

Materials and Resources (cont.)

Points

Materials Credit 2: Construction Waste Management

INTENT:

Divert construction, demolition, and land clearing debris from landfill disposal.
Redirect recyclable material back to the manufacturing process.

1-2

REQUIREMENT:

Develop and implement a waste management plan, quantifying material diversion by weight.

- Recycle and/or salvage at least 50% (by weight) of construction, demolition, and land clearing waste. (1 point)
- Recycle and/or salvage an additional 25% (75% total by weight) of the construction, demolition, and land clearing debris. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Develop and specify a waste management plan that identifies licensed haulers and processors of recyclables; identifies markets for salvaged materials; employs deconstruction, salvage, and recycling strategies and processes, includes waste auditing; and documents the cost for recycling, salvaging, and reusing materials. Source reduction on the job site should be an integral part of the plan

The plan should address recycling of corrugated cardboard, metals, concrete brick, asphalt, land clearing debris (if applicable), beverage containers, clean dimensional wood, plastic, glass, gypsum board, and carpet, and evaluates the cost-effectiveness of recycling rigid insulation, engineered wood products and other materials. Refer to the LEED Reference Guide for guidelines and references that provide waste management plan development and implementation support including model bid specifications.

Materials Credit 3: Resource Reuse

INTENT:

Extend the life cycle of targeted building materials, reducing environmental impacts related to materials manufacturing and transport.

1-2

REQUIREMENT:

- Specify salvaged or refurbished materials for 5% of building materials. (1 point)
- Specify salvaged or refurbished materials for 10% of building materials. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Commonly salvaged building materials include wood flooring/ paneling/cabinets, doors and frames, mantels, iron work and decorative lighting fixtures, brick, masonry and heavy timbers. See the LEED Reference Guide for calculation tools and guidelines. Determine percentages in terms of dollar value using the following steps:

1. Calculate total dollars* (see exclusions) of the salvaged or refurbished material.
2. Calculate total dollars (see exclusions) of all building materials.
3. Divide Step 1 by Step 2 to determine the percentage.

Exclusions: In total dollar calculations, exclude: labor costs; all mechanical and electrical material and labor costs; and project overhead and fees.

*If the cost of the salvaged or refurbished material is below market value, use replacement cost to estimate the material value, otherwise use actual cost to the project.



Materials and Resources (cont.)

Points

Materials Credit 4: Recycled Content

INTENT:

Increase demand for building products that have incorporated recycled content material, reducing the impacts resulting from extraction of new material.

1-2

REQUIREMENT:

- Specify a minimum of 25% of building materials that contain in aggregate a minimum weighted average of 20% post-consumer recycled content material, OR, a minimum weighted average of 40% post-industrial recycled content material. (1 point)
- Specify an additional 25% (50% total) of building materials that contain in aggregate, a minimum weighted average of 20% post consumer recycled content material, OR, a minimum weighted average of 40% post-industrial recycled content material. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Specify building materials containing recycled content for a fraction of total building materials. Start with the materials listed in the EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG). Common building materials and products with recycled content include; wall, partition, and ceiling materials and systems; insulation; tiles and carpets; cement, concrete, and reinforcing metals; structural and framing steel. See the LEED Reference Guide for a summary of the EPA guidelines and calculation methodology guidelines. Determine percentages in terms of dollar value using the following steps:

1. Calculate total dollars (see exclusions) of the material that contain recycled content.
2. Calculate total dollars (see exclusions) of all building materials.
3. Divide Step 1 by Step 2 to determine the percentage.

Exclusions: Labor costs; all mechanical and electrical material and labor costs; project overhead and fees)

Materials Credit 5: Local/Regional Materials

INTENT:

Increase demand for building products that are manufactured locally, reducing the environmental impacts resulting from transportation, and supporting the local economy.

1-2

REQUIREMENT:

- Specify a minimum of 20% of building materials that are manufactured regionally within a radius of 500 miles. (1 point)
- Of these regionally manufactured materials, specify a minimum of 50% that are extracted, harvested, or recovered within 500 miles. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Specify and install regionally extracted, harvested, and manufactured building materials. Contact the state and local waste management boards for information about regional building materials. See the LEED Reference Guide for calculation methodology guidelines. Determine percentages in terms of dollar value using the following steps:

1. Calculate total dollars (see exclusions) of material that is locally or regionally manufactured.
2. Calculate total dollars (see exclusions) of all building materials.
3. Divide Step 1 by Step 2 to determine the percentage.

Exclusions: Labor costs; all mechanical and electrical material and labor costs; project overhead and fees.



Materials and Resources (cont.)

Points

Material Credit 6: Rapidly Renewable Materials

1

INTENT:

Reduce the use and depletion of finite raw and long cycle renewable materials by replacing them with rapidly renewable materials.

REQUIREMENT:

- Specify rapidly renewable building materials for 5% of total building materials.

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Rapidly renewable resources are those materials that substantially replenish themselves faster than traditional extraction demand (e.g. planted and harvested in less than a 10 year cycle) and do not result in significant biodiversity loss, increase erosion, air quality impacts, and that are sustainably managed. See the LEED Reference Guide for calculation methodology guidelines.

Determine percentages in terms of dollar value using the following steps:

1. Calculate total dollars (see exclusions) of materials that are considered to be rapidly renewable.
2. Calculate total dollars (see exclusions) of all building materials.
3. Divide Step 1 by Step 2 to determine the percentage.

Exclusions: Labor costs; all mechanical and electrical material and labor costs; project overhead and fees.

Material Credit 7: Certified Wood

1

INTENT:

Encourage environmentally responsible forest management.

REQUIREMENT:

- Use a minimum of 50% of wood-based materials certified in accordance with the Forest Stewardship Council guidelines for wood building components including but not limited to framing, flooring, finishes, furnishings, and non-rented temporary construction applications such as bracing, concrete form work and pedestrian barriers.

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Refer to the Forest Stewardship Council guidelines for wood building components that qualify for compliance to the requirements and incorporate into material selection for the project.



Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ)

Points

IEQ Prerequisite 1:
Minimum IAQ
Performance

Required

INTENT:

Establish minimum IAQ performance to prevent the development of indoor air quality problems in buildings, maintaining the health and well being of the occupants.

REQUIREMENT:

- Meet the minimum requirements of voluntary consensus standard ASHRAE 62-1999, Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality and approved Addenda.

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Include proactive design details that will eliminate some of the common causes of indoor air quality problems in buildings. Introduce standards into the design process early. Incorporate references to targets in plans and specifications. Ensure ventilation system outdoor air capacity can meet standards in all modes of operation. Locate building outdoor air intakes away from loading areas, building exhaust fans, cooling towers, and other sources of contamination. Include operational testing in the building commissioning report. Design cooling coil drain pans to ensure complete draining.

IEQ Prerequisite 2:
Environmental Tobacco
Smoke (ETS) Control

Required

INTENT:

Prevent exposure of building occupants and systems to Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS).

REQUIREMENT:

- Zero exposure of nonsmokers to ETS by prohibition of smoking in the building, OR, by providing a designated smoking room designed to effectively contain, capture and remove ETS from the building. At a minimum, the smoking room shall be directly exhausted to the outdoors with no recirculation of ETS-containing air to the non-smoking area of the building, enclosed with impermeable structural deck-to-deck partitions and operated at a negative pressure compared with the surrounding spaces of at least 7 Pa (0.03 inches of water gauge). Performance of smoking rooms shall be verified using tracer gas testing methods as described in ASHRAE Standard 129-1997. Acceptable exposure in non-smoking areas is defined as less than 1% of the tracer gas concentration in the smoking room detectable in the adjoining non-smoking areas. Smoking room testing as described in the ASHRAE Standard 129-1997 is required in the contract documents and critical smoking facility systems testing results must be included in the building commissioning plan and report or as a separate document.

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Prohibit smoking in the building and/or provide designated smoking areas outside the building in locations where ETS can not reenter the building or ventilation system and away from high building occupant or pedestrian traffic.



Indoor Environmental Quality (cont.)

Points

IEQ Credit 1: Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Monitoring

1

INTENT:

Provide capacity for indoor air quality (IAQ) monitoring to sustain long term occupant health and comfort.

REQUIREMENT:

- Install a permanent carbon dioxide (CO₂) monitoring system that provides feedback on space ventilation performance in a form that affords operational adjustments, AND specify initial operational set point parameters that maintain indoor carbon dioxide levels no higher than outdoor levels by more than 530 parts per million at any time.

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Install an independent system or make CO₂ monitoring a function of the building automation system. Situate monitoring locations in areas of the building with high occupant densities and at the ends of the longest runs of the distribution ductwork. Specify that system operation manuals require calibration of all of the sensors per manufacturer recommendations but not less than one year. Include sensor and system operational testing and initial set point adjustment in the commissioning plan and report.

IEQ Credit 2: Increase Ventilation Effectiveness

1

INTENT:

Provide for the effective delivery and mixing of fresh air to building occupants to support their health, safety, and comfort.

REQUIREMENT:

- For mechanically ventilated buildings, design ventilation systems that result in an air change effectiveness (E) greater than or equal to 0.9 as determined by ASHRAE 129-1997. For naturally ventilated spaces demonstrate a distribution and laminar flow pattern that involves not less than 90% of the room or zone area in the direction of air flow for at least 95% of hours of occupancy.

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Employ architectural and HVAC design strategies to increase ventilation effectiveness and prevent short-circuiting of airflow delivery. Techniques available include use of displacement ventilation, low velocity, and laminar flow ventilation (under floor or near floor delivery) and natural ventilation. Operable windows with an architectural strategy for natural ventilation, cross ventilation, or stack effect can be appropriate options with study of inlet areas and locations. See the LEED Reference Guide for compliance methodology guidelines.



Indoor Environmental Quality (cont.)

Points

IEQ Credit 3:
Construction IAQ
Management Plan

1-2

INTENT:

Prevent indoor air quality problems resulting from the construction/renovation process, to sustain long term installer and occupant health and comfort.

REQUIREMENT:

Develop and implement an Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Management Plan for the construction and pre-occupancy phases of the building as follows:

- During construction meet or exceed the minimum requirements of the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning National Contractors Association (SMACNA) IAQ Guideline for Occupied Buildings under Construction, 1995, AND protect stored on-site or installed absorptive materials from moisture damage, AND replace all filtration media immediately prior to occupancy (Filtration media shall have a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) of 13 as determined by ASHRAE 52.2-1999). (1 point)
- Conduct a minimum two-week building flushout with new filtration media at 100% outside air after construction ends and prior to occupancy, OR, conduct a baseline indoor air quality testing procedure consistent with current EPA protocol for Environmental Requirements, Baseline IAQ and Materials, for the Research Triangle Park Campus, Section 01445. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Specify containment control strategies including protecting the HVAC system, controlling pollutant sources, interrupting pathways for contamination, enforcing proper housekeeping and coordinating schedules to minimize disruption. Specify the construction sequencing to install absorptive materials after the prescribed dry or cure time of wet finishes to minimize adverse impacts on indoor air quality. Materials directly exposed to moisture through precipitation, plumbing leaks, or condensation from the HVAC system are susceptible to microbial contamination. Absorptive materials to protect and sequence installation include; insulation, carpeting, ceiling tiles, and gypsum products. Appoint an IEQ Manager with owner's authority to inspect IEQ problems and require mitigation as necessary.



Indoor Environmental Quality (cont.)

Points

IEQ Credit 4:
Low-Emitting Materials

INTENT:

Reduce the quantity of indoor air contaminants that are odorous or potentially irritating to provide installer and occupant health and comfort.

1-4

REQUIREMENT:

Meet or exceed VOC limits for adhesives, sealants, paints, composite wood products, and carpet systems as follows:

- Adhesives must meet or exceed the VOC limits of South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule #1168 by. AND all sealants used as a filler must meet or exceed Bay Area Air Resources Board Reg. 8, Rule 51 (1 point)
- Paints and coatings must meet or exceed the VOC and chemical component limits of Green Seal requirements. (1 point)
- Carpet systems must meet or exceed the Carpet and Rug Institute Green Label Indoor Air Quality Test Program. (1 point)
- Composite wood or agrifiber products must contain no added urea-formaldehyde resins. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Evaluate and preferentially specify materials that are low emitting, non-irritating, nontoxic and chemically inert. Request and evaluate emissions test data from manufacturers for comparative products. Ensure that VOC limits are clearly stated in specifications, in General Conditions, or in each section where adhesives, sealants, coatings, carpets, and composite woods are addressed.

IEQ Credit 5:
Indoor Chemical and
Pollutant Source Control

INTENT:

Avoid exposure of building occupants to potentially hazardous chemicals that adversely impact air quality.

1

REQUIREMENT:

Design to minimize cross-contamination of regularly occupied areas by chemical pollutants:

- Employ permanent entryway systems (grills, grates, etc.) to capture dirt, particulates, etc. from entering the building at all high volume entryways, AND provide areas with structural deck to deck partitions with separate outside exhausting, no air recirculation and negative pressure where chemical use occurs (including housekeeping areas and copying/print rooms). AND provide drains plumbed for appropriate disposal of liquid waste in spaces where water and chemical concentrate mixing occurs.

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Design to physically isolate activities associated with chemical contaminants from other locations in the building, providing dedicated systems to contain and remove chemical pollutants from source emitters at source locations.

Applicable measures include eliminating or isolating high hazard areas; designing all housekeeping chemical storage and mixing areas (central storage facilities and janitors closets) to allow for secure product storage; designing copy/fax/printer/printing rooms with structural deck to deck partitions and dedicated exhaust ventilation systems; and including permanent architectural entryway system(s) to catch and hold particles to keep them from entering and contaminating the building interior.



Indoor Environmental Quality (cont.)

Points

IEQ Credit 6: Controllability of Systems

INTENT:

Provide a high level of individual occupant control of thermal, ventilation, and lighting systems to support optimum health, productivity, and comfort conditions.

1-2

REQUIREMENT:

- Provide a minimum of one operable window and one lighting control zone per 200 s.f. for all occupied areas within 15 feet of the perimeter wall. (1 point)
- Provide controls for each individual for airflow, temperature, and lighting for 50% of the non perimeter, regularly occupied areas. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Provide individual or integrated controls systems that control lighting, airflow, and temperature in individual rooms and/or work areas. Consider combinations of ambient and task lighting control and operable windows for perimeter and VAV systems for non perimeter with a 1:1:2 terminal box to controller to occupant ratio.

IEQ Credit 7: Thermal Comfort

INTENT:

Provide for a thermally comfortable environment that supports the productive and healthy performance of the building occupants.

1-2

REQUIREMENT:

- Comply with ASHRAE Standard 55-1992, Addenda 1995 for thermal comfort standards including humidity control within established ranges per climate zone. (1 point)
- Install a permanent temperature and humidity monitoring system configured to provide operators control over thermal comfort performance and effectiveness of humidification and/or dehumidification systems in the building. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Integrated envelope and HVAC system design strategies that achieve thermal comfort conditions based on mean radiant temperature, local air velocity, relative humidity, and air temperature. Install and maintain a temperature and humidity monitoring system for key areas of the building (i.e., at the perimeter, and spaces provided with humidity control). This function can be satisfied by the building automation system. Specify in system operation manuals that all sensors require quarterly calibration. Include criteria verification and system operation in commissioning plan and report.



Indoor Environmental Quality (cont.)

Points

IEQ Credit 8:
Daylight and Views

INTENT:

Provide a connection between indoor spaces and the outdoor environment through the introduction of sunlight and views into the occupied areas of the building.

1-2

REQUIREMENT:

- Achieve a minimum Daylight Factor of 2% (excluding all direct sunlight penetration) in 75% of all space occupied for critical visual tasks, not including copy rooms, storage areas, mechanical, laundry, and other low occupancy support areas. Exceptions include those spaces where tasks would be hindered by the use of daylight or where accomplishing the specific tasks within a space would be enhanced by the direct penetration of sunlight. (1 point)
- Direct line of sight to vision glazing from 90% of all regularly occupied spaces, not including copy rooms, storage areas, mechanical, laundry, and other low occupancy support areas. (1 point)

TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES:

Implement design strategies to provide access to daylight and views to the outdoors in a glare-free way using exterior sun shading, interior light shelves, and/or window treatments. Orient buildings to maximize daylighting options. Consider shallow or narrow building footprints. Employ courtyards, atriums, clerestory windows, skylights, and light shelves to achieve daylight penetration (from other than direct effect or direct rays from the sun) deep into regularly occupied areas of the building.



Innovation Credits and Design/Build Process

Points

LEED Innovation Credits

INTENT:

To provide design teams and projects the opportunity to be awarded points for exceptional performance above requirements set by the LEED Green Buildings System and/or innovative performance in Green Building categories not specifically addressed by the LEED Green Building Rating System.

1-4

REQUIREMENT:

In writing, using the LEED Credit Equivalence process, identify the INTENT of the proposed innovation credit, the proposed REQUIREMENT for compliance, the proposed DOCUMENTATION to demonstrate compliance, and the TECHNOLOGIES/STRATEGIES used to meet the required elements.

SUGGESTED USES:

- Responses to regional sustainability issues.
- Unique project types and locations.
- Emerging sustainable design topics and innovations.

LEED Accredited Professional

INTENT:

To support and encourage the design integration required by a LEED Green Building project and to streamline the application and certification process.

1

REQUIREMENT:

- At least one principal participant of the project team that has successfully completed the LEED Accredited Professional exam.

STRATEGY:

Attend a LEED Accredited Professional training workshop in preparation to take and pass the LEED Accredited Professional exam.





LEED™ Scorecard



Purpose of Form: Use this form to score your project against the LEED™ Green Building Rating System. Fill it out at the time of registration. It will help you, and us, to keep track of the prerequisites and applicable credits on your project. It will also be used to track compliance when that documentation is submitted to the US Green Building Council.

14 Sustainable Sites

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: Erosion and Sedimentation Control | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 5: Reduced Site Disturbance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 1: Site Selection | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 6: Stormwater Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 2: Urban Redevelopment | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 7: Landscape and Exterior Design to Reduce Heat Islands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 3: Brownfield Redevelopment | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 8: Light Pollution Reduction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 4: Alternative Transportation | |

5 Water Efficiency

- Credit 1: Water Efficient Landscaping
- Credit 2: Innovative Wastewater Technologies
- Credit 3: Water Use Reduction

17 Energy and Atmosphere

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite 1: Fundamental Building Systems Commissioning | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 1: Optimize Energy Performance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite 2: Minimum Energy Performance | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 2: Renewable Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite 3: CFC Reduction in HVAC&R Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 3: Additional Commissioning |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 4: Elimination of HCFC's and Halons |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 5: Measurement and Verification |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 6: Green Power |

13 Materials and Resources

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: Storage & Collection of Recyclables | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 4: Recycled Content |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 1: Building Reuse | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 5: Local/Regional Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 2: Construction Waste Management | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 6: Rapidly Renewable Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 3: Resource Reuse | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 7: Certified Wood |

15 Indoor Environmental Quality

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite 1: Minimum IAQ Performance | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 4: Low-Emitting Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite 2: Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) Control | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 5: Indoor Chemical and Pollutant Source Control |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 1: Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 6: Controllability of Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 2: Increase Ventilation Effectiveness | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 7: Thermal Comfort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 3: Construction IAQ Management Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Credit 8: Daylight and Views |

64 Total Core LEED Rating System Points

5 Innovation and Design Process Points

- LEED Innovation Credits
- LEED Accredited Professional

Total Points Scored

LEED Green Building Certification Levels

- LEED Certified = 26 - 32 Points
- LEED Certified Silver Level = 33 - 38 Points
- LEED Certified Gold Level = 39 - 51 Points
- LEED Certified Platinum Level = 52+ Points



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Task Force Report

Findings

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1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. Dimensions of the Housing Crisis
4. Origins of the Housing Crisis
5. Recommendations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November 1999, a Housing Crisis Task Force made up of business and community representatives and staff of City agencies was convened by the Los Angeles City Council to consider the profound crisis of housing affordability in the City. The City's housing prices have risen so high that they not only devour the wages of working families, but threaten the City's continued economic growth. Los Angeles is a city of renters, yet in Los Angeles renters pay a higher proportion of their incomes for rent than anywhere else in the state.

The Housing Crisis Task Force recommends that the City take immediate action to:

1. Establish a housing trust fund with dedicated sources of local revenue.
2. Develop a comprehensive strategy to preserve existing affordable housing.
3. Create more affordable homeownership opportunities through innovative land use.
4. Make the City user-friendly with phone and Internet information services for housing, building, zoning and planning.

The Task Force made four main findings:

The City's economic recovery has been fueled by businesses dependent upon low-wage service workers, yet many of these workers must pay over half their income for rent. To afford a two-bedroom apartment renting at \$766 per month, a worker would have to earn \$14.90 per hour. A worker earning the California minimum wage of \$5.75 an hour would have to work more than 100 hours a week to pay the rent. The City must intervene in the market to assure a sufficient supply of affordable housing for the City's workforce.

Over the next few years thousands of units in the City's older housing stock will be demolished to make way for new residential, commercial and school construction and as many as 10,000 units with federal, state or local subsidies could convert to market rate rents. The City must act now to preserve existing affordable housing.

The City is nearly built out, and suitable parcels of land for new housing are so scarce that construction has nearly ceased. Between July 1998 and June 1999, only 1,940 net new housing units were built in the City of Los Angeles while population increased by 65,000 people. Homeownership is a fading dream for most Los Angeles

residents. Only 39 percent of the City's households own their own home compared to 65 percent nationwide, and many middle income workers must commute long distances to afford single family homes. The City must ease land use restrictions to provide more opportunities for affordable homeownership

Los Angeles is a major center for the new information economy, yet City government is unable to efficiently provide critical information needed by residents and businesses. From the Rent Stabilization Division to the City Planning Department, accurate information should be easily available by phone and Internet to tenants seeking information on rent control, developers seeking zoning information and homeowners who wish to construct an accessory unit in the backyard.

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INTRODUCTION

The Housing Crisis Task Force

In September 1999, the National Low Income Housing Coalition released a study titled *Out of Reach*, documenting the profound crisis of housing affordability facing the residents of Los Angeles and the rest of the nation. According to the report, the City's workers must earn at least \$14.90 per hour in order to afford the fair market rent of \$7 per month for a two-bedroom apartment. A worker earning the federal minimum wage \$5.15 an hour would have to work 111 hours a week to afford the rent. Even with California's higher minimum wage of \$5.75 per hour, a work week of more than 100 hours is necessary to keep rent within 30 percent of income.

The Los Angeles City Council responded swiftly to this report by passing on September 21, 1999, a motion introduced by Council Member Michael Feuer. The motion instructed the General Manager of the City's Housing Department to convene a task force that would make recommendations to the Mayor on Council on options to alleviate "the shortage of safe, decent and affordable housing within the City of Los Angeles."

A large group of men and women representing diverse sectors of the City's housing economy and representatives of key City agencies were invited to join the task force. Representatives of the private sector came from banks, the Chamber of Commerce, nonprofit housing development corporations, the Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles and many others. The Housing Department, the City Planning Department, Department of Building and Safety, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority all were part of the Task Force. A list of task force members can be found in the beginning of this report.

On October 28, 1999, the Housing Crisis Task Force began its work with a bus tour of affordable housing developments and slum housing. On November 4, the Task Force, with 78 people attending, assembled for its second meeting. At this meeting Sister Dia Donoghue, Executive Director of Esperanza Community Housing Corporation, and Lauren Saunders, Director of the Housing Conditions Project at Bet Tzedek Legal Services, were confirmed as co-chairs of the Task Force. The task force members divided themselves into six subcommittees. The subcommittees addressed issues of funding, land use and planning, rental housing, the state of existing affordable housing research and economic development.

Over the next several months each subcommittee held four or five meetings and each drafted a substantial set of recommendations to the City Council on legislative and program changes to address the housing needs of the City's residents. More than 100 people attended at least one task force meeting, putting in more than 1,000 volunteer hours on this report. The findings and recommendations are the considered opinions of experts in all areas of housing provision.

▲back to

DIAGNOSIS OF THE HOUSING CRISIS

The City of Los Angeles is in the grip of a profound crisis of housing affordability. The majority of the City's households are renters who are paying higher percentages of their incomes for rent than anyone else in California. Families of the City's lowest wage workers must pay more than half their incomes for rent or double up in substandard apartments.

Growing Gap Between Wages and Housing Costs

The 1990 Census found that 92 percent of renter households earning less than \$25,000 per year and a quarter of all renter households were spending more than half their pre-tax incomes for rent. Estimates of current rent burden can be made by calculating the income necessary to keep rent payments for an average two-bedroom apartment within 30 percent of pre-tax household income.

In 1999, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the City of Los Angeles was \$766 per month including utilities. In order to expend only 30 percent of its income for this apartment, a household would have to have an income of \$2,553 a month or \$30,636 per year. This income requires an hourly wage of \$14.73. But at California's minimum wage of \$5.75 per hour, annual income is only \$11,960 per year and the household can only pay \$299 per month for rent. Even with the City of Los Angeles living wage of \$8.76 per hour without health benefits, the family earns only \$18,222 per year and can pay only \$455 per month for rent.

Table 1 shows the wages at various levels of income eligibility for federal housing assistance and typical occupations of the people who earn those wages. Over the past ten years, job growth has been highest in the service sector and this growth is expected to continue. Low-wage jobs also make up a significant part of the next highest job growth sector, the wholesale and retail trade. Although there are a number of wage levels within the service sector, low-wage jobs predominate. Health care workers, data entry clerks, pest control workers and bank tellers all make around \$10 to \$12 an hour or between \$20,000 and \$24,000 a year. In garment manufacture, an important Los Angeles industry, sewing machine operators earn only \$7 or \$8 an hour or \$15,000 to \$17,000 per year. Line cooks and bakers in the restaurant industry earn similar wages, so do the maids and janitors who clean office buildings and hotels. However, while job growth has been concentrated in low-wage sectors, since the end of the recession in 1997, housing prices have continued to rise.

What is Affordable Housing?

Affordable housing is a term used to mean housing that is affordable to low income households. There are three components of the affordability standard. The first is the portion of income that should be allocated to housing costs. The federal government sets the standard of affordability at 30 percent of income.

Eligible Income

The second component of the affordability standard is the relationship of household income to the median income of households in a given area (The median is the point at which half of all incomes are higher and half are lower).

The federal government sets income eligibility standards for rental housing assistance with reference to area median income. The federal poverty standard is about 30 percent of median income. Households are eligible for housing assistance if they earn less than 50 percent of median income or, in certain programs, less than 60 percent or less than 80 percent of median income. Incomes are adjusted for the number of people in the family. In Los Angeles in 1999, the federally defined median income for a family of four was \$51,300. Fifty percent of median was \$17,950 for a one-person household and \$25,650 for a four-person household (See Table 1).

Fair Market Rent

The government sets a third standard when providing housing assistance. That standard is the amount of rent, the "fair market rent" that the government will pay for an apartment unit occupied by households receiving federal housing assistance. Currently, the federal government's standard for fair market rent is the amount charged for rent in the 40th percentile of the housing market. That is the point at which 60 percent of rents are higher and 39 percent are lower. Allowable rents are adjusted by the number of bedrooms so \$766 is the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment but \$1,033 is the fair market rent for a three-bedroom apartment. When a family receives housing assistance, it pays 30 percent of its income for rent and the government pays the difference between 30

percent of household income and the fair market rent.

Table 1
Occupations at Various Incomes

Person/hh	Income	Hourly Wage	Sample Occupations
30% of county median			
1	\$10,750	\$5.16	manicurists
2	\$12,300	\$5.91	parking lot attendant
4	\$15,400	\$7.40	childcare workers
6	\$17,850	\$8.58	line cooks
50% of county median			
1	\$17,950	\$8.62	bank tellers
2	\$20,500	\$9.85	teachers aides
4	\$25,650	\$12.33	roofers
6	\$29,750	\$14.30	truck drivers-tractor trailer
8	\$33,850	\$16.27	sales representatives
80% of county median			
1	\$28,750	\$13.82	dental lab technicians
2	\$32,850	\$15.79	highway maintenance worker
3	\$36,950	\$17.76	legal secretaries
4	\$41,050	\$19.73	plumbers
6	\$47,600	\$22.88	technical writers/editors
8	\$50,900	\$24.47	registered nurses

Source: Wages, EDD, 1997 Occupational Wage Data. Income levels by HH Size, HACLA.

Another indicator of the need for very low cost housing in the City is the number of families who signed up for Section 8 tenant-based assistance when the waiting list recently opened for the first time in 10 years. About 153,000 families signed up, nearly 10 percent of all the City's households and nearly three times as many as all current holders of Section 8 certificates and vouchers. However, only about 3,600 of the City's 41,000 certificates or vouchers become available each year, so households on the waiting list may have to wait as long as 10 years. Only a small number of all households eligible for Section 8 rental assistance actually receive it because, unlike the mortgage interest deduction for home owners, rental assistance is not an entitlement. Every homeowner may deduct the interest on his or her mortgage loan from the amount of income on which income tax must be paid but the number of Section 8 rental assistance certificates and vouchers approved by Congress each year falls far short of the number of renter families who need such assistance.

Homeownership

Higher income households are driving out lower income households in the homeownership market as well. In contrast to national homeownership rates of 66 percent, only 39 percent of the City's households own their own home. Table 2 shows

prices, mortgage payments and qualifying incomes for median priced homes in many the City's communities. In only one community could families earning the median income of \$51,300 afford the median priced home. Thousands of teachers, office workers, firefighters and others have moved to distant suburbs in search of affordable single family homes while prices in the City's single family areas have risen to levels affordable only to high income families.

Historically, African-American and Latino households have faced discrimination in obtaining mortgage loans and a recent study commissioned by HUD shows that minority households still have more trouble than Whites obtaining mortgage financing. They are given less information when applying for loans, are turned down twice as often as Whites and receive lower loan amounts and less favorable loan terms. The study showed that African-American and Latino borrowers face racial discrimination at every stage of the mortgage lending process.

Because rates of homeownership are so low in Los Angeles, assistance to first-time home buyers is an important part of City housing policy. All assistance provided by the City is in partnership with a participating private sector lender. First-time home buyers can obtain low-interest loans or mortgage credit certificates from participating lenders. The City also uses grant funds from HUD to give direct cash assistance to first-time home buyers. These programs include second mortgages, downpayment and closing cost assistance. Some of the City's programs are available to households earning up to 120 percent of the area median income, or to particular groups, such as police officers and fire fighters. Most of the programs which offer larger amounts of cash assistance, such as deferred payment second mortgages and rehabilitation loans, are provided to home buyers who earn up to 80 percent of median income, in accordance with federal law (See Table 1 for the range of incomes at 80 percent of median).

Table 2
Housing Prices and Qualifying Incomes

	Median Sales Price	Total Monthly Cost	Monthly Payment (Monthly Payment to Afford)
West Los Angeles	\$329,000	\$3,047.90	\$130,623
Downtown LA / Central City	\$315,000	\$2,917.90	\$125,053
South Los Angeles	\$125,000	\$1,157.80	\$49,621
NE Los Angeles	\$136,500	\$1,265.00	\$54,214
San Fernando Valley	\$188,000	\$1,741.20	\$74,623
W. San Fernando Valley	\$205,000	\$1,899.00	\$81,384
NE San Fernando Valley	\$160,000	\$1,482.30	\$63,526
SE San Fernando Valley	\$199,500	\$1,848.40	\$79,216
Venice	\$345,000	\$3,195.70	\$136,959
Canoga Park	\$132,500	\$1,227.30	\$52,598
Chatsworth	\$209,000	\$1,935.70	\$82,957
Granada Hills	\$209,000	\$1,935.70	\$82,957
Mission Hills	\$167,000	\$1,546.80	\$66,289
North Hollywood	\$161,750	\$1,498.60	\$64,227
Northridge	\$256,000	\$2,371.20	\$101,624
Pacific Palisades	\$740,000	\$6,280.70	\$269,174
Reseda	\$156,000	\$1,445.60	\$61,953
Sherman Oaks	\$315,000	\$2,917.90	\$125,053
Sylmar	\$137,500	\$1,273.90	\$54,596
Van Nuys	\$170,000	\$1,574.50	\$67,480

San Pedro	\$226,000	\$2,093.40	\$89,718
Torrance	\$275,000	\$2,547.80	\$109,193
Westchester	\$342,000	\$3,167.90	\$135,768
Westside	\$685,000	\$57,793.80	\$248,304
Wilmington	\$132,500	\$1,227.30	\$52,598

Source: Housing Price Data, California Association of Realtors, 3rd Quarter 199

Shortage of Land for Housing

In the past, the City met the needs of its growing population by building new housing. Now, although the City's population continues to grow, construction is at a near standstill. Between June 30, 1998 and July 1, 1999, the City's population increased by 65,000 persons but only 1,940 net new units were built. According to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), during the 1990s new housing production throughout California has been lower than at any time since World War II.

Residential construction is constrained by a number of factors. Construction costs are high. There is little vacant land left in the City and the land that is available is hard to assemble into large enough parcels to make development financially feasible. In areas like South Central Los Angeles, where there are larger parcels of vacant land, residents cannot afford the rents of \$1,000 per month or more that must be charged by market rate developers. And even in underutilized commercial strips where the City would like encourage mixed use projects, that is, projects that combine residential and commercial space, contradictions between commercial and residential building codes have stymie successful development.

It is not possible to estimate the amount of vacant land zoned for residential use in the City, nor the number of underutilized parcels zoned for multifamily use that might become available in the next five years. Although the Housing Element of a city's General Plan usually provides this information, the City of Los Angeles chose not to inventory available sites in its current Draft Housing Element. Instead, the City simply provided an estimate of how many additional units might be built on residential properties zoned for higher densities than their current use.

Information gathered informally from developers indicates that available vacant parcels aren't large enough for profitable development and that it is difficult and time consuming to assemble parcels into sites large enough for building.

Overcrowding

Los Angeles is becoming a city of rich and poor with those in the middle absenting themselves to ever more distant suburbs. The City started the decade with more than 372,000 overcrowded units of which 102,000 were severely overcrowded. With a total housing stock of 1.3 million units, nearly 30 percent of all units were overcrowded. Overcrowding has certainly gotten worse over the last 10 years because while the population of the City has increased by 300,000 people, the number of housing units has grown by only 30,600. Figure 1 shows the annual increases in population and housing units between 1990 and 1999.

The small number of units now being built are either luxury units for high income households or government-subsidized units for low income households. While higher income families build ever larger houses in the city's most expensive areas, the solution for the middle class in search of single family homes has been to move out to suburbs north and east Los Angeles County and to San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. The solution for the poor has been to double and triple up in existing housing and to add in sometimes substandard housing through unpermitted accessory units and converted garages in many of the City's neighborhoods. Such units can even be found in affluent areas.

Unpermitted Units

In the absence of professional developers who assemble land and finance to construct new housing, individual property owners throughout the City are supplementing their incomes and subsidizing their own homeownership by creating illegal rental units. At a time when new construction cannot meet the housing needs of a growing population, residents are clearly finding ways to accommodate growth. The City has a choice: it can permit additional housing in the form of accessory units and new construction on small

lots, or it can refuse to permit these uses which will continue to be provided unpermitted by property owners.

Figure 1

Remaining Land for Housing

The truth is that the City is nearly built out at present levels of land use. The City has a total land area of 300,005 acres (469 square miles) of which 42 percent or 124,822 acres are devoted to residential uses. Most of this land, 104,884 acres, is in single family use, only 19,938 acres are used for multi-family buildings including condominiums. So the approximately 2.3 million residents who live in multifamily dwellings are squeezed into only 15 percent of the residential land, while the remaining 85 percent of residential land is reserved for the 1.5 million residents who own or rent single family homes.

While the City's Draft Housing Element estimates that at current zoning as many as 530,000 additional units might be built in single and multifamily areas, nearly all these units would have to be built on land already being used for residential or commercial buildings. There is no indication of when any of this land might become available for development. So if the City is going to accommodate its growing population, it will have to ease land use restrictions to permit more multifamily uses in mixed residential areas and on underutilized or obsolete commercial and industrial properties.

The City's inability to house its growing workforce threatens its continued economic recovery. Skilled workers may be lost to suburban business development. Businesses need affordable housing for their workers and local customers with disposable income that is, households whose housing expenditures don't exceed half their monthly wage. Other California communities such as San Jose, San Francisco and Orange County, business leaders have organized in response to shortages of affordable housing.

Loss of Affordable Housing

Demolition

As housing prices quickly outstrip the wages of the City's workers, the City's oldest housing stock, which is its most affordable housing, is fast disappearing. Every year nearly a thousand units are demolished to make way for luxury housing or commercial developments. In the last decade, 12,500 housing units were demolished. Even more demolitions may be in store as the Los Angeles Unified School district looks for sites on which to construct 150 new schools.

Slum Housing

Deterioration also threatens the City's older housing units. A small, but not insignificant number of the City's rental housing owners fail to comply with even minimum habitability standards. Conditions became so bad that in 1997 a Blue Ribbon Citizens' Committee on Slum Housing issued a stinging report. The Mayor and City Council responded immediately by creating the Ad Hoc Committee on Substandard Housing. This committee moved rental housing code enforcement investigation to the Housing Department and instituted the Systematic Housing Code Enforcement Program (SCE) under which all rental housing is inspected once every three years instead of being inspected only in response to tenant complaints. The program is so effective that 96 percent of properties comply once they are cited and owners understand that severe penalties can be levied for non-compliance.

→ **Expiring Federal and Local Subsidies**

In neighborhoods where rental prices are rising, apartments with federally subsidized rents may convert to market rates under programs that allow owners to prepay subsidized mortgages or terminate project-based Section 8 contracts. While most tenants in these buildings will receive Section 8 vouchers, the units themselves will no longer be affordable to lower income households.

According to the California Housing Partnership Corporation (CHPC), the City has 21,391 housing units financed by FHA mortgage insurance programs 221(d)(3) and 2 and by Section 8 project-based assistance. A number of buildings have both Section 8 and either Section 221(d)(3) or 236. These programs allow property owners the option of paying their mortgages before the maturity date (prepaying) or "opting out" of Section 8 contracts. Rents in the buildings can then be raised to market rates. In areas of the City where market rents are higher than the rents the owner receives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a number of owners are

planning to terminate their contracts with HUD and raise their rents to market rates. T City's Draft Housing Element identifies another 22,235 units with tax-exempt bond finance or finance from the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency, the California Housing Finance Agency, the City's Community Development Block Grant, HOME funds or other sources. CHPC estimates that 6,597 of the federally financed u are at high or medium risk of converting to market rates in the next five years, while according to LAHD, affordability restrictions on 7,234 units with a variety of state and local subsidies are set to expire over the next eight years. Of that number, about half, 3,534, may have already converted to market rate.

What is Section 8?

Section 8, first authorized by the federal government in 1974, is a rental assistance program. There is a tenant-based program administered by the local housing authority and a project-based program administered directly by HUD. The tenant-based progra issues vouchers to eligible individuals and families to help them pay their rent. Under this program, a tenant contributes 30 percent of adjusted income for rent and the housing authority pays the remaining portion of the rent directly to the property owner

Rents can be no higher than rents for similar unassisted units n the same neighborhood or the fair market rent for the area as determined by HUD, unless the tenant is willing to pay a higher proportion of income for rent. In that case, a tenant m pay up to 40 percent of income for rent and the rent can exceed fair market. Before a unit can be approved for occupancy by a family with a Section 8 voucher, the unit mu pass a habitability inspection conducted by the local housing authority. Property owners sign contracts with the housing authority but may "opt out" of these contracts any time.

In the project-based Section 8 program, owners contract directly with HUD for rent subsidies. Eligible tenants still pay only 30 percent of income for rent but the subsidy i attached to the unit, not the tenant family. At one time, project-based Section 8 subsidies were used to build many new units, but almost no new project-based subsidies are now available.

Households are eligible for Section 8 assistance if their income is no higher than 50 percent of county median income (See Table 1). Unfortunately, there are never as many vouchers as there are families who need assistance.

Furthermore, while the federal government will "enhance" the vouchers as long as the original tenants remain in their buildings, once the tenants leave, the voucher will no longer be enhanced and tenants may have trouble finding comparable housing even the Section 8 vouchers. Because HUD's "fair market rents" are set at 40 percent of th median rent, 60 percent of all rents in Los Angeles are higher than the highest rent HU is willing to pay for poor tenants. As these changes continue, many tenants will be displaced from their neighborhoods and the number of affordable units will be substantially reduced. Tenants in units whose state or local affordability restrictions expire will not receive Section 8 certificates. Tenants who live in older, bond-financed units may have somewhat higher incomes than tenants in the federally financed units, but in many areas, even incomes at 80 percent of median may not give tenants much choice in the rental housing market. Tenants who earn 50 percent or less of median income will have trouble finding any housing they can afford.

With the continuing loss of affordable units, the City's affordable housing programs cannot keep the problem from getting worse at present levels of expenditure. Every ye the Los Angeles Housing Department finances the construction or rehabilitation of 900 1,000 affordable units while 750 or more affordable older units are demolished and 50 or more units with federal or local subsidies raise their rents to market rates. The resul is that the number of houses and apartments affordable to low-wage workers is rapidl diminishing.

Homelessness

Based on a study conducted by Shelter Partnership in 1994, the City estimates that there are 109,000 homeless people in Los Angeles over the course of a year. In this group are about 19,900 members of homeless families including 14,000 homeless children. According to a survey of 30 cities by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, about 2

percent of homeless adults are working and yet cannot afford rent. Homeless families and individuals who are trying to regain self-sufficiency through education and work need very low rents, no more than \$200 or \$300 per month, to obtain permanent housing.

Reductions in Federal, State and Local Housing Expenditures

Federal budget authority for additional affordable housing units reached a high in 1980 and has declined precipitously since then. In 1980 the federal government gave budget authority for \$54 billion in constant 1999 dollars for housing, in 2000 the amount is \$18 billion. At the height of federal expenditure, 541,000 new or rehabilitated units or Section 8 certificates were authorized but since 1996 there has been no budget authority for the production of new Section 8 housing units. Most federal housing expenditures are for ongoing financial commitments to maintain and operate subsidized units produced in previous years. These outlays have risen steadily over the past 24 years and are expected to be \$26 billion in 2000.

The City receives about the same amount every year in federal Community Development Block Grant Funds but because these funds can be used for many purposes from housing to soccer fields, there is a great deal of competition for these funds among different City programs. The amount allocated to housing has decreased recent years as CDBG funds have been budgeted for the Targeted Neighborhood Initiative and other non-housing uses.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency was able to spend up to \$100 million per year on affordable housing out of its Central Business District and Bunker Hill Redevelopment Project Areas. But these projects do not have enough funds to make the interest payments on their bonds.

The state has a mixed record on housing. In the late 1980s, several state bond issues produced funds for two rental rehabilitation programs. Those programs have no current funds although a new state housing bond is under consideration by the Governor and both houses of the legislature.

The result of all the changes in federal, state and local programs is that the City has fewer dollars for new construction or rehabilitation of affordable housing while existing affordable units are fast disappearing. According to the Southern California Association of Non-profit Housing, Los Angeles spends about \$23 per person on affordable housing none of it from the General Fund. In contrast, New York spends \$89 per person, nearly four times as much as Los Angeles. Similarly, Chicago spends \$76 per person, San Jose \$71 per person and Seattle \$66 per person. Between 1986 and 1996 New York City spent \$4.2 billion in mostly city funds to construct or rehabilitate over 140,000 housing units, more than all other major cities in the United States combined.

→ Population Growth and Housing Need

The City's population grew by fits and starts over the last decade with some population decline after the 1994 Northridge earthquake. Nevertheless, the California Department of Finance population estimates show an increase of 300,000 people between 1990 and 1999 with 65,000 additional people between 1998 and 1999. About 80 percent of the City's population growth is natural increase, that is, the excess of births over deaths, only a small portion is the result of net migration.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is responsible for projecting housing needs in all the jurisdictions in its five-county region. In estimating the need for additional housing units, SCAG takes into account population growth, vacancy rates, job growth, and other factors but does not make adjustments for overcrowding, overpayment, or slum conditions. SCAG bases its projections on estimates of growth provided by local jurisdictions.

When making its allocation the need for new housing units, SCAG takes into account only income, employment and population within jurisdictions, but also the regional distribution of employment and income. SCAG then makes an adjustment in its allocations so that one jurisdiction will not end up providing most of the low income housing while another fails to provide any affordable housing. SCAG calls this distribution "fair share." The fair share distribution assigns each county and city in SCAG's five-county region with a portion of projected growth in housing units at four different income levels. The government of each jurisdiction must show the provision of adequate sites for these new housing units in its state-mandated Housing Element of t