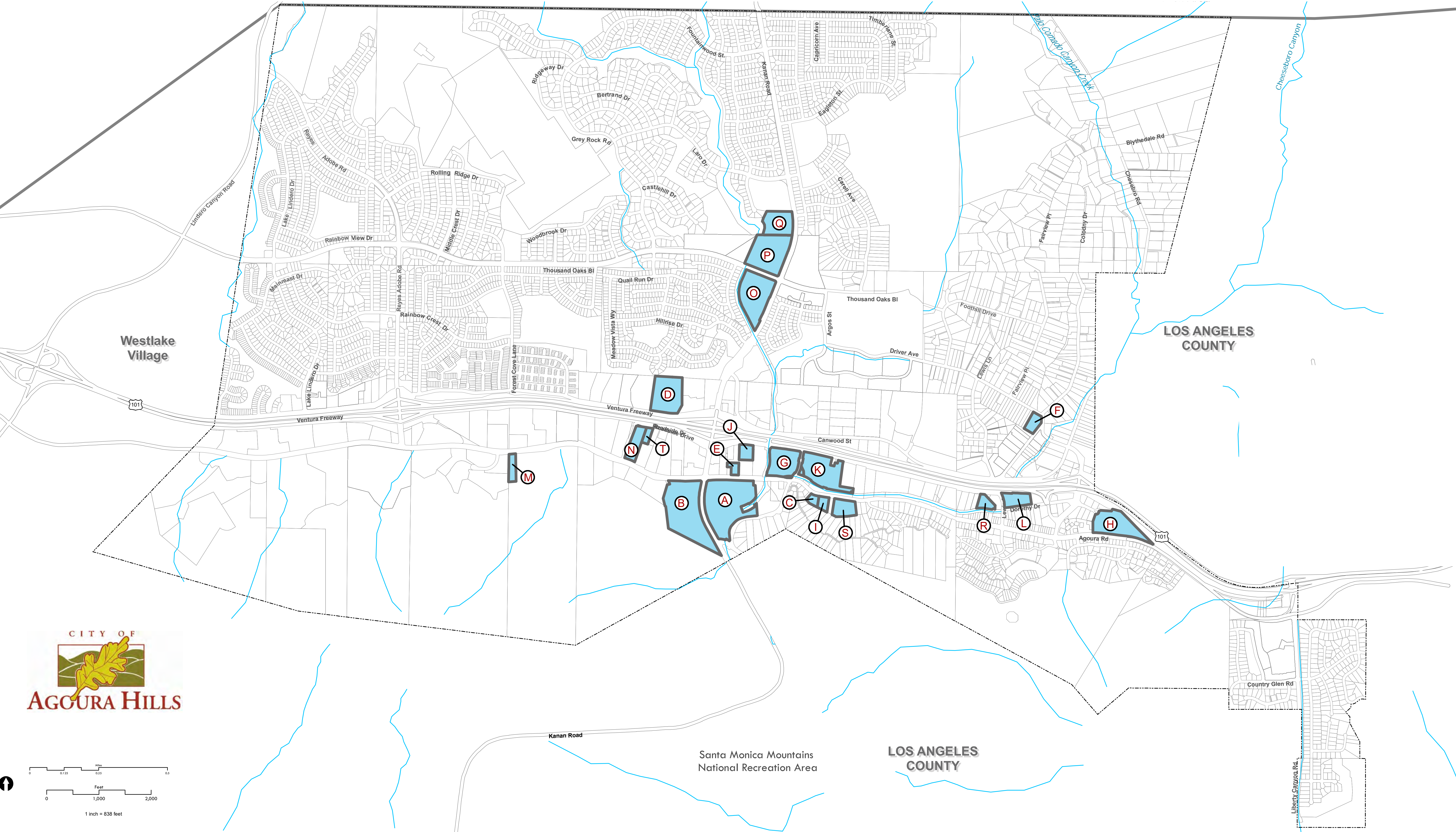
Housing Element Sites Inventory

Housing Element Opportunity Sites

Site No.	Site Description and Address	Acres	Current Zoning	Proposed Zoning Action	Net Unit Potential
A	SW corner Agoura/Kanan Rds	12.37	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) ¹ with AHO	207
B	SW corner Agoura/Kanan Rds	7.37	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	124
C	28902 Agoura Rd	0.87	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	14
D	Canwood St, west of Kanan Rd	8.37	BP-OR	RM-15 with AHO	140
E	N side Agoura Rd, AVSP Zone A	0.9	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	15
F	SW corner Colodny Dr/Driver Ave	1.76	RL	RM-15 with AHO	33
G	Regency Theater Center 29045 Agoura Rd	6.24	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	104
H	Dorothy Drive Agoura Rd, east of Chesebro Rd	7.92	BP-OR	RM-15 with AHO	99
I	South on Agoura Rd, east of Cornell Rd	1.2	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	25
J	Roadside Lumber 29112 & 29130 Roadside Dr	1.76	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	29
K	Whizin's Center 28912 Agoura Rd	10.0	PD (AVSP)	PD (AVSP) with AHO	167
L	Plant Nursery and Adjacent Parcels 28263 Dorothy Dr	2.58	CRS	RM-15 with AHO	50
M	Agoura Rd, east of Ladyface Ct	1.65	PD (LMSP)	PD (LMSP) with AHO	30
N	29360 Roadside Dr	3.06	POM	RM-15 with AHO	76
O	Agoura Meadows Shopping Center 5675 Kanan Rd	8.05	CS-MU	CS-MU with AHO	67
P	Twin Oaks Shopping Center 5801 Kanan Rd	8.8	CS-MU	CS-MU with AHO	73
Q	Agoura City Mall Shopping Center 5801 Kanan Rd	5.7	CS-MU	CS-MU with AHO	47
R	Roadside Dr west of Lewis Rd	1.6	CRS	RM-15 with AHO	29
S	Agoura Rd east of Cornell Rd	2.2	BP-OR	RM-15 with AHO	50
T	29360 Roadside Dr	0.87	POM	RM-15 with AHO	22
Total Opportunity Sites					1,401

PD = Planned Development AVSP = Agoura Village Specific Plan BP-OR = Business Park-Office Retail
 CRS = Commercial Retail Service LMSP = Ladyface Mountain Specific Plan POM = Planned Office Manufacturing
 CS-MU = Commercial Shopping Center-Mixed Use RL = Residential Low Density AHO = Affordable Housing Overlay
¹ While the base PD (AVSP) zoning designation is the same under the existing and proposed zoning, the AVSP development standards are being updated as part of the update to the Specific Plan, scheduled for adoption in 2022.

CITY OF AGOURA HILLS PROPOSED HOUSING SITE DIAGRAM



Date: September 15, 2021



SITE A: SE CORNER AOURA AND KANAN ROADS

Location:	SE Corner of Agoura/Kanan Roads	Gross Acres:	12.37 ¹
AIN:	2061-031-020	Net Acres for Residential:	8.29 ²
		Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	207 units
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Affordable Units:	40 lower income
Current Use:	Vacant	Counted in Prior Cycle:	4 th & 5 th

Development application previously submitted for mixed-use development project including 118 rental residential townhomes and apartments, retail, restaurant, office and hotel. Project denied due to inconsistencies with development standards in the AVSP. Property owner remains interested in development.

Opportunities	Constraints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Owner interest in development ▪ Good access from two major roadways ▪ Near services and jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone ▪ Oak trees on southern portion of site

¹ Gross acreage excludes open space areas to south in AVSP zone G

² Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect potential for mixed use, oak trees and slope on southern portion of site.



SITE B: SW CORNER AGOURA/KANAN ROADS

Location:	SW Corner of Agoura/Kanan Rds.	Gross Acres:	7.37 ¹
AIN:	2061-032-21, -022 & -028	Net Acres:	4.94 ²
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	124 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	24 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	4 th & 5 th

Active development application for mixed-use project with residential apartments, retail, restaurant, and office in Zone B of AVSP. Requesting density bonus.

Opportunities	Constraints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Owner interest in development ▪ Good access from two major roadways ▪ Near services and jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone ▪ Oak trees

¹ Gross acreage excludes open space areas to south in AVSP zone G.

² Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect potential for mixed use, oak trees and slope on southern portion of site.



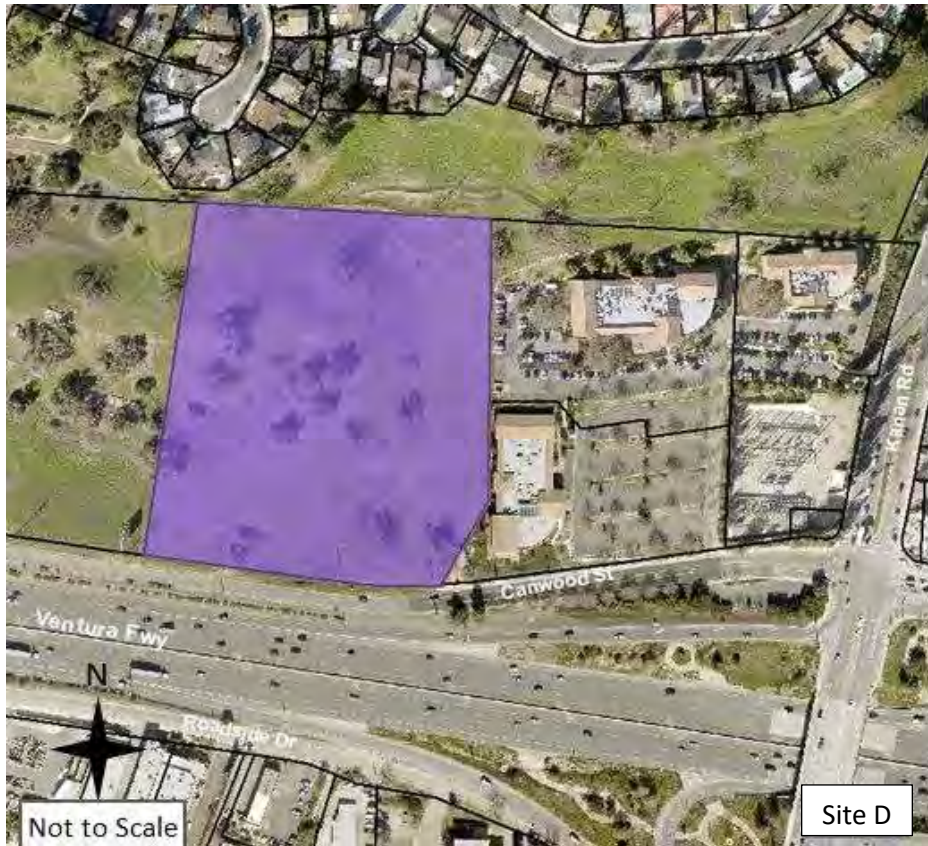
SITE C: 28902 AGOURA ROAD

Location:	28902 Agoura Road	Gross Acres:	0.87
AINs:	2061-029-005 & -006	Net Acres:	0.58 ¹
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	14 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	3 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	4 th & 5 th

Active development application for mixed-use project with residential apartments, and minor retail and restaurant in Zone E of AVSP.

Opportunities	Constraints
Owner interest in development	Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
Good access	Oak trees
Near services and jobs	Steep slope

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect potential for mixed use, oak trees and slope on southern portion of site.



SITE D: CANWOOD STREET, WEST OF KANAN ROAD

Location:	Canwood St., west of Kanan Rd.	Gross Acres:	8.37
AIN:	2053-001-004	Net Acres:	5.58 ¹
Zoning	Business Park-Office Retail-Freeway Corridor (BP-OR-FC)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	BP-OR	Unit Capacity:	140 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	28 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Proposed mixed-use project with residential apartments, and minor resident-supporting retail and restaurant. City Council pre-screen review (April 2021) with formal application pending.

Opportunities

- Owner interest in development
- Outside Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Good access
- Near services and jobs

Constraints

- Hillside parcel
- Oak trees

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect presence of oak trees and steep slope on portion of parcel.



SITE E: NORTH SIDE OF AGOURA ROAD, AVSP ZONE A NORTH

Location:	Agoura Road in Zone A North	Gross Acres:	0.9
AIN:	2061-006-038	Net Acres:	0.6 ¹
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	15 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	3 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	4 th & 5 th

Initial discussions with owner/developer for a mixed-use project with residential apartments, and minor retail and restaurant with underground parking. "Concept application" per Agoura Village Development Permit process submitted to City and being reviewed. Formal application to follow.

Opportunities	Constraints
---------------	-------------

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flat site ▪ Property owner interest in development ▪ Minimal environmental constraints ▪ Good access ▪ Near services and jobs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone |
|---|---|

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect potential for mixed use.



Not to Scale

Site F

SITE F: COLODNY DRIVE

Location:	SW corner Colodny Dr./Driver Ave.	Gross Acres:	1.76
AINs:	2055-005-904, -903, & -902	Net Acres:	1.32 ¹
Zoning	Residential Low Density-Old Agoura-Equestrian (RL-OA-EQ)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 w/h AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	RL	Unit Capacity:	33 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	7 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

City proposed multi-family residential project. Application not yet submitted.

Opportunities

- City owned site
- Good access
- Adjacent to multi-family and single-family residential sites

Constraints

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Oak Trees
- Gentle slope

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect presence of oak trees and slope.



SITE G: REGENCY THEATER CENTER

Location:	29045 Agoura Road	Gross Acres:	6.24
AIN:	2061-006-044	Net Acres:	4.15 ¹
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	104 units
Current Use:	Developed with theater, retail, restaurant	Affordable Units:	21 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Initial discussions with owner to demolish existing uses and construct up to 200 apartments.

Opportunities

- Flat parcel
- Large underutilized parking areas
- Low improvement-to-land value 0.43
- Buildings > 30 years old (1990)
- Adjacent to residential sites
- Minimal environmental constraints

Constraints

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Oak trees

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect potential for mixed use and presence of oak trees.



SITE H: DOROTHY DRIVE

Location:	Agoura Rd., east of Chesebro Rd.	Gross Acres:	7.92
AINs:	2061-013-024, -025, -005, -004, -003, -002, -001, -049, -039, -036	Net Acres:	3.96 ¹
Zoning	Business Park-Office Retail-Freeway Corridor (BP-OR-FC)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	BP-OR	Unit Capacity:	99 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	20 lower income
		Counted Prior Cycle:	No

Initial discussions with owner regarding residential development. Pre-Screen Review with City Council (June 2021), formal development application not yet submitted.

Opportunities		Constraints	
▪ Owner interest in development (single owner)	▪ Adjacent to residential sites	▪ Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone	▪ Oak trees
▪ Good access			

¹ Net acreage reduced to 50% of gross to reflect irregular shaped parcel, oak trees and slope.



SITE I: SOUTH ON AGOURA ROAD, EAST OF CORNELL ROAD

Location:	South on Agoura Road, east of Cornell Road	Gross Acres:	1.2
AINs:	2061-029-003 & -004	Net Acres:	1.0 ¹
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	25 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	5 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	4 th & 5 th

Application submitted for mixed-use residential with minor retail/restaurant in Zone E of AVSP several years ago, but application has since been closed. No recent discussions with owner.

Opportunities	Constraints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good site access ▪ Near services and jobs ▪ Single owner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone ▪ Gentle slope ▪ A few oak trees

¹ Net acreage reduced to 83% of gross to reflect potential for gentle slope on southern portion of site and presence of a limited number of oak trees.



SITE J: ROADSIDE LUMBER

Location:	29112 & 29130 Roadside Dr.	Gross Acres:	1.76
AINs:	2061-006-042 & -048	Net Acres:	1.17 ¹
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	29 units
Current Use:	Developed with structures that house building materials for on-site sale	Affordable Units:	6 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

In Zone C of AVSP.

Opportunities	Constraints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flat, underutilized parcels (18% lot coverage) ▪ Low improvement-to-land value ratio (0.3) ▪ Older buildings (1970 & 1983) ▪ Existing non-conforming use (cannot be expanded) ▪ Good site access ▪ Good access to services and jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect potential for mixed use.



SITE K: WHIZIN'S CENTER

Location:	28912 Agoura Road	Gross Acres:	10.0
AINs:	2061-007-041, -052, -054, -051, -055 & -031	Net Acres:	6.67 ¹
Zoning	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Agoura Village Specific Plan)	Unit Capacity:	167 units
Current Use:	Developed with retail, restaurant, entertainment uses	Affordable Units:	33 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

In Zone D East of AVSP. Prior discussion with owner about adding residential to parking area, replacing parking either underground or on podium.

Opportunities

- Flat, underutilized parcels (15% lot coverage)
- Single owner
- Low improvement-to-land value ratio (0.36)
- Older building (2 bldgs 1968, 1- 1978, 1- 1989)
- Extensive surface parking suitable for development
- Good site access
- Good access to services and jobs

Constraints

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect potential for mixed use.



SITE L: PLANT NURSERY AND ADJACENT PARCELS

Location:	28263 Dorothy Drive	Gross Acres:	2.58
AINs:	2061-010-017, -015, -006, -016, -008 & 007	Net Acres:	2.0 ¹
		Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
Zoning	Commercial Retail Service-Old Agoura-Freeway Corridor (BP-OR-FC) & Old Agoura Commercial area	Unit Capacity:	50 units
General Plan:	CRS	Affordable Units:	10 units
Current Use:	Plant nursery buildings and outdoor plant storage, vacant land	Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Recent discussions with owner to redevelop.

Opportunities

- Single owner
- Flat parcels
- Underutilized parcels
- Low improvement-to-land value 0.07

Constraints

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Oak trees

¹ Net acreage reduced to 78% of gross to reflect oak trees, County drainage channel and slope on southern portion of site.



SITE M: AGOURA ROAD, EAST OF LADYFACE COURT

Location:	Agoura Road, east of Ladyface Ct.	Gross Acres:	1.65
AIN:	2061-033-015	Net Acres:	1.2
Zoning	PD (Ladyface Mountain Specific Plan)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	PD (Planned Development)	Unit Capacity:	30 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	6 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities

- Close to employment
- Good access
- Adjacent to residential sites

Constraints

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Oak trees
- Slope

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect slope and presence of oaks.



SITE N: 29360 ROADSIDE DRIVE

Location:	29360 Roadside Drive	Gross Acres:	3.06
AIN:	2061-004-049	Net Acres:	3.06 ¹
Zoning	POM (Planned Office and Manufacturing)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	POM	Unit Capacity:	76 units
Current Use:	Building supply with one small building	Affordable Units:	15 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities

Constraints

- Flat parcel
- Underutilized parcel
- Low improvement-to-land value (.002)
- Minimal environmental constraints
- Good access
- Near jobs and services

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

¹ No reduction for net acreage as site is already improved and no site factors merit reduction.



SITE O: AGOURA MEADOWS SHOPPING CENTER

Location:	5675 Kanan Road	Gross Acres:	8.05
AINS:	2053-007-030, -026, -024, -025, -027, -028	Net Acres:	2.68 ¹
Zoning	CS-MU (Commercial Shopping Center – Mixed Use)	Proposed Zoning:	CS-MU with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	CS-MU	Unit Capacity:	67 units
Current Use:	Shopping Center	Affordable Units:	13 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities		Constraints	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flat parcel and underutilized site ▪ Opportunity for residential infill on surface parking areas ▪ Single ownership ▪ Near services and shopping ▪ Good access ▪ Minimal environmental constraints ▪ Outside Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heavy vehicle traffic in area 	
<p>¹ Net acreage reduced to 33% of gross to reflect maintenance of existing shopping center, with residential being developed on existing surface parking area either above underground parking, or consolidation of parking within podium structure.</p>			



SITE P: TWIN OAKS SHOPPING CENTER

Location:	5801 Kanan Road	Gross Acres:	8.8
AIN:	2051-006-141	Net Acres:	2.93 ¹
Zoning	CS-MU (Commercial Shopping Center – Mixed Use)	Proposed Zoning:	CS-MU with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	CS-MU	Unit Capacity:	73 units
Current Use:	Shopping Center	Affordable Units:	14 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities

Constraints

- Flat parcel and underutilized site
- Opportunity for residential infill on surface parking areas
- Single ownership
- Near services and shopping
- Good access
- Minimal environmental constraints
- Outside Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

- Heavy vehicle traffic in area

¹ Net acreage reduced to 33% of gross to reflect maintenance of existing shopping center, with residential being developed on existing surface parking area either above underground parking, or consolidation of parking within podium structure.



SITE Q: AGOURA CITY MALL SHOPPING CENTER

Location:	5801 Kanan Road	Gross Acres:	5.7
AIN:	2051-005-002	Net Acres:	1.9 ¹
Zoning	CS-MU (Commercial Shopping Center – Mixed Use)	Proposed Zoning:	CS-MU with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	CS-MU	Unit Capacity:	47 units
Current Use:	Shopping Center	Affordable Units:	7 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities

Constraints

- Flat parcel and underutilized site
- Opportunity for residential infill on surface parking areas
- Single ownership
- Near services and shopping
- Good access
- Minimal environmental constraints
- Outside Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

- Heavy vehicle traffic in area

¹ Net acreage reduced to 33% of gross to reflect maintenance of existing shopping center, with residential being developed on existing surface parking area either above underground parking, or consolidation of parking within podium structure.



SITE R: ROADSIDE DRIVE AT LEWIS ROAD

Location:	Roadside Drive w/o Lewis Road	Gross Acres:	1.5
AIN:	2061-009-075, -076, -077	Net Acres:	1.15 ¹
Zoning	Commercial Retail Service (CRS)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	CRS	Unit Capacity:	29 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	6 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities

- Flat parcel
- Single ownership
- Near services
- Good access

Constraints

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Oak trees

¹ Net acreage reduced to 75% of gross to reflect the presence of oaks.



SITE S: AGOURA ROAD EAST OF CORNELL ROAD

Location:	Agoura Rd. e/o Cornell Rd.	Gross Acres:	3.05
AINs:	2061-029-001, 2061-028-006, -005	Net Acres:	2.0 ¹
Zoning	Business Park – Office Retail (BP-OR)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	BP-OR	Unit Capacity:	50 units
Current Use:	Vacant	Affordable Units:	10 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities

Constraints

- Single owner
- Good access
- Near services and jobs

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Oak trees and scrub oak
- Slope

¹ Net acreage reduced to 66% of gross to reflect oak, drainages and slope.



SITE T: 29360 ROADSIDE DRIVE

Location:	Roadside Dr. e/o Roadside Rd.	Gross Acres:	0.87
AIN:	2061-004-022	Net Acres: ¹	0.87
Zoning	Planned Office Manufacturing (POM)	Proposed Zoning:	RM-15 with AHO 25 du/acre
General Plan:	POM	Unit Capacity:	22 units
Current Use:	Office/retail building	Affordable Units:	4 lower income
		Counted in Prior Cycle:	No

Opportunities

- Flat parcel
- Minimal environmental constraints
- Underutilized site – 43% lot coverage
- Older buildings (1962 and 1979)

Constraints

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

¹ No reduction for net acreage as site is already improved and no site factors merit reduction.

Appendix D

Public Participation

Did you know

Every community in California, including Agoura Hills has to provide their fair share of affordable housing?

Did you know

We have to change zoning on certain properties to multi-family residential to allow for more density in the City to provide our fair share of affordable housing?

Do you want to know

Where we are proposing the new multi-family housing?

***Please
mark your calendars
for August 4, 2021, for an
important workshop on the***

HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE OF AGOURA HILLS,

where we will answer these questions, gather your feedback, and provide additional information.

When: Wednesday, August 4, 2021

Where: Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center
29900 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills 91301

Time: 5pm – Doors Open
6pm-8pm - Formal Presentation



We hope to see you there! For questions, contact Jessica Cleavenger at 818-597-7342 or email jcleavenger@agourahillscity.org.

AGOURA HILLS HOUSING ELEMENT WORKSHOP NOTIFICATION LIST

Agoura Hills Chamber of Commerce

LVUSD

kimmel@lvusd.org

Southland Regional Association of Realtors

education@srar.com

Meadowbrook at Agoura Hills

Gabriel Graham

Homeless Outreach Coordinator

Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG)

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The People Concern

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Habitat for Humanity Greater Los Angeles

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Housing Rights Center

Ricardo Barajas- Director of Outreach

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North Los Angeles Regional Center

Abundant Housing LA

Anthony Dedousis, Director of Policy and Research

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Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing
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Housing Element Update

A WORKSHOP FOR THE PUBLIC

August 4, 2021



Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Greetings and Introduction
3. Housing Element 101 – Basic Overview
4. Agoura Hills RHNA Allocation
5. Question and Answer Card Collection
6. Break
7. Question and Answer Session
8. Housing Sites Inventory
9. Question and Answer Session – Part Two
10. Adjourn



AGOURA HILLS Introductions

- Karen Warner – City of Agoura Hills Housing Consultant
- Allison Cook – City of Agoura Hills Assistant Planning Director
- Jessica Cleavenger – City of Agoura Hills Senior Planner



AGOURA HILLS General Plan Housing Element

- Housing Element requires cities to “*plan for meeting existing & projected housing needs of all economic segments of the community*”
- **5 Major Components:**
 - Review of accomplishments
 - Housing needs assessment
 - Evaluation of constraints to housing
 - Identification of housing sites to meet RHNA allocation
 - 2021-2029 program strategy to address needs
- Element required to be updated every 8 years (2021-2029)
- Element reviewed by State HCD for compliance with State law



AGOURA HILLS Benefits of HCD Compliance

- Presumption of **legally adequate** Housing Element in courts. If courts invalidate Element:
 - ✓ Suspend City’s authority to issue building permits
 - ✓ Impose fines of up to \$100k per month
 - ✓ Court appointed agent with powers necessary to remedy housing element deficiencies
- Maintain **discretionary** review over affordable housing projects
- Maintain eligibility for **State housing funds**
- Don’t face RHNA carry-over into next Housing Element cycle



AGOURA HILLS The Housing Element Does Not:

- Require the City to build the units planned for**
However, projects eligible for streamlined approval process in cities that have not made sufficient progress in addressing RHNA (SB 35)
- Provide funding**
Though eligibility for State housing funds require an HCD compliant Housing Element
- Authorize construction on Housing Element sites**
Development projects still need to go through City approval process



AGOURA HILLS Who in Agoura Hills Needs Housing that is Affordable?

- **People who work in Agoura Hills and cannot afford to live here**
Teachers, nurses, retail and hospitality workers, childcare providers
- **Special needs households**
Senior citizens, disabled persons, single-parent households
- **Children of long-time Agoura Hills residents**



AGOURA HILLS Regional Housing Needs (RHNA)

- RHNA = Regional Housing Needs Allocation
- Requires cities to zone for “fair share” of region’s housing needs
 - ✓ Based on State population growth (as determined by HCD)
 - ✓ Mix of housing for all economic segments
 - ✓ Affordability linked to zoning and density
- RHNA is a planning target, not a building quota



AGOURA HILLS 2014-2021 Housing Element Sites Inventory

Income Level	2014-2021 RHNA	Default Density Thresholds	Vacant Residential Parcels	Agoura Village Specific Plan
Very Low	31	20 units/acre		193
Low	19			
Moderate	20	16 du/acre	23	
Above Mod	45	<16 du/acre	84	
Total	115		107	193



AGOURA HILLS Agoura Hills 2014-2021 RHNA 5th cycle Housing Element

Income Level	RHNA	2014-2020 permits	Deficit/ Surplus	Accessory dwelling units (ADUs) represent only affordable units provided
Very Low (<50% AMI)	31 units	0	(- 31 units)	
Low (51-80% AMI)	19 units	0	(- 19 units)	
Moderate (81-120% AMI)	20 units	17 units	(- 3 units)	
Above Mod (>120% AMI)	45 units	59 units	+ 14 units	
Total	115	76 units	(-39 units)	



Agoura Hills 2021-2029 RHNA 6th cycle Housing Element

Income Level	2021 Income (3 person hh)	Units	"Default Density"
Very Low (<50% AMI)	\$53,200	127 units	Min. 20 du/acre
Low (51-80% AMI)	\$85,150	72 units	Min. 20 du/ acre
Moderate (81-120% AMI)	\$86,400	55 units	Min. 16 du/ acre
Above Mod (>120% AMI)	> \$86,400	64 units	
Total		318 units	

6th cycle RHNA more than 2.5 x higher

Need for policy shift to:

- Provide sufficient sites and zoning
- Produce affordable units



New Parameters for Sites Inventory

- Need to est. zoning with *minimum* 20 unit/acre densities for sites to be credited towards lower income RHNA
- Development on following sites must be permitted "by right" for projects that include 20% lower income units
 - Sites reused from current Housing Element
 - Sites part of a rezone program to address lower income RHNA shortfall
- Will be important to establish objective design and development standards for use in reviewing by-right development



No Net Loss Law (SB 166)

- Requires sufficient adequate sites to be available at all times throughout the RHNA planning period
- Must replenish sites capacity, if:
 - Sites developed with fewer units than assumed in Hsg Element
 - Sites developed for higher income/affordability level than assumed in Hsg Element
- Recommended that the City create a buffer in the housing element inventory of at least 15-30% more capacity than required
- City often has projects built at lower density than Code allows



Housing Sites & General Plan Update



Potential Housing Sites

- Zoning for multi-family housing
- RM zone (6-15 DU/AC) – *no vacant sites*
 - RH zone (15-25 DU/AC) – *no vacant sites*
 - Agoura Village Specific Plan (PD) zone – *vacant sites*



Agoura Village Specific Plan



AVSP & ADUs and RHNA

	AVSP	ADUs	Total	RHNA	Difference
Total Units	293*	80	373	318	---
Very Low	21	14	35	127	(92)
Low	12	34	46	72	(26)
Moderate	12	5	17	55	(38)
Above Mod	248	27	275	64	211

* Current AVSP max. allowance

Proposed Housing Sites City of Agoura Hills



Inclusionary Housing Policy

- City's primary tool to produce affordable units
- Requires projects with 10+ units to provide 15% percent low and moderate income households (min. 7% very low, 4% low, 4% mod)
- Allows for an in-lieu fee
- Currently, no affordable units in City (non-ADU)



Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO)

- Applying AHO to sites increases housing density (# units that can be developed). State requires by-right processing in exchange for providing an increased % of on-site affordable units beyond City's inclusionary requirements (20% VL and L vs. 15% VL, L and M).
- Property owners would retain the option of developing under base zone district, and not using the AHO.
- Re-zone sites to base zone of RM (6-15 du/acre), except mixed-use sites in the AVSP, which would retain the current 20 du/acre density. Shopping centers retain CS-MU base zone.



Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO)

Example: 1 acre RM site	Base Density 15 du/acre	Total Units: 15 Affordable Units IHO: 15% = 2 units	Discretionary Review
	AHO Density 25 du/acre	Total Units: 25 Affordable Units under AHO: 20% = 5 VL/L units	Non-discretionary/ By Right

- New objective development standards would need to be created to support achievement of densities permitted under the AHO and ensure items the City values are maintained.



Proposed Approach

- A. Apply AHO Zone to All Sites
- B. Re-Zone Base of Sites Outside the AVSP (except Shopping Centers on Kanan Road)
- C. Re-Designate AVSP sites



Proposed Approach

- A. APPLY AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY ZONE TO ALL SITES
 - Dwelling Units per Acre: 20-25
 - Affordable Units: 10% VL 10% L (total 20%)
 - Objective Design and Development Standards
 - 3 Different AHO Zones (AVSP, non-AVSP, Shopping Centers), reflecting different objective standards



Proposed Approach

- B. CHANGE BASE ZONE OF SITES OUTSIDE AVSP TO MF RESIDENTIAL
 - Dwelling Units per Acre: 6-15 (RM)
 - Affordable Units: 7% VL 4% L 4% M (total 15% per IHO)
 - Objective Design and Development Standards
 - Exception: Shopping Centers remain CS-MU



Proposed Approach

- C. RE-DESIGNATE THE AVSP SITES
 - Dwelling Units per Acre: 20 DU/AC
 - Affordable Units: 7% VL 4% L 4% M (15% per IHO)
 - Objective Design and Development Standards



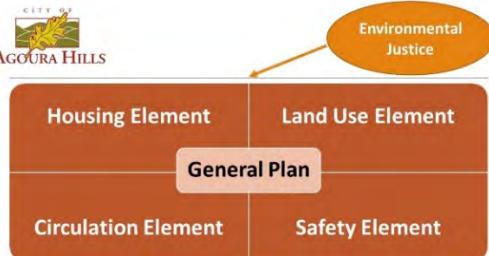
Proposed Approach

Contributions to RHNA from Proposed Approach

	DUs from 22 Sites	ADUs	Total DUs Provided	RHNA Needed	Difference
Very Low	157	14	171	127	44
Low	157	34	191	72	119
Moderate	0	5	5	55	(50)
Above Moderate	1,252	27	1,279	64	1,215
TOTAL	1,566	80	1,646	318	1,328



7 General Plan Elements



Schedule

- Draft Housing Element to HCD – Fall 2021 (60-day review by HCD, public review)
- Other GP Elements & DEIR prepared – Late Fall 2021
- DEIR 45-day public review with GP Elements – Early 2022
- Public hearings to consider Housing Element & other Elements, FEIR – Spring 2022

Housing Element Workshop Questions and Comments

Questions

1. Who picked site 38?
 - No rezoning?
 - How many units?
 - Who is building?
 - What criteria to pick a site?
 - How do we object?
 - Removal from list?

City staff assessed sites that should be included on the draft housing site inventory list for the Housing Element over the past several months. The sites are where market rate price housing units and units in the affordable price range (for very low, low and moderate household income categories) could be located in a single project. The affordable units would be a portion of the project, with the majority of the units for market rate prices. Affordable units are primarily apartments and townhomes, and not single-family homes, due to the costs of construction and sale prices or rents. Apartments and townhomes are allowed in the Residential Medium Density (RM) zone and Residential High Density (RH) zone in the City. However, there are no vacant sites with these zoning designations.

The first priority was to include Agoura Village Specific Plan (AVSP) sites on the housing site inventory list, since the AVSP currently allows multi-family unit housing and there is vacant land. Staff included sites that are vacant and designated for mixed-use residential and commercial development. Staff also looked at AVSP sites that are designated for commercial only, which are developed, but may be considered underutilized in terms of the types of land uses occupying the sites. Because the currently adopted AVSP would not provide enough units for the City to meet the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) required by the State Housing and Community Development Department (HCD), staff suggests increasing the amount of residential units that could be built on the mixed-use sites. Staff also looked at areas outside of Agoura Village.

For sites in the rest of the City, the priority was to select vacant sites or underutilized sites. Because the sites would consist of apartments and/or townhomes, single-family home neighborhoods were not selected. Much of the City consists of open space zoned areas. Staff did not select sites in such areas. Sites outside of the Very High Severity Fire Hazard Zone (VSHFHZ) were preferred over sites within the VSHFHZ, but because most of the City is within the VSHFHZ, we did not eliminate such sites entirely.

All sites on the list would be re-zoned by the City to allow a higher density residential development. The individual site owners would have the discretion whether to build the units. The number of units per site depends on the location and size of the site. In Agoura Village, the base zone would allow 20 dwelling units per acre. Outside of the AVSP, the base zone would be 15 dwelling units per acre. Staff is also proposing an Affordable Housing Overlay zone on each site. A site owner can choose to build to the Overlay's 20-25 dwelling units per acre density or build to the lesser base zone density. However, the City would be able to meet its RHNA only if the Overlay density is applied.

A preliminary list of housing sites was provided for consideration by the Planning Commission at its regularly scheduled public meeting on May 20, 2021, followed by City Council consideration at its regularly scheduled public meeting on June 9, 2021. Following City Council comments, staff added sites and removed others. A revised list of sites will be provided to the City Council at its regularly scheduled public meeting on September 8, 2021. The units to be considered by the City Council were presented at the Housing Element Public Workshop on August 4, 2021.

Any request to remove a site from the list, and any other comments, should be made to the City Council at the public meeting, or in written correspondence to the City Council submitted prior to the meeting. City Council is the ultimate decision-making body with regard to sites to be included on the housing inventory list, which will then be included in the City's Housing Element. The Housing Element is reviewed and must be approved by the HCD. The HCD will be considering whether the sites are acceptable in terms of meeting the RHNA.

2. Is City required to allow an in-lieu fee?
 - o Are there other options?
 - o Can City increase amount of in-lieu fee

Most cities offer developers a menu of options to satisfy the affordable requirements under a local inclusionary (affordable) housing program, in-lieu fees being one of those options. At a minimum, cities are required to allow alternatives to providing on-site affordable units in the instance when providing on-site units would render the project economically infeasible. Other common alternatives are the provision of affordable units off-site (often through partnership with a non-profit developer), the donation of land for affordable housing, or the preservation of affordable housing at-risk of conversion to market rate.

The City can raise the in-lieu fee as a means of encouraging developers to provide the affordable units rather than paying the fee. However, there needs to be a nexus, or relationship, between the amount of the fee and the cost of providing the affordable units. A detailed report is prepared to support the in-lieu fee amount.

3. Can you please explain what an in-lieu fee is in the context of housing?

The City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance allows developers to pay a fee in-lieu of providing the 15% affordable units required under the ordinance. This fee is placed into an affordable housing trust fund to support affordable housing in the City. Please also see the response to Question 3, above.

4. How do I oppose being on the list for sites #27 or #38?

The housing site inventory list will be considered by the City Council at a public hearing on September 9, 2021. You may provide your comments to the City Council at the meeting, or provide written comments to the City Council prior to the meeting. Please also see the response to Question 1, above.

5. Who or what formula decides what is "affordable?"

- o In today's market how much are affordable houses, condos, or apartments?

State and federal standards define affordable housing as spending no more than 30% of gross income on housing costs, inclusive of utilities, HOA fees, taxes and insurance. Affordable housing varies based on household income and size. For example, a 2 person very low income household (earning up to 50% of area median income) can afford to pay up to \$1,046 in rent, whereas a 4 person moderate income household (earning up to 120% area median income) can afford to pay up to \$2,203 in rent. The median household income is determined by HCD annually. There are numerous variables and assumptions involved in calculating the affordable purchase price. For example, assuming a 20% down payment, 3.5% mortgage interest rate, and various costs associated with taxes, insurance and HOA fees, a 4 person moderate income household can afford a purchase price of approximately \$530,000.

6. Why can't the Agoura Village plan to have more very low units and less above moderate units?

Under the new Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) requirements of the Housing Element, jurisdictions are required to disperse affordable housing sites throughout the community, and not concentrate in any single area. In addition, the City's requirements for affordable housing cannot be so high as to render projects economically infeasible. A requirement for too many units to be at the very low income category may not "pencil out" for a developer, and such projects may not be proposed and therefore the affordable units not provided.

7. Can we rezone empty office buildings and then advertise we are looking for developers to convert them to affordable housing?

The City may re-zone properties, including office buildings. As noted in the response to Question 1, we are considering non-vacant sites that are underutilized, based on the land to improvements value ratio from the County Tax Assessor's Office. While the City has the ability to re-zone properties, the City would not own the properties or develop them. Each site owner can decide when and whether to develop the sites, and so would be responsible for related advertising.

8. Why do we need objective standards if development is by right?

A housing development project required to be approved "by right" means that the project would not be considered by the Planning Commission or City Council where those decision-making bodies could apply discretionary review in deciding whether to approve or deny a project. Currently, most development projects in the City must be approved by either the Planning Commission and/or the City Council.

A project that is not discretionary is referred to as a ministerial project. A ministerial project in the City is one where no other permit besides a Building Permit or Grading Permit is required. Examples of projects that are often ministerial are the addition of an air conditioning unit on the side of a house, or a patio cover. A ministerial project must be approved if it meets a series of standard requirements that leave no room for interpretation (i.e., they are very specific and objective, with no ability to apply one's judgement or interpretation). Please see the response to Question 9, below, for an example of an objective versus non-objective standard.

It is important to create design and development standards (e.g., height, site layout, amount of parking, etc.) with which a development project must adhere to ensure it reflects the City's vision. When a development project is proposed and a Building Permit and/or a Grading Permit is requested, it must meet the list of standards to be granted the permit. Likewise, if it does not comply with the list of standards, it is not approved. Without the list of objective design and development standards, the Grading or Building Permit would be issued automatically, regardless of the project's characteristics.

9. Can you provide examples of subjective vs. objective design standards?

Objective standards are quantifiable and precise, and not open-ended or leaving room for interpretation. As an example, a maximum allowed building height of 35 feet is an objective standard, while a requirement for a building's colors or materials to "blend in" or "be consistent" with the natural setting is not an objective standard.

10. Has the City considered using property it currently owns to exchange for a more suitable property and building some low and very low units to sell?

The City-owned parcel on the housing site inventory list is currently zoned for single-family residential use. As with other sites on the housing inventory list, it is proposed to be zoned for residential medium density and also with the Overlay zone, so that it could be developed at a density of 20-25 units and provide 20 percent of the units for affordable income households. There is no plan at this time to sell it to another party. The site is adjacent to existing multi-family residential developments.

11. May rezoning for “by right” affordability occur on sites not designated?

As it relates to the Housing Element being prepared by the City, the “by right” approval process applies to sites that are built to the Affordable Housing Overlay zone of 20-25 dwelling units per acre. The “by right” provision applies, because, with the Overlay, there would be a requirement for 20 percent of the units to be for the affordable household income categories. The state requires the City to allow such projects “by right” if at least 20 percent of the units are affordable. “By right” is a ministerial approval, such as a Grading Permit or Building Permit, and would not require review by the Planning Commission or City Council. In most cases, it would also not require California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review.

12. Are any cities in the state considering building the very low and low units themselves?

Some cities contribute land or provide funding to assist in the development of affordable housing by a private developer. Cities do not typically take on the burden of building affordable housing themselves unless they have a Public Housing Authority.

13. Has any thought been given to the City using the one parcel it does own to exchange for a parcel that could accommodate low and very low units actually building and selling units to actually achieve the purpose of RHNA?

The City-owned parcel is currently zoned for single-family residential use. As with other sites on the housing inventory list, it is proposed to be zoned for residential medium density and also with the Overlay zone, so that it could be developed at a density of 20-25 units and provide 20 percent of the units for affordable income households. There is no plan at this time to sell it to another party.

14. Why are we so far behind in meeting this compliance?

In the past Housing Element cycles (4th and 5th, for example), there have been few development projects proposed and approved with 10 or more units. The City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance requires projects with 10 or more units to provide 15 percent of the units for affordable income households (7% for very low, 4% for low, and 4% for moderate). The few projects with 10+ units approved have opted to pay the in-lieu fee, as opposed to building the units on-site.

15. What about undeveloped commercial parcels?

Please see the response to Question 1, above.

16. For the housing, are you considering the empty lot on the corner of Agoura Rd and Chesebro? That would put people on the Chesbro exit and NOT Kanan. You rezone that lot if needed.

Assuming the reference is to the vacant parcels at the northwest corner of Agoura and Chesebro Roads, that site is not on the list. There is a formal application for a senior assisted living facility being processed for that site.

17. Are the properties (vacant lots) on Roadside Drive affected or part of the vacant lot considerations?

There are a few vacant lots on Roadside Drive. Two lots on Roadside Drive are on the housing inventory list.

18. Are submitted projects under review for permits going to be effected?

Sites with current development applications may be considered and placed on the housing inventory list. The City has the ability to re-zone these lots.

Comments

- Site 38- objection to being on list – additional problems:
 - At least 8 owners to buy this site
 - Environmental changing nature & animals
 - 100's of oak trees
 - Multiple owners not willing to sell/develop
 - Economic infeasible
 - Zoning changes
 - On a mountain
 - Environmental impact
 - Chumash Burin
 - Geological Issue

- Evacuation

To clarify, this site has several parcels, all of which are owned by one entity. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act would be prepared for the General Plan, including the Housing Element. The EIR and would analyze potential environmental impacts from developing the sites on the list. Since a specific housing development project is not proposed at this time, just re-zoning, the analysis will be broad.

- I see you did put your thinking caps on. Rezoning for the “potential” of building such as the shopping centers.
- I like that you’ve taken commercial areas and rezoned for the potential of building in housing to satisfy the state’s requirement for affordable housing.
- I also like that it doesn’t require us to build but just have areas zoned for the potential to build.
- Thanks for an informative meeting.
- Enough citizens die from Covid-19 that there is no housing shortage.
- The economy gets bad enough that no one can pay rent.
- It makes no sense that little Agoura Hills a hire fire danger area with limited evacuation routes is required to build high density affordable housing. I get that builders need to make a profit and the City would have to offer caveats so AH can meet the State’s required allotment of high density affordable housing. But what I don’t understand is why the City of Agoura Hills is not pushing back on the State to help them understand the eminent danger a project of this scope creates in regard to safely evacuating this community when not if a massive fire is at our door.

Please note that, at the City Council’s direction, City staff filed an appeal to the Southern California Association of Governments in October 2020 to request that the number of dwelling units in the RHNA be reduced, based on the City having 2/3 of its land area in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) and recent fires in the area. That appeal was rejected, and the RHNA assignment remains at 318.

Elected officials please do the job you are hired to do. Protect this community from falling prey to absurd and reckless state mandates. The only way to help state law makers and mandate makers understand is to push back. We don’t have a solid and realistic forest management program for the federal and state and conservancy lands we hold so dear. If we must build low income housing then let’s get creative and repurpose antiquated office buildings that will become obsolete as more and more companies reduce their overhead by having more employees work from home. We don’t need the massive project proposal year after

year after year. City Hall please with all due respect put your thinking caps on and think up a solution that protects this community. Stop with the smoke and mirrors

- Please use all of the empty lots before taking away our movie theater and lumber yard, etc., that everyone uses.
- I am writing in reference to the rezoning and affordable housing allotment that is state mandated. I am a 40 year resident of Agoura Hills. Our City always had a mixture of equestrian property open space commercial and mixed residential units. We are now faced with catch up to provide approximately 400 affordable low income housing to meet the needs of all our residents and to comply with state mandated requirements We had 8 years to get the needs met. Our neighboring city of Westlake Village has complied and used their northern sector of the city to meet their housing needs. Why are so far behind in meeting this compliance? Now we are faced with rezoning and looking at Old Agoura to help meet these needs. What about undeveloped commercial parcels? What about unused commercial buildings and other units that can be converted to affordable housing. Where is the Agoura Village project and their projected project to provide housing? We need to look at all areas including Morrison Ranch, Liberty Canyon, Fountainwood, Reyes Adobe Lake Lindero. Land use must maintain the open space. Parks, and equestrian community. This will benefit all. We should not be faced with potential large violations for not meeting the needs. Why was the assisted facility on Canwood St allowed? Assisted living facilities average \$6000-\$8000 per month as baseline costs. This is not affordable housing. Rezone commercial parcels and get the Agoura Village project going!

Please see the responses to Questions 1, 4 and 7, above. The assisted living facility on Canwood Street was approved by the City about three years ago. At that time, the new Housing Element requirements were not fully detailed and available to cities, and the City's RHNA had not been assigned. The assisted living facility is an allowed use with a Conditional Use Permit in that zone (Business Park-Office - Freeway Corridor). The proposed approach with this 6th cycle of the Housing Element is different than with past cycles, particularly due to the new rules at the state level, and the large RHNA we have been assigned this time, nearly three times the amount in previous cycles.

- Respectfully submitting this comment for the Public Workshop regarding California' mandates to meet the housing needs of everyone in the State, requiring a City and County to adopt a housing plan as part of its General Plan, and to comply with the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). My comments and request are based on the problems our City has with respect to finding the appropriate space, available property, developers to incentivize , and other factors to numerous to mention , so as to comply with the RHNA. Our City

Staff, consultants, City Council, private volunteer residents have spent countless hours, and money, I might add, to feed the State's anxiety to provide expressed needed housing. From above moderate to very low affordability based on income and other considerations. There are established deadlines for us to respond to the State with our plans to meet 318 total units. We know the State Legislature is not helpful here, having passed several bills that take away our City's control of zoning, and avoiding the requisites of CEQA under the RHNA/Housing Element. What I am now suggesting, and mentioned to Council Person Debbie Lopez, is our joining in a pending law suit initiated by Cities in Orange County over these requirements. Hopefully, before we spend more money and time by many, because of the circumstances that now exist preventing us from complying. The Orange County Council of Governments (COG) filed a law suit against the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) over its housing requirements for the RHNA allocation cycle. The HCD determined that Southern California will have to build 1.34 million homes by 2030. Orange County cities believe that HCD severely overestimated the amount of new housing required by over 670,000, with 651,000 being more accurate. In the law suit, the COG maintains that the HCD did not follow appropriate guidelines to provide a correct estimate, and used inaccurate population forecasts and vacancy rates for the region. Meanwhile the Cities need to submit their updated General Plan by October to accommodate the housing requisites as set by HCD. Of course, this is not the first time that our beloved State has been negligent or failed to accurately supply statistics that are needed to allow for proper decision making. Varied projects over many years, not just housing, but transportation, road improvements, school construction and other public infrastructure plans have gone awry with cost over runs and construction issues because of it. I am not against the needed housing, but want to make sure we get it right.



Senior Housing Needs Survey - Responses

In order to solicit input from one of Agoura Hills' most vulnerable populations – senior citizens – the City conducted a Senior Housing Needs survey. The survey was distributed as follows:

- Posted on the front page of the City website
- Posted on the Housing Element Update webpage; Advertised in the Acorn newsletter
- Put in the electronic City newsletter distributed Citywide and electronic Seniors newsletter
- Promoted via the City Facebook and Twitter accounts

A total of 96 seniors completed the Housing Needs Survey. Respondents provided email contact information so the City could provide them with housing information in the future, including information on how to add an accessory dwelling unit to their properties. The following presents the aggregated response to the survey questions.

1. Are you a resident in the City of Agoura Hills? 79% Yes 21% No
2. Do you currently rent or own your home? 83% Rent 17% Own
3. Do you visit the Agoura Hills Recreation and Event Center?
55% Yes 45% No
4. Do you receive any of the following City newsletters?
26% Yes *Senior Moments*
47% Yes *Monday Morning* (electronic)
64% Yes *Community Connect* (electronic)
50% Yes *City Newsletter* (electronic)
5. Please indicate your age:
7% 55-59 years 57% 60-75 years 36% Over 75 years
6. On a scale from 1-5, (5 being most important), please indicate how important each of the following issues is to you:
3.57 Affordable senior housing in Agoura Hills
2.41 Assistance with rent
3.04 Assistance with housing maintenance
3.47 Having senior housing located near medical facilities and shopping centers
3.05 Having senior housing located near transit (such as bus routes)
2.79 Having senior housing located near the City Recreation and Event Center

7. Accessory dwelling units (ADUs), or “second units,” are small, self-contained units either attached to a single-family dwelling or detached on the same property. They can provide lower cost rental options for seniors, and provide senior homeowners with added rental income. Would you like information on how to provide an ADU on your property?

13% Yes 87% No

8. How would you like information about senior housing opportunities and programs to be provided?

68% Online/email

13% Written newsletter mailed to your home

18% Information posted at the Agoura Hills Recreation Center

Thank you!