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PILP advances justice for low income people and communities by building the capacity of legal services organizations through impact litigation, trainings, and publications, and by advocating for low income community groups and individuals.

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Inclusionary Zoning
- Inclusionary Zoning Revitalized—AB 1505 (January 2018)
- Inclusionary Zoning After Palmer & Patterson—Alive and Well in California (May 2010)
- Inclusionary Zoning: Policy Considerations & Best Practices (December 2002, with Western Center on Law & Poverty)
- Inclusionary Zoning: Legal Issues (December 2002, with Western Center on Law & Poverty)

Locating and Approving Affordable Housing
- Laws Affecting the Location and Approval of Affordable Housing (March 2000)

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A. Housing Element Statutes: Government Code §§ 65580-65589.8 (includes “Housing Accountability Act,” §§ 65589.5-65589.6)

Government Code - GOV
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
CHAPTER 3. Local Planning [65100 - 65763]
(Chapter 3 repealed and added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 1880.)
ARTICLE 10.6. Housing Elements [65580 - 65589.8]
(Article 10.6 added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1143.)


§ 65580. Legislative findings and declarations
The Legislature finds and declares as follows:
(a) The availability of housing is of vital statewide importance, and the early attainment of decent housing and a suitable living environment for every Californian, including farmworkers, is a priority of the highest order.
(b) The early attainment of this goal requires the cooperative participation of government and the private sector in an effort to expand housing opportunities and accommodate the housing needs of Californians of all economic levels.
(c) The provision of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households requires the cooperation of all levels of government.
(d) Local and state governments have a responsibility to use the powers vested in them to facilitate the improvement and development of housing to make adequate provision for the housing needs of all economic segments of the community.
(e) The Legislature recognizes that in carrying out this responsibility, each local government also has the responsibility to consider economic, environmental, and fiscal factors and community goals set forth in the general plan and to cooperate with other local governments and the state in addressing regional housing needs.
(f) Designating and maintaining a supply of land and adequate sites suitable, feasible, and available for the development of housing sufficient to meet the locality’s housing need for all income levels is essential to achieving the state’s housing goals and the purposes of this article.
(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 375, Sec. 1. (AB 1397) Effective January 1, 2018.)

§ 65581. Intent of Legislature.
It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this article:
(a) To assure that counties and cities recognize their responsibilities in contributing to the attainment of the state housing goal.
(b) To assure that counties and cities will prepare and implement housing elements which, along with federal and state programs, will move toward attainment of the state housing goal.
(c) To recognize that each locality is best capable of determining what efforts are required by it to
contribute to the attainment of the state housing goal, provided such a determination is compatible with the state housing goal and regional housing needs.

(d) To ensure that each local government cooperates with other local governments in order to address regional housing needs.

(Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1143.)

§ 65582. Definitions
As used in this article, the following definitions apply:

(a) “Community,” “locality,” “local government,” or “jurisdiction” means a city, city and county, or county.

(b) “Council of governments” means a single or multicounty council created by a joint powers agreement pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 6500) of Division 1 of Title 1.

(c) “Department” means the Department of Housing and Community Development.

(d) “Emergency shelter” has the same meaning as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 50801 of the Health and Safety Code.

(e) “Frequent user coordinated care housing services” means housing combined with other supportive services for homeless persons identified by a city or county as the most costly, frequent users of publicly funded emergency services.

(f) “Housing element” or “element” means the housing element of the community’s general plan, as required pursuant to this article and subdivision (c) of Section 65302.

(g) “Supportive housing” means housing with no limit on length of stay, that is occupied by the target population, and that is linked to an onsite or offsite service that assists 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.

(h) “Supportive services” include, but are not limited to, a combination of subsidized, permanent housing, intensive case management, medical and mental health care, substance abuse treatment, employment services, and benefits advocacy.

(i) “Target population” means persons with low incomes who have one or more disabilities, including mental illness, HIV or AIDS, substance abuse, or other chronic health condition, or individuals eligible for services provided pursuant to the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Division 4.5 (commencing with Section 4500) of the Welfare and Institutions Code) and may include, among other populations, adults, emancipated minors, families with children, elderly persons, young adults aging out of the foster care system, individuals exiting from institutional settings, veterans, and homeless people.

(j) “Transitional housing” means buildings configured as rental housing developments, but operated under program requirements that require the termination of assistance and recirculating of the assisted unit to another eligible program recipient at a predetermined future point in time that shall be no less than six months from the beginning of the assistance.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 188, Sec. 2. (AB 1403) Effective January 1, 2016.)

§ 65582.1. Legislative Findings and Declarations; Reforms and Incentives for Affordable Housing
The Legislature finds and declares that it has provided reforms and incentives to facilitate and expedite the construction of affordable housing. Those reforms and incentives can be found in the following provisions:

(a) Housing element law (Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3).

(b) Extension of statute of limitations in actions challenging the housing element and brought in support of affordable housing (subdivision (d) of Section 65009).

(c) Restrictions on disapproval of housing developments (Section 65589.5).
Appendix A: Statutes

(d) Priority for affordable housing in the allocation of water and sewer hookups (Section 65589.7).
(e) Least cost zoning law (Section 65913.1).
(f) Density bonus law (Section 65915).
(g) Accessory dwelling units (Sections 65852.150 and 65852.2).
(h) By-right housing, in which certain multifamily housing are designated a permitted use (Section 65589.4).
(i) No-net-loss-in zoning density law limiting downzonings and density reductions (Section 65863).
(j) Requiring persons who sue to halt affordable housing to pay attorney fees (Section 65914) or post a bond (Section 529.2 of the Code of Civil Procedure).
(k) Reduced time for action on affordable housing applications under the approval of development permits process (Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) of Chapter 4.5).
(l) Limiting moratoriums on multifamily housing (Section 65858).
(m) Prohibiting discrimination against affordable housing (Section 65008).
(n) California Fair Employment and Housing Act (Part 2.8 (commencing with Section 12900) of Division 3).
(o) Community redevelopment law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code, and in particular Sections 33334.2 and 33413).
(p) Streamlining housing approvals during a housing shortage (Section 65913.4).
(q) Housing sustainability districts (Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 66200)).

Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 371, Sec. 1.5. (AB 73) Effective January 1, 2018. Conditionally inoperative as provided in Stats. 2017, Ch. 371, Sec. 4.)

§ 65583. Contents of Housing Element; Rezoning; Enforcement

The housing element shall consist of an identification and analysis of existing and projected housing needs and a statement of goals, policies, quantified objectives, financial resources, and scheduled programs for the preservation, improvement, and development of housing. The housing element shall identify adequate sites for housing, including rental housing, factory-built housing, mobilehomes, and emergency shelters, and shall make adequate provision for the existing and projected needs of all economic segments of the community. The element shall contain all of the following:

(a) An assessment of housing needs and an inventory of resources and constraints relevant to the meeting of these needs. The assessment and inventory shall include all of the following:

1. An analysis of population and employment trends and documentation of projections and a quantification of the locality’s existing and projected housing needs for all income levels, including extremely low income households, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 50105 and Section 50106 of the Health and Safety Code. These existing and projected needs shall include the locality’s share of the regional housing need in accordance with Section 65584. Local agencies shall calculate the subset of very low income households allotted under Section 65584 that qualify as extremely low income households. The local agency may either use available census data to calculate the percentage of very low income households that qualify as extremely low income households or presume that 50 percent of the very low income households qualify as extremely low income households. The number of extremely low income households and very low income households shall equal the jurisdiction’s allocation of very low income households pursuant to Section 65584.

2. An analysis and documentation of household characteristics, including level of payment compared to ability to pay, housing characteristics, including overcrowding, and housing stock condition.

3. An inventory of land suitable and available for residential development, including vacant sites and sites having realistic and demonstrated potential for redevelopment during the planning period to meet the locality’s housing need for a designated income level, and an analysis of the relationship of zoning...
and public facilities and services to these sites.

(4) (A) The identification of a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit. The identified zone or zones shall include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7), except that each local government shall identify a zone or zones that can accommodate at least one year-round emergency shelter. If the local government cannot identify a zone or zones with sufficient capacity, the local government shall include a program to amend its zoning ordinance to meet the requirements of this paragraph within one year of the adoption of the housing element. The local government may identify additional zones where emergency shelters are permitted with a conditional use permit. The local government shall also demonstrate that existing or proposed permit processing, development, and management standards are objective and encourage and facilitate the development of, or conversion to, emergency shelters. Emergency shelters may only be subject to those development and management standards that apply to residential or commercial development within the same zone except that a local government may apply written, objective standards that include all of the following:

(i) The maximum number of beds or persons permitted to be served nightly by the facility.
(ii) Off-street parking based upon demonstrated need, provided that the standards do not require more parking for emergency shelters than for other residential or commercial uses within the same zone.
(iii) The size and location of exterior and interior onsite waiting and client intake areas.
(iv) The provision of onsite management.
(v) The proximity to other emergency shelters, provided that emergency shelters are not required to be more than 300 feet apart.
(vi) The length of stay.
(vii) Lighting.
(viii) Security during hours that the emergency shelter is in operation.

(B) The permit processing, development, and management standards applied under this paragraph shall not be deemed to be discretionary acts within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).

(C) A local government that can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department the existence of one or more emergency shelters either within its jurisdiction or pursuant to a multijurisdictional agreement that can accommodate that jurisdiction’s need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) may comply with the zoning requirements of subparagraph (A) by identifying a zone or zones where new emergency shelters are allowed with a conditional use permit.

(D) A local government with an existing ordinance or ordinances that comply with this paragraph shall not be required to take additional action to identify zones for emergency shelters. The housing element must only describe how existing ordinances, policies, and standards are consistent with the requirements of this paragraph.

(5) An analysis of potential and actual governmental constraints upon the maintenance, improvement, or development of housing for all income levels, including the types of housing identified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c), and for persons with disabilities as identified in the analysis pursuant to paragraph (7), including land use controls, building codes and their enforcement, site improvements, fees and other exactions required of developers, local processing and permit procedures, and any locally adopted ordinances that directly impact the cost and supply of residential development. The analysis shall also demonstrate local efforts to remove governmental constraints that hinder the locality from meeting its share of the regional housing need in accordance with Section 65584 and from meeting the need for housing for persons with disabilities, supportive housing, transitional housing, and emergency shelters identified pursuant to paragraph (7).

(6) An analysis of potential and actual nongovernmental constraints upon the maintenance,
improvement, or development of housing for all income levels, including the availability of financing, the price of land, the cost of construction, the requests to develop housing at densities below those anticipated in the analysis required by subdivision (c) of Section 65583.2, and the length of time between receiving approval for a housing development and submittal of an application for building permits for that housing development that hinder the construction of a locality’s share of the regional housing need in accordance with Section 65584. The analysis shall also demonstrate local efforts to remove nongovernmental constraints that create a gap between the locality’s planning for the development of housing for all income levels and the construction of that housing.

(7) An analysis of any special housing needs, such as those of the elderly; persons with disabilities, including a developmental disability, as defined in Section 4512 of the Welfare and Institutions Code; large families; farmworkers; families with female heads of households; and families and persons in need of emergency shelter. The need for emergency shelter shall be assessed based on annual and seasonal need. The need for emergency shelter may be reduced by the number of supportive housing units that are identified in an adopted 10-year plan to end chronic homelessness and that are either vacant or for which funding has been identified to allow construction during the planning period. An analysis of special housing needs by a city or county may include an analysis of the need for frequent user coordinated care housing services.

(8) An analysis of opportunities for energy conservation with respect to residential development. Cities and counties are encouraged to include weatherization and energy efficiency improvements as part of publicly subsidized housing rehabilitation projects. This may include energy efficiency measures that encompass the building envelope, its heating and cooling systems, and its electrical system.

(9) An analysis of existing assisted housing developments that are eligible to change from low-income housing uses during the next 10 years due to termination of subsidy contracts, mortgage prepayment, or expiration of restrictions on use. “Assisted housing developments,” for the purpose of this section, shall mean multifamily rental housing that receives governmental assistance under federal programs listed in subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10, state and local multifamily revenue bond programs, local redevelopment programs, the federal Community Development Block Grant Program, or local in-lieu fees. “Assisted housing developments” shall also include multifamily rental units that were developed pursuant to a local inclusionary housing program or used to qualify for a density bonus pursuant to Section 65916.

(A) The analysis shall include a listing of each development by project name and address, the type of governmental assistance received, the earliest possible date of change from low-income use, and the total number of elderly and nonelderly units that could be lost from the locality’s low-income housing stock in each year during the 10-year period. For purposes of state and federally funded projects, the analysis required by this subparagraph need only contain information available on a statewide basis.

(B) The analysis shall estimate the total cost of producing new rental housing that is comparable in size and rent levels, to replace the units that could change from low-income use, and an estimated cost of preserving the assisted housing developments. This cost analysis for replacement housing may be done aggregately for each five-year period and does not have to contain a project-by-project cost estimate.

(C) The analysis shall identify public and private nonprofit corporations known to the local government that have legal and managerial capacity to acquire and manage these housing developments.

(D) The analysis shall identify and consider the use of all federal, state, and local financing and subsidy programs that can be used to preserve, for lower income households, the assisted housing developments, identified in this paragraph, including, but not limited to, federal Community Development Block Grant Program funds, tax increment funds received by a redevelopment agency of the community, and administrative fees received by a housing authority operating within the community. In considering the use of these financing and subsidy programs, the analysis shall identify...
the amounts of funds under each available program that have not been legally obligated for other purposes and that could be available for use in preserving assisted housing developments.

(b) (1) A statement of the community’s goals, quantified objectives, and policies relative to the maintenance, preservation, improvement, and development of housing.

(2) It is recognized that the total housing needs identified pursuant to subdivision (a) may exceed available resources and the community’s ability to satisfy this need within the content of the general plan requirements outlined in Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300). Under these circumstances, the quantified objectives need not be identical to the total housing needs. The quantified objectives shall establish the maximum number of housing units by income category, including extremely low income, that can be constructed, rehabilitated, and conserved over a five-year time period.

(c) A program that sets forth a schedule of actions during the planning period, each with a timeline for implementation, that may recognize that certain programs are ongoing, such that there will be beneficial impacts of the programs within the planning period, that the local government is undertaking or intends to undertake to implement the policies and achieve the goals and objectives of the housing element through the administration of land use and development controls, the provision of regulatory concessions and incentives, the utilization of appropriate federal and state financing and subsidy programs when available, and the utilization of moneys in a low- and moderate-income housing fund of an agency if the locality has established a redevelopment project area pursuant to the Community Redevelopment Law (Division 24 (commencing with Section 33000) of the Health and Safety Code). In order to make adequate provision for the housing needs of all economic segments of the community, the program shall do all of the following:

(1) Identify actions that will be taken to make sites available during the planning period with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate that portion of the city’s or county’s share of the regional housing need for each income level that could not be accommodated on sites identified in the inventory completed pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) without rezoning, and to comply with the requirements of Section 65584.09. Sites shall be identified as needed to facilitate and encourage the development of a variety of types of housing for all income levels, including multifamily rental housing, factory-built housing, mobilehomes, housing for agricultural employees, supportive housing, single-room occupancy units, emergency shelters, and transitional housing.

(A) Where the inventory of sites, pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), does not identify adequate sites to accommodate the need for groups of all household income levels pursuant to Section 65584, rezoning of those sites, including adoption of minimum density and development standards, for jurisdictions with an eight-year housing element planning period pursuant to Section 65588, shall be completed no later than three years after either the date the housing element is adopted pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 65585 or the date that is 90 days after receipt of comments from the department pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 65585, whichever is earlier, unless the deadline is extended pursuant to subdivision (f). Notwithstanding the foregoing, for a local government that fails to adopt a housing element within 120 days of the statutory deadline in Section 65588 for adoption of the housing element, rezoning of those sites, including adoption of minimum density and development standards, shall be completed no later than three years and 120 days from the statutory deadline in Section 65588 for adoption of the housing element.

(B) Where the inventory of sites, pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), does not identify adequate sites to accommodate the need for groups of all household income levels pursuant to Section 65584, the program shall identify sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 65583.2. The identification of sites shall include all components specified in Section 65583.2.
(C) Where the inventory of sites pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) does not identify adequate sites to accommodate the need for farmworker housing, the program shall provide for sufficient sites to meet the need with zoning that permits farmworker housing use by right, including density and development standards that could accommodate and facilitate the feasibility of the development of farmworker housing for low- and very low income households.

(2) Assist in the development of adequate housing to meet the needs of extremely low, very low, low-, and moderate-income households.

(3) Address and, where appropriate and legally possible, remove governmental and nongovernmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing, including housing for all income levels and housing for persons with disabilities. The program shall remove constraints to, and provide reasonable accommodations for housing designed for, intended for occupancy by, or with supportive services for, persons with disabilities. Transitional housing and supportive housing shall be considered a residential use of property and shall be subject only to those restrictions that apply to other residential dwellings of the same type in the same zone. Supportive housing, as defined in Section 65650, shall be a use by right in all zones where multifamily and mixed uses are permitted, as provided in Article 11 (commencing with Section 65650).

(4) Conserve and improve the condition of the existing affordable housing stock, which may include addressing ways to mitigate the loss of dwelling units demolished by public or private action.

(5) Promote and affirmatively further fair housing opportunities and promote housing throughout the community or communities for all persons regardless of race, religion, sex, marital status, ancestry, national origin, color, familial status, or disability, and other characteristics protected by the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (Part 2.8 (commencing with Section 12900) of Division 3 of Title 2), Section 65008, and any other state and federal fair housing and planning law.

(6) Preserve for lower income households the assisted housing developments identified pursuant to paragraph (9) of subdivision (a). The program for preservation of the assisted housing developments shall utilize, to the extent necessary, all available federal, state, and local financing and subsidy programs identified in paragraph (9) of subdivision (a), except where a community has other urgent needs for which alternative funding sources are not available. The program may include strategies that involve local regulation and technical assistance.

(7) Include an identification of the agencies and officials responsible for the implementation of the various actions and the means by which consistency will be achieved with other general plan elements and community goals.

(8) Include a diligent effort by the local government to achieve public participation of all economic segments of the community in the development of the housing element, and the program shall describe this effort.

(9) (A) Affirmatively further fair housing in accordance with Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8899.50) of Division 1 of Title 2. The program shall include an assessment of fair housing in the jurisdiction that shall include all of the following components:

(i) A summary of fair housing issues in the jurisdiction and an assessment of the jurisdiction’s fair housing enforcement and fair housing outreach capacity.

(ii) An analysis of available federal, state, and local data and knowledge to identify integration and segregation patterns and trends, racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, disparities in access to opportunity, and disproportionate housing needs within the jurisdiction, including displacement risk.

(iii) An assessment of the contributing factors for the fair housing issues identified under clause (ii).

(iv) An identification of the jurisdiction’s fair housing priorities and goals, giving highest priority to those factors identified in clause (iii) that limit or deny fair housing choice or access to opportunity, or
negatively impact fair housing or civil rights compliance, and identifying the metrics and milestones for determining what fair housing results will be achieved.

(v) Strategies and actions to implement those priorities and goals, which may include, but are not limited to, enhancing mobility strategies and encouraging development of new affordable housing in areas of opportunity, as well as place-based strategies to encourage community revitalization, including preservation of existing affordable housing, and protecting existing residents from displacement.

(B) A jurisdiction that completes or revises an assessment of fair housing pursuant to Subpart A (commencing with Section 5.150) of Part 5 of Subtitle A of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as published in Volume 80 of the Federal Register, Number 136, page 42272, dated July 16, 2015, or an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice in accordance with the requirements of Section 91.225 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations in effect prior to August 17, 2015, may incorporate relevant portions of that assessment or revised assessment of fair housing or analysis or revised analysis of impediments to fair housing into its housing element.

(C) The requirements of this paragraph shall apply to housing elements due to be revised pursuant to Section 65588 on or after January 1, 2021.

(d) (1) A local government may satisfy all or part of its requirement to identify a zone or zones suitable for the development of emergency shelters pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) by adopting and implementing a multijurisdictional agreement, with a maximum of two other adjacent communities, that requires the participating jurisdictions to develop at least one year-round emergency shelter within two years of the beginning of the planning period.

(2) The agreement shall allocate a portion of the new shelter capacity to each jurisdiction as credit toward its emergency shelter need, and each jurisdiction shall describe how the capacity was allocated as part of its housing element.

(3) Each member jurisdiction of a multijurisdictional agreement shall describe in its housing element all of the following:

(A) How the joint facility will meet the jurisdiction’s emergency shelter need.

(B) The jurisdiction’s contribution to the facility for both the development and ongoing operation and management of the facility.

(C) The amount and source of the funding that the jurisdiction contributes to the facility.

(4) The aggregate capacity claimed by the participating jurisdictions in their housing elements shall not exceed the actual capacity of the shelter.

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this article, amendments to this article that alter the required content of a housing element shall apply to both of the following:

(1) A housing element or housing element amendment prepared pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 65588 or Section 65584.02, when a city, county, or city and county submits a draft to the department for review pursuant to Section 65585 more than 90 days after the effective date of the amendment to this section.

(2) Any housing element or housing element amendment prepared pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 65588 or Section 65584.02, when the city, county, or city and county fails to submit the first draft to the department before the due date specified in Section 65588 or 65584.02.

(f) The deadline for completing required rezoning pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) shall be extended by one year if the local government has completed the rezoning at densities sufficient to accommodate at least 75 percent of the units for low- and very low income households and if the legislative body at the conclusion of a public hearing determines, based upon substantial evidence, that any of the following circumstances exist:

(1) The local government has been unable to complete the rezoning because of the action or inaction beyond the control of the local government of any other state, federal, or local agency.
(2) The local government is unable to complete the rezoning because of infrastructure deficiencies due to fiscal or regulatory constraints.

(3) The local government must undertake a major revision to its general plan in order to accommodate the housing-related policies of a sustainable communities strategy or an alternative planning strategy adopted pursuant to Section 65080.

The resolution and the findings shall be transmitted to the department together with a detailed budget and schedule for preparation and adoption of the required rezonings, including plans for citizen participation and expected interim action. The schedule shall provide for adoption of the required rezoning within one year of the adoption of the resolution.

(g) (1) If a local government fails to complete the rezoning by the deadline provided in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c), as it may be extended pursuant to subdivision (f), except as provided in paragraph (2), a local government may not disapprove a housing development project, nor require a conditional use permit, planned unit development permit, or other locally imposed discretionary permit, or impose a condition that would render the project infeasible, if the housing development project (A) is proposed to be located on a site required to be rezoned pursuant to the program action required by that subparagraph and (B) complies with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, including design review standards, described in the program action required by that subparagraph. Any subdivision of sites shall be subject to the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410)). Design review shall not constitute a “project” for purposes of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code.

(2) A local government may disapprove a housing development described in paragraph (1) if it makes written findings supported by substantial evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:

(A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a “specific, adverse impact” means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete.

(B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.

(3) The applicant or any interested person may bring an action to enforce this subdivision. If a court finds that the local agency disapproved a project or conditioned its approval in violation of this subdivision, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance within 60 days. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out. If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders to ensure that the purposes and policies of this subdivision are fulfilled. In any such action, the city, county, or city and county shall bear the burden of proof.

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, “housing development project” means a project to construct residential units for which the project developer provides sufficient legal commitments to the appropriate local agency to ensure the continued availability and use of at least 49 percent of the housing units for very low, low-, and moderate-income households with an affordable housing cost or affordable rent, as defined in Section 50052.5 or 50053 of the Health and Safety Code, respectively, for the period required by the applicable financing.

(h) An action to enforce the program actions of the housing element shall be brought pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
$65583.1. Housing Units; Identification of Sites; Military Base Closures; Units Made Available to Low- and Very Low Income Households Through Program of Committed Assistance; Reduction in Share of Regional Housing Need

(a) The Department of Housing and Community Development, in evaluating a proposed or adopted housing element for substantial compliance with this article, may allow a city or county to identify adequate sites, as required pursuant to Section 65583, by a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, redesignation of property to a more intense land use category and increasing the density allowed within one or more categories. The department may also allow a city or county to identify sites for accessory dwelling units based on the number of accessory dwelling units developed in the prior housing element planning period whether or not the units are permitted by right, the need for these units in the community, the resources or incentives available for their development, and any other relevant factors, as determined by the department. Nothing in this section reduces the responsibility of a city or county to identify, by income category, the total number of sites for residential development as required by this article.

(b) Sites that contain permanent housing units located on a military base undergoing closure or conversion as a result of action pursuant to the Defense Authorization Amendments and Base Closure and Realignment Act (Public Law 100-526), the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), or any subsequent act requiring the closure or conversion of a military base may be identified as an adequate site if the housing element demonstrates that the housing units will be available for occupancy by households within the planning period of the element. No sites containing housing units scheduled or planned for demolition or conversion to nonresidential uses shall qualify as an adequate site.

Any city, city and county, or county using this subdivision shall address the progress in meeting this section in the reports provided pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 65400.

(c) (1) The Department of Housing and Community Development may allow a city or county to substitute the provision of units for up to 25 percent of the community’s obligation to identify adequate sites for any income category in its housing element pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 where the community includes in its housing element a program committing the local government to provide units in that income category within the city or county that will be made available through the provision of committed assistance during the planning period covered by the element to low- and very low income households at affordable housing costs or affordable rents, as defined in Sections 50052.5 and 50053 of the Health and Safety Code, and which meet the requirements of paragraph (2). Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the community may substitute one dwelling unit for one dwelling unit site in the applicable income category. The program shall do all of the following:

(A) Identify the specific, existing sources of committed assistance and dedicate a specific portion of the funds from those sources to the provision of housing pursuant to this subdivision.

(B) Indicate the number of units that will be provided to both low- and very low income households and demonstrate that the amount of dedicated funds is sufficient to develop the units at affordable housing costs or affordable rents.

(C) Demonstrate that the units meet the requirements of paragraph (2).

(2) Only units that comply with subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) qualify for inclusion in the housing element program described in paragraph (1), as follows:

(A) Units that are to be substantially rehabilitated with committed assistance from the city or county and constitute a net increase in the community’s stock of housing affordable to low- and very low
income households. For purposes of this subparagraph, a unit is not eligible to be “substantially rehabilitated” unless all of the following requirements are met:

(i) At the time the unit is identified for substantial rehabilitation, (I) the local government has determined that the unit is at imminent risk of loss to the housing stock, (II) the local government has committed to provide relocation assistance pursuant to Chapter 16 (commencing with Section 7260) of Division 7 of Title 1 to any occupants temporarily or permanently displaced by the rehabilitation or code enforcement activity, or the relocation is otherwise provided prior to displacement either as a condition of receivership, or provided by the property owner or the local government pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 17975) of Chapter 5 of Part 1.5 of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code, or as otherwise provided by local ordinance; provided the assistance includes not less than the equivalent of four months’ rent and moving expenses and comparable replacement housing consistent with the moving expenses and comparable replacement housing required pursuant to Section 7260, (III) the local government requires that any displaced occupants will have the right to reoccupy the rehabilitated units, and (IV) the unit has been found by the local government or a court to be unfit for human habitation due to the existence of at least four violations of the conditions listed in subdivisions (a) to (g), inclusive, of Section 17995.3 of the Health and Safety Code.

(ii) The rehabilitated unit will have long-term affordability covenants and restrictions that require the unit to be available to, and occupied by, persons or families of low- or very low income at affordable housing costs for at least 20 years or the time period required by any applicable federal or state law or regulation.

(iii) Prior to initial occupancy after rehabilitation, the local code enforcement agency shall issue a certificate of occupancy indicating compliance with all applicable state and local building code and health and safety code requirements.

(B) Units that are located either on foreclosed property or in a multifamily rental or ownership housing complex of three or more units, are converted with committed assistance from the city or county from nonaffordable to affordable by acquisition of the unit or the purchase of affordability covenants and restrictions for the unit, are not acquired by eminent domain, and constitute a net increase in the community’s stock of housing affordable to low- and very low income households. For purposes of this subparagraph, a unit is not converted by acquisition or the purchase of affordability covenants unless all of the following occur:

(i) The unit is made available for rent at a cost affordable to low- or very low income households.

(ii) At the time the unit is identified for acquisition, the unit is not available at an affordable housing cost to either of the following:

(I) Low-income households, if the unit will be made affordable to low-income households.

(II) Very low income households, if the unit will be made affordable to very low income households.

(iii) At the time the unit is identified for acquisition the unit is not occupied by low- or very low income households or if the acquired unit is occupied, the local government has committed to provide relocation assistance prior to displacement, if any, pursuant to Chapter 16 (commencing with Section 7260) of Division 7 of Title 1 to any occupants displaced by the conversion, or the relocation is otherwise provided prior to displacement; provided the assistance includes not less than the equivalent of four months’ rent and moving expenses and comparable replacement housing consistent with the moving expenses and comparable replacement housing required pursuant to Section 7260.

(iv) The unit is in decent, safe, and sanitary condition at the time of occupancy.

(v) The unit has long-term affordability covenants and restrictions that require the unit to be affordable to persons of low- or very low income for not less than 55 years.

(vi) For units located in multifamily ownership housing complexes with three or more units, or on or after January 1, 2015, on foreclosed properties, at least an equal number of new-construction
multifamily rental units affordable to lower income households have been constructed in the city or county within the same planning period as the number of ownership units to be converted.

(C) Units that will be preserved at affordable housing costs to persons or families of low- or very low incomes with committed assistance from the city or county by acquisition of the unit or the purchase of affordability covenants for the unit. For purposes of this subparagraph, a unit shall not be deemed preserved unless all of the following occur:

(i) The unit has long-term affordability covenants and restrictions that require the unit to be affordable to, and reserved for occupancy by, persons of the same or lower income group as the current occupants for a period of at least 40 years.

(ii) The unit is within an “assisted housing development,” as defined in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10.

(iii) The city or county finds, after a public hearing, that the unit is eligible, and is reasonably expected, to change from housing affordable to low- and very low income households to any other use during the next five years due to termination of subsidy contracts, mortgage prepayment, or expiration of restrictions on use.

(iv) The unit is in decent, safe, and sanitary condition at the time of occupancy.

(v) At the time the unit is identified for preservation it is available at affordable cost to persons or families of low- or very low income.

(3) This subdivision does not apply to any city or county that, during the current or immediately prior planning period, as defined by Section 65588, has not met any of its share of the regional need for affordable housing, as defined in Section 65584, for low- and very low income households. A city or county shall document for any housing unit that a building permit has been issued and all development and permit fees have been paid or the unit is eligible to be lawfully occupied.

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, “committed assistance” means that the city or county enters into a legally enforceable agreement during the period from the beginning of the projection period until the end of the second year of the planning period that obligates sufficient available funds to provide the assistance necessary to make the identified units affordable and that requires that the units be made available for occupancy within two years of the execution of the agreement. “Committed assistance” does not include tenant-based rental assistance.

(5) For purposes of this subdivision, “net increase” includes only housing units provided committed assistance pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (2) in the current planning period, as defined in Section 65588, that were not provided committed assistance in the immediately prior planning period.

(6) For purposes of this subdivision, “the time the unit is identified” means the earliest time when any city or county agent, acting on behalf of a public entity, has proposed in writing or has proposed orally or in writing to the property owner, that the unit be considered for substantial rehabilitation, acquisition, or preservation.

(7) In the third year of the planning period, as defined by Section 65588, in the report required pursuant to Section 65400, each city or county that has included in its housing element a program to provide units pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (2) shall report in writing to the legislative body, and to the department within 30 days of making its report to the legislative body, on its progress in providing units pursuant to this subdivision. The report shall identify the specific units for which committed assistance has been provided or which have been made available to low- and very low income households, and it shall adequately document how each unit complies with this subdivision. If, by July 1 of the third year of the planning period, the city or county has not entered into an enforceable agreement of committed assistance for all units specified in the programs adopted pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (2), the city or county shall, not later than July 1 of the fourth
year of the planning period, adopt an amended housing element in accordance with Section 65585, identifying additional adequate sites pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 sufficient to accommodate the number of units for which committed assistance was not provided. If a city or county does not amend its housing element to identify adequate sites to address any shortfall, or fails to complete the rehabilitation, acquisition, purchase of affordability covenants, or the preservation of any housing unit within two years after committed assistance was provided to that unit, it shall be prohibited from identifying units pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (2) in the housing element that it adopts for the next planning period, as defined in Section 65588, above the number of units actually provided or preserved due to committed assistance.

(d) A city or county may reduce its share of the regional housing need by the number of units built between the start of the projection period and the deadline for adoption of the housing element. If the city or county reduces its share pursuant to this subdivision, the city or county shall include in the housing element a description of the methodology for assigning those housing units to an income category based on actual or projected sales price, rent levels, or other mechanisms establishing affordability.

(Amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 720, Sec. 2. (SB 1069) Effective January 1, 2017.)

§ 65583.2. Inventory of Land Suitable for Residential Development Used to Identify Sites; Contents; Determination; Housing for Very Low and Low-Income Households; Use by Right

(a) A city’s or county’s inventory of land suitable for residential development pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 shall be used to identify sites throughout the community, consistent with paragraph (9) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583, that can be developed for housing within the planning period and that are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584. As used in this section, “land suitable for residential development” includes all of the sites that meet the standards set forth in subdivisions (c) and (g):

(1) Vacant sites zoned for residential use.
(2) Vacant sites zoned for nonresidential use that allows residential development.
(3) Residentially zoned sites that are capable of being developed at a higher density, including the airspace above sites owned or leased by a city, county, or city and county.
(4) Sites zoned for nonresidential use that can be redeveloped for residential use, and for which the housing element includes a program to rezone the site, as necessary, rezoned for, to permit residential use, including sites owned or leased by a city, county, or city and county.

(b) The inventory of land shall include all of the following:
(1) A listing of properties by assessor parcel number.
(2) The size of each property listed pursuant to paragraph (1), and the general plan designation and zoning of each property.
(3) For nonvacant sites, a description of the existing use of each property.
(4) A general description of any environmental constraints to the development of housing within the jurisdiction, the documentation for which has been made available to the jurisdiction. This information need not be identified on a site-specific basis.
(5) (A) A description of existing or planned water, sewer, and other dry utilities supply, including the availability and access to distribution facilities.
(B) Parcels included in the inventory must have sufficient water, sewer, and dry utilities supply available and accessible to support housing development or be included in an existing general plan program or other mandatory program or plan, including a program or plan of a public or private entity providing water or sewer service, to secure sufficient water, sewer, and dry utilities supply to support housing
development. This paragraph does not impose any additional duty on the city or county to construct, finance, or otherwise provide water, sewer, or dry utilities to parcels included in the inventory.

(6) Sites identified as available for housing for above moderate-income households in areas not served by public sewer systems. This information need not be identified on a site-specific basis.

(7) A map that shows the location of the sites included in the inventory, such as the land use map from the jurisdiction’s general plan, for reference purposes only.

(c) Based on the information provided in subdivision (b), a city or county shall determine whether each site in the inventory can accommodate the development of some portion of its share of the regional housing need by income level during the planning period, as determined pursuant to Section 65584. The inventory shall specify for each site the number of units that can realistically be accommodated on that site and whether the site is adequate to accommodate lower-income housing, moderate-income housing, or above moderate-income housing. A nonvacant site identified pursuant to paragraph (3) or (4) of subdivision (a) in a prior housing element and a vacant site that has been included in two or more consecutive planning periods that was not approved to develop a portion of the locality’s housing need shall not be deemed adequate to accommodate a portion of the housing need for lower income households that must be accommodated in the current housing element planning period unless the site is zoned at residential densities consistent with paragraph (3) of this subdivision and the site is subject to a program 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. A city that is an unincorporated area in a nonmetropolitan county pursuant to clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) shall not be subject to the requirements of this subdivision to allow residential use by right. Analysis shall determine whether the inventory can provide for a variety of types of housing, including multifamily rental housing, factory-built housing, mobile homes, housing for agricultural employees, supportive housing, single-room occupancy units, emergency shelters, and transitional housing. The city or county shall determine the number of housing units that can be accommodated on each site as follows:

(1) If local law or regulations require the development of a site at a minimum density, the department shall accept the planning agency’s calculation of the total housing unit capacity on that site based on the established minimum density. If the city or county does not adopt a law or regulation requiring the development of a site at a minimum density, then it shall demonstrate how the number of units determined for that site pursuant to this subdivision will be accommodated.

(2) The number of units calculated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be adjusted as necessary, based on the land use controls and site improvements requirement identified in paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, the realistic development capacity for the site, typical densities of existing or approved residential developments at a similar affordability level in that jurisdiction, and on the current or planned availability and accessibility of sufficient water, sewer, and dry utilities.

(A) A site smaller than half an acre shall not be deemed adequate to accommodate lower income housing need unless the locality can demonstrate that sites of equivalent size were successfully developed during the prior planning period for an equivalent number of lower income housing units as projected for the site or unless the locality provides other evidence to the department that the site is adequate to accommodate lower income housing.

(B) A site larger than 10 acres shall not be deemed adequate to accommodate lower income housing need unless the locality can demonstrate that sites of equivalent size were successfully developed during the prior planning period for an equivalent number of lower income housing units as projected for the site or unless the locality provides other evidence to the department that the site can be developed as lower income housing. For purposes of this subparagraph, “site” means that portion of a parcel or parcels designated to accommodate lower income housing needs pursuant to this subdivision.
(C) A site may be presumed to be realistic for development to accommodate lower income housing need if, at the time of the adoption of the housing element, a development affordable to lower income households has been proposed and approved for development on the site.

(3) For the number of units calculated to accommodate its share of the regional housing need for lower income households pursuant to paragraph (2), a city or county shall do either of the following:

(A) Provide an analysis demonstrating how the adopted densities accommodate this need. The analysis shall include, but is not limited to, factors such as market demand, financial feasibility, or information based on development project experience within a zone or zones that provide housing for lower income households.

(B) The following densities shall be deemed appropriate to accommodate housing for lower income households:

(i) For an incorporated city within a nonmetropolitan county and for a nonmetropolitan county that has a micropolitan area: sites allowing at least 15 units per acre.

(ii) For an unincorporated area in a nonmetropolitan county not included in clause (i): sites allowing at least 10 units per acre.

(iii) For a suburban jurisdiction: sites allowing at least 20 units per acre.

(iv) For a jurisdiction in a metropolitan county: sites allowing at least 30 units per acre.

(d) For purposes of this section, a metropolitan county, nonmetropolitan county, and nonmetropolitan county with a micropolitan area shall be as determined by the United States Census Bureau. A nonmetropolitan county with a micropolitan area includes the following counties: Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Nevada, Tehama, and Tuolumne and other counties as may be determined by the United States Census Bureau to be nonmetropolitan counties with micropolitan areas in the future.

(e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a jurisdiction shall be considered suburban if the jurisdiction does not meet the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) and is located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) of less than 2,000,000 in population, unless that jurisdiction’s population is greater than 100,000, in which case it shall be considered metropolitan.

A county, not including the City and County of San Francisco, shall be considered suburban unless the county is in an MSA of 2,000,000 or greater in population in which case the county shall be considered metropolitan.

(ii) (A) (i) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a county that is in the San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont California MSA has a population of less than 400,000, that county shall be considered suburban. If this county includes an incorporated city that has a population of less than 100,000, this city shall also be considered suburban. This paragraph shall apply to a housing element revision cycle, as described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 65588, that is in effect from July 1, 2014, to December 31, 2028, inclusive.

(ii) A county subject to this subparagraph shall utilize the sum existing in the county’s housing trust fund as of June 30, 2013, for the development and preservation of housing affordable to low- and very low income households.

(B) A jurisdiction that is classified as suburban pursuant to this paragraph shall report to the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development, the Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing, and the Department of Housing and Community Development regarding its progress in developing low- and very low income housing consistent with the requirements of Section 65400. The report shall be provided three times: once, on or before December 31, 2019, which report shall address the initial four years of the housing element cycle, a second time, on or before December 31, 2023, which report shall address the subsequent four years of the housing element cycle, and a third time, on or before December 31, 2027, which report shall address the subsequent four years of the housing element cycle and the cycle as a whole. The reports shall be provided consistent with the requirements.
of Section 9795.
(f) A jurisdiction shall be considered metropolitan if the jurisdiction does not meet the requirements for “suburban area” above and is located in an MSA of 2,000,000 or greater in population, unless that jurisdiction’s population is less than 25,000 in which case it shall be considered suburban.
(g) (1) For sites described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), the city or county shall specify the additional development potential for each site within the planning period and shall provide an explanation of the methodology used to determine the development potential. The methodology shall consider factors including the extent to which existing uses may constitute an impediment to additional residential development, the city’s or county’s past experience with converting existing uses to higher density residential development, the current market demand for the existing use, an analysis of any existing leases or other contracts that would perpetuate the existing use or prevent redevelopment of the site for additional residential development, development trends, market conditions, and regulatory or other incentives or standards to encourage additional residential development on these sites.
(2) In addition to the analysis required in paragraph (1), when a city or county is relying on nonvacant sites described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) to accommodate 50 percent or more of its housing need for lower income households, the methodology used to determine additional development potential shall demonstrate that the existing use identified pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) does not constitute an impediment to additional residential development during the period covered by the housing element. An existing use shall be presumed to impede additional residential development, absent findings based on substantial evidence that the use is likely to be discontinued during the planning period.
(3) Notwithstanding any other law, and in addition to the requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2), sites that currently have residential uses, or within the past five years have had residential uses that have been vacated or demolished, that are or were subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of low or very low income, subject to any other form of rent or price control through a public entity’s valid exercise of its police power, or occupied by low or very low income households, shall be subject to a policy requiring the replacement of all those units affordable to the same or lower income level as a condition of any development on the site. Replacement requirements shall be consistent with those set forth in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65915.
(h) The program required by subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 shall accommodate 100 percent of the need for housing for very low and low-income households allocated pursuant to Section 65584 for which site capacity has not been identified in the inventory of sites pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) on sites that shall be zoned to permit owner-occupied and rental multifamily residential use by right for developments in which at least 20 percent of the units are affordable to lower income households during the planning period. These sites shall be zoned with minimum density and development standards that permit at least 16 units per acre in jurisdictions described in clause (i) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c), shall be at least 20 units per acre in jurisdictions described in clauses (iii) and (iv) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) and shall meet the standards set forth in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (b). At least 50 percent of the very low and low-income housing need shall be accommodated on sites designated for residential use and for which nonresidential uses or mixed uses are not permitted, except that a city or county may accommodate all of the very low and low-income housing need on sites designated for mixed uses if those sites allow 100 percent residential use and require that residential use occupy 50 percent of the total floor area of a mixed-use project.
(i) For purposes of this section and Section 65583, the phrase “use by right” shall mean that the local
government’s review of the owner-occupied or multifamily residential use may not require a conditional use permit, planned unit development permit, or other discretionary local government review or approval that would constitute a “project” for purposes of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code. Any subdivision of the sites shall be subject to all laws, including, but not limited to, the local government ordinance implementing the Subdivision Map Act. A local ordinance may provide that “use by right” does not exempt the use from design review. However, that design review shall not constitute a “project” for purposes of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code. Use by right for all rental multifamily residential housing shall be provided in accordance with subdivision (f) of Section 65589.5.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, within one-half mile of a Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit station, housing density requirements in place on June 30, 2014, shall apply.

(k) For purposes of subdivisions (a) and (b), the department shall provide guidance to local governments to properly survey, detail, and account for sites listed pursuant to Section 65585.

(l) This section shall remain in effect only until December 31, 2028, and as of that date is repealed.

§ 65583.2. Inventory of Land Suitable for Residential Development Used to Identify Sites; Contents; Determination; Housing for Very Low and Low-Income Households; Use by Right

(a) A city’s or county’s inventory of land suitable for residential development pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 shall be used to identify sites throughout the community, consistent with paragraph (9) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583, that can be developed for housing within the planning period and that are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584. As used in this section, “land suitable for residential development” includes all of the sites that meet the standards set forth in subdivisions (c) and (g):

(1) Vacant sites zoned for residential use.
(2) Vacant sites zoned for nonresidential use that allows residential development.
(3) Residentially zoned sites that are capable of being developed at a higher density, sites owned or leased by a city, county, or city and county.
(4) Sites zoned for nonresidential use that can be redeveloped for residential use, and for which the housing element includes a program to rezone the sites, as necessary, to permit residential use, including sites owned or leased by a city, county, or city and county.

(b) The inventory of land shall include all of the following:

(1) A listing of properties by assessor parcel number.
(2) The size of each property listed pursuant to paragraph (1), and the general plan designation and zoning of each property.
(3) For nonvacant sites, a description of the existing use of each property.
(4) A general description of any environmental constraints to the development of housing within the jurisdiction, the documentation for which has been made available to the jurisdiction. This information need not be identified on a site-specific basis.
(5) (A) A description of existing or planned water, sewer, and other dry utilities supply, including the availability and access to distribution facilities.
(B) Parcels included in the inventory must have sufficient water, sewer, and dry utilities supply available and accessible to support housing development or be included in an existing general plan program or other mandatory program or plan, including a program or plan of a public or private entity providing...
water or sewer service, to secure sufficient water, sewer, and dry utilities supply to support housing development. This paragraph does not impose any additional duty on the city or county to construct, finance, or otherwise provide water, sewer, or dry utilities to parcels included in the inventory.

(6) Sites identified as available for housing for above moderate-income households in areas not served by public sewer systems. This information need not be identified on a site-specific basis.

(7) A map that shows the location of the sites included in the inventory, such as the land use map from the jurisdiction’s general plan for reference purposes only.

(c) Based on the information provided in subdivision (b), a city or county shall determine whether each site in the inventory can accommodate the development of some portion of its share of the regional housing need by income level during the planning period, as determined pursuant to Section 65584. The inventory shall specify for each site the number of units that can realistically be accommodated on that site and whether the site is adequate to accommodate lower-income housing, moderate-income housing, or above moderate-income housing. A nonvacant site identified pursuant to paragraph (3) or (4) of subdivision (a) in a prior housing element and a vacant site that has been included in two or more consecutive planning periods that was not approved to develop a portion of the locality’s housing need shall not be deemed adequate to accommodate a portion of the housing need for lower income households that must be accommodated in the current housing element planning period unless the site is zoned at residential densities consistent with paragraph (3) of this subdivision and the site is subject to a program 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. A city that is an unincorporated area in a nonmetropolitan county pursuant to clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) shall not be subject to the requirements of this subdivision to allow residential use by right. The analysis shall determine whether the inventory can provide for a variety of types of housing, including multifamily rental housing, factory-built housing, mobilehomes, housing for agricultural employees, supportive housing, single-room occupancy units, emergency shelters, and transitional housing. The city or county shall determine the number of housing units that can be accommodated on each site as follows:

(1) If local law or regulations require the development of a site at a minimum density, the department shall accept the planning agency’s calculation of the total housing unit capacity on that site based on the established minimum density. If the city or county does not adopt a law or regulation requiring the development of a site at a minimum density, then it shall demonstrate how the number of units determined for that site pursuant to this subdivision will be accommodated.

(2) The number of units calculated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be adjusted as necessary, based on the land use controls and site improvements requirement identified in paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, the realistic development capacity for the site, typical densities of existing or approved residential developments at a similar affordability level in that jurisdiction, and on the current or planned availability and accessibility of sufficient water, sewer, and dry utilities.

(A) A site smaller than half an acre shall not be deemed adequate to accommodate lower income housing need unless the locality can demonstrate that sites of equivalent size were successfully developed during the prior planning period for an equivalent number of lower income housing units as projected for the site or unless the locality provides other evidence to the department that the site is adequate to accommodate lower income housing.

(B) A site larger than 10 acres shall not be deemed adequate to accommodate lower income housing need unless the locality can demonstrate that sites of equivalent size were successfully developed during the prior planning period for an equivalent number of lower income housing units as projected for the site or unless the locality provides other evidence to the department that the site can be developed as lower income housing. For purposes of this subparagraph, “site” means that portion of a
parcel or parcels designated to accommodate lower income housing needs pursuant to this subdivision.

(C) A site may be presumed to be realistic for development to accommodate lower income housing need if, at the time of the adoption of the housing element, a development affordable to lower income households has been proposed and approved for development on the site.

(3) For the number of units calculated to accommodate its share of the regional housing need for lower income households pursuant to paragraph (2), a city or county shall do either of the following:

(A) Provide an analysis demonstrating how the adopted densities accommodate this need. The analysis shall include, but is not limited to, factors such as market demand, financial feasibility, or information based on development project experience within a zone or zones that provide housing for lower income households.

(B) The following densities shall be deemed appropriate to accommodate housing for lower income households:

(i) For an incorporated city within a nonmetropolitan county and for a nonmetropolitan county that has a micropolitan area: sites allowing at least 15 units per acre.

(ii) For an unincorporated area in a nonmetropolitan county not included in clause (i): sites allowing at least 10 units per acre.

(iii) For a suburban jurisdiction: sites allowing at least 20 units per acre.

(iv) For a jurisdiction in a metropolitan county: sites allowing at least 30 units per acre.

(d) For purposes of this section, a metropolitan county, nonmetropolitan county, and nonmetropolitan county with a micropolitan area shall be as determined by the United States Census Bureau. A nonmetropolitan county with a micropolitan area includes the following counties: Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Nevada, Tehama, and Tuolumne and other counties as may be determined by the United States Census Bureau to be nonmetropolitan counties with micropolitan areas in the future.

(e) A jurisdiction shall be considered suburban if the jurisdiction does not meet the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) and is located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) of less than 2,000,000 in population, unless that jurisdiction’s population is greater than 100,000, in which case it shall be considered metropolitan. A county, not including the City and County of San Francisco, shall be considered suburban unless the county is in an MSA of 2,000,000 or greater in population in which case the county shall be considered metropolitan.

(f) A jurisdiction shall be considered metropolitan if the jurisdiction does not meet the requirements for “suburban area” above and is located in an MSA of 2,000,000 or greater in population, unless that jurisdiction’s population is less than 25,000 in which case it shall be considered suburban.

(g) (1) For sites described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), the city or county shall specify the additional development potential for each site within the planning period and shall provide an explanation of the methodology used to determine the development potential. The methodology shall consider factors including the extent to which existing uses may constitute an impediment to additional residential development, the city’s or county’s past experience with converting existing uses to higher density residential development, the current market demand for the existing use, an analysis of any existing leases or other contracts that would perpetuate the existing use or prevent redevelopment of the site for additional residential development, development trends, market conditions, and regulatory or other incentives or standards to encourage additional residential development on these sites.

(2) In addition to the analysis required in paragraph (1), when a city or county is relying on nonvacant sites described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) to accommodate 50 percent or more of its housing need for lower income households, the methodology used to determine additional development potential shall demonstrate that the existing use identified pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) does not constitute an impediment to additional residential development during the period covered by the housing element. An existing use shall be presumed to impede additional residential development,
absent findings based on substantial evidence that the use is likely to be discontinued during the planning period.

(3) Notwithstanding any other law, and in addition to the requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2), sites that currently have residential uses, or within the past five years have had residential uses that have been vacated or demolished, that are or were subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of low or very low income, subject to any other form of rent or price control through a public entity’s valid exercise of its police power, or occupied by low or very low income households, shall be subject to a policy requiring the replacement of all those units affordable to the same or lower income level as a condition of any development on the site. Replacement requirements shall be consistent with those set forth in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65915.

(h) The program required by subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 shall accommodate 100 percent of the need for housing for very low and low-income households allocated pursuant to Section 65584 for which site capacity has not been identified in the inventory of sites pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) on sites that shall be zoned to permit owner-occupied and rental multifamily residential use by right for developments in which at least 20 percent of the units are affordable to lower income households during the planning period. These sites shall be zoned with minimum density and development standards that permit at least 16 units per site at a density of at least 16 units per acre in jurisdictions described in clause (i) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c), shall be at least 20 units per acre in jurisdictions described in clauses (iii) and (iv) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c), and shall meet the standards set forth in subdivision (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (b). At least 50 percent of the very low and low-income housing need shall be accommodated on sites designated for residential use and for which nonresidential uses or mixed uses are not permitted, except that a city or county may accommodate all of the very low and low-income housing need on sites designated for mixed uses if those sites allow 100 percent residential use and require that residential use occupy 50 percent of the total floor area of a mixed uses project.

(i) For purposes of this section and Section 65583, the phrase “use by right” shall mean that the local government’s review of the owner-occupied or multifamily residential use may not require a conditional use permit, planned unit development permit, or other discretionary local government review or approval that would constitute a “project” for purposes of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code. Any subdivision of the sites shall be subject to all laws, including, but not limited to, the local government ordinance implementing the Subdivision Map Act. A local ordinance may provide that “use by right” does not exempt the use from design review. However, that design review shall not constitute a “project” for purposes of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code. Use by right for all rental multifamily residential housing shall be provided in accordance with subdivision (f) of Section 65589.5.

(j) For purposes of subdivisions (a) and (b), the department shall provide guidance to local governments to properly survey, detail, and account for sites listed pursuant to Section 65585.

(k) This section shall become operative on December 31, 2028.

(Amended (as amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 375, Sec. 4) by Stats. 2018, Ch. 958, Sec. 4. (AB 686) Effective January 1, 2019. Section operative December 31, 2028, by its own provisions.)

§ 65584. Existing and Projected Regional Housing Needs; Share of City or County Needs; Determination; Objectives; Household Income Levels; Exemption from Environmental Regulations

(a) (1) For the fourth and subsequent revisions of the housing element pursuant to Section 65588, the department shall determine the existing and projected need for housing for each region pursuant to this
article. For purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, the share of a city or county of the regional housing need shall include that share of the housing need of persons at all income levels within the area significantly affected by the general plan of the city or county.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that cities, counties, and cities and counties should undertake all necessary actions to encourage, promote, and facilitate the development of housing to accommodate the entire regional housing need, and reasonable actions should be taken by local and regional governments to ensure that future housing production meets, at a minimum, the regional housing need established for planning purposes. These actions shall include applicable reforms and incentives in Section 65582.1.

(3) The Legislature finds and declares that insufficient housing in job centers hinders the state’s environmental quality and runs counter to the state’s environmental goals. In particular, when Californians seeking affordable housing are forced to drive longer distances to work, an increased amount of greenhouse gases and other pollutants is released and puts in jeopardy the achievement of the state’s climate goals, as established pursuant to Section 38566 of the Health and Safety Code, and clean air goals.

(b) The department, in consultation with each council of governments, shall determine each region’s existing and projected housing need pursuant to Section 65584.01 at least two years prior to the scheduled revision required pursuant to Section 65588. The appropriate council of governments, or for cities and counties without a council of governments, the department, shall adopt a final regional housing need plan that allocates a share of the regional housing need to each city, county, or city and county at least one year prior to the scheduled revision for the region required by Section 65588. The allocation plan prepared by a council of governments shall be prepared pursuant to Sections 65584.04 and 65584.05.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the due dates for the determinations of the department or for the council of governments, respectively, regarding the regional housing need may be extended by the department by not more than 60 days if the extension will enable access to more recent critical population or housing data from a pending or recent release of the United States Census Bureau or the Department of Finance. If the due date for the determination of the department or the council of governments is extended for this reason, the department shall extend the corresponding housing element revision deadline pursuant to Section 65588 by not more than 60 days.

(d) The regional housing needs allocation plan shall further all of the following objectives:

(1) Increasing the housing supply and the mix of housing types, tenure, and affordability in all cities and counties within the region in an equitable manner, which shall result in each jurisdiction receiving an allocation of units for low- and very low income households.

(2) Promoting infill development and socioeconomic equity, the protection of environmental and agricultural resources, the encouragement of efficient development patterns, and the achievement of the region’s greenhouse gas reductions targets provided by the State Air Resources Board pursuant to Section 65080.

(3) Promoting an improved intraregional relationship between jobs and housing, including an improved balance between the number of low-wage jobs and the number of housing units affordable to low-wage workers in each jurisdiction.

(4) Allocating a lower proportion of housing need to an income category when a jurisdiction already has a disproportionately high share of households in that income category, as compared to the countywide distribution of households in that category from the most recent American Community Survey.

(5) Affirmatively furthering fair housing.

(e) For purposes of this section, “affirmatively furthering fair housing” means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive
communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunity, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws.

(f) For purposes of this section, “household income levels” are as determined by the department as of the most recent American Community Survey pursuant to the following code sections:

(1) Very low incomes as defined by Section 50105 of the Health and Safety Code.
(2) Lower incomes, as defined by Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
(3) Moderate incomes, as defined by Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.
(4) Above moderate incomes are those exceeding the moderate-income level of Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, determinations made by the department, a council of governments, or a city or county pursuant to this section or Section 65584.01, 65584.02, 65584.03, 65584.04, 65584.05, 65584.06, 65584.07, or 65584.08 are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 989, Sec. 1.5. (AB 1771) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65584.01. Existing and Projected Regional Housing Needs; Manner of Determination

For the fourth and subsequent revision of the housing element pursuant to Section 65588, the department, in consultation with each council of governments, where applicable, shall determine the existing and projected need for housing for each region in the following manner:

(a) The department’s determination shall be based upon population projections produced by the Department of Finance and regional population forecasts used in preparing regional transportation plans, in consultation with each council of governments. If the total regional population forecast for the projection year, developed by the council of governments and used for the preparation of the regional transportation plan, is within a range of 1.5 percent of the total regional population forecast for the projection year by the Department of Finance, then the population forecast developed by the council of governments shall be the basis from which the department determines the existing and projected need for housing in the region. If the difference between the total population projected by the council of governments and the total population projected for the region by the Department of Finance is greater than 1.5 percent, then the department and the council of governments shall meet to discuss variances in methodology used for population projections and seek agreement on a population projection for the region to be used as a basis for determining the existing and projected housing need for the region. If no agreement is reached, then the population projection for the region shall be the population projection for the region prepared by the Department of Finance as may be modified by the department as a result of discussions with the council of governments.

(b) (1) At least 26 months prior to the scheduled revision pursuant to Section 65588 and prior to developing the existing and projected housing need for a region, the department shall meet and consult with the council of governments regarding the assumptions and methodology to be used by the department to determine the region’s housing needs. The council of governments shall provide data assumptions from the council’s projections, including, if available, the following data for the region:

(A) Anticipated household growth associated with projected population increases.
(B) Household size data and trends in household size.
(C) The percentage of households that are overcrowded and the overcrowding rate for a comparable housing market. For purposes of this subparagraph:
(i) The term “overcrowded” means more than one resident per room in each room in a dwelling.
(ii) The term “overcrowded rate for a comparable housing market” means that the overcrowding rate is no more than the average overcrowding rate in comparable regions throughout the nation, as determined by the council of governments.
(D) The rate of household formation, or headship rates, based on age, gender, ethnicity, or other established demographic measures.
(E) The vacancy rates in existing housing stock, and the vacancy rates for healthy housing market functioning and regional mobility, as well as housing replacement needs. For purposes of this subparagraph, the vacancy rate for a healthy rental housing market shall be considered no less than 5 percent.
(F) Other characteristics of the composition of the projected population.
(G) The relationship between jobs and housing, including any imbalance between jobs and housing.
(H) The percentage of households that are cost burdened and the rate of housing cost burden for a healthy housing market. For the purposes of this subparagraph:
(i) The term “cost burdened” means the share of very low-, low-, moderate-, and above moderate-income households that are paying more than 30 percent of household income on housing costs.
(ii) The term “rate of housing cost burden for a healthy housing market” means that the rate of households that are cost burdened is no more than the average rate of households that are cost burdened in comparable regions throughout the nation, as determined by the council of governments.
(I) The loss of units during a state of emergency that was declared by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2), during the planning period immediately preceding the relevant revision pursuant to Section 65588 that have yet to be rebuilt or replaced at the time of the data request.
(2) The department may accept or reject the information provided by the council of governments or modify its own assumptions or methodology based on this information. After consultation with the council of governments, the department shall make determinations in writing on the assumptions for each of the factors listed in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of paragraph (1) and the methodology it shall use and shall provide these determinations to the council of governments. The methodology submitted by the department may make adjustments based on the region’s total projected households, which includes existing households as well as projected households.
(c) (1) After consultation with the council of governments, the department shall make a determination of the region’s existing and projected housing need based upon the assumptions and methodology determined pursuant to subdivision (b). The region’s existing and projected housing need shall reflect the achievement of a feasible balance between jobs and housing within the region using the regional employment projections in the applicable regional transportation plan. Within 30 days following notice of the determination from the department, the council of governments may file an objection to the department’s determination of the region’s existing and projected housing need with the department.
(2) The objection shall be based on and substantiate either of the following:
(A) The department failed to base its determination on the population projection for the region established pursuant to subdivision (a), and shall identify the population projection which the council of governments believes should instead be used for the determination and explain the basis for its rationale.
(B) The regional housing need determined by the department is not a reasonable application of the methodology and assumptions determined pursuant to subdivision (b). The objection shall include a proposed alternative determination of its regional housing need based upon the determinations made in subdivision (b), including analysis of why the proposed alternative would be a more reasonable application of the methodology and assumptions determined pursuant to subdivision (b).
(3) If a council of governments files an objection pursuant to this subdivision and includes with the objection a proposed alternative determination of its regional housing need, it shall also include documentation of its basis for the alternative determination. Within 45 days of receiving an objection filed pursuant to this section, the department shall consider the objection and make a final written determination of the region’s existing and projected housing need that includes an explanation of the information upon which the determination was made.

(d) Statutory changes enacted after the date the department issued a final determination pursuant to this section shall not be a basis for a revision of the final determination.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 990, Sec. 2.7. (AB 2238) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65584.02. Existing and Projected Regional Housing Needs; Alternative Manner of Determination

(a) For the fourth and subsequent revisions of the housing element pursuant to Section 65588, the existing and projected need for housing may be determined for each region by the department as follows, as an alternative to the process pursuant to Section 65584.01:

(1) In a region in which at least one subregion has accepted delegated authority pursuant to Section 65584.03, the region’s housing need shall be determined at least 26 months prior to the housing element update deadline pursuant to Section 65588. In a region in which no subregion has accepted delegation pursuant to Section 65584.03, the region’s housing need shall be determined at least 24 months prior to the housing element deadline.

(2) At least six months prior to the department’s determination of regional housing need pursuant to paragraph (1), a council of governments may request the use of population and household forecast assumptions used in the regional transportation plan. This request shall include all of the following:

(A) Proposed data and assumptions for factors contributing to housing need beyond household growth identified in the forecast. These factors shall include allowance for vacant or replacement units, and may include other adjustment factors.

(B) A proposed planning period that is not longer than the period of time covered by the regional transportation improvement plan or plans of the region pursuant to Section 14527, but a period not less than five years, and not longer than six years.

(C) A comparison between the population and household assumptions used for the Regional Transportation Plan with population and household estimates and projections of the Department of Finance.

(b) The department shall consult with the council of governments regarding requests submitted pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a). The department may seek advice and consult with the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance, the State Department of Transportation, a representative of a contiguous council of governments, and any other party as deemed necessary. The department may request that the council of governments revise data, assumptions, or methodology to be used for the determination of regional housing need, or may reject the request submitted pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a). Subsequent to consultation with the council of governments, the department will respond in writing to requests submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a).

(c) If the council of governments does not submit a request pursuant to subdivision (a), or if the department rejects the request of the council of governments, the determination for the region shall be made pursuant to Sections 65584 and 65584.01.

(Amended by Stats. 2008, Ch. 728, Sec. 9. Effective January 1, 2009.)

§ 65584.03. Subregional Entity for Allocation of Existing and Projected Housing Needs; Notification of Formation; Determination; Failure to Complete Allocation

(a) At least 28 months prior to the scheduled housing element update required by Section 65588, at
least two or more cities and a county, or counties, may form a subregional entity for the purpose of allocation of the subregion’s existing and projected need for housing among its members in accordance with the allocation methodology established pursuant to Section 65584.04. The purpose of establishing a subregion shall be to recognize the community of interest and mutual challenges and opportunities for providing housing within a subregion. A subregion formed pursuant to this section may include a single county and each of the cities in that county or any other combination of geographically contiguous local governments and shall be approved by the adoption of a resolution by each of the local governments in the subregion as well as by the council of governments. All decisions of the subregion shall be approved by vote as provided for in rules adopted by the local governments comprising the subregion or shall be approved by vote of the county or counties, if any, and the majority of the cities with the majority of population within a county or counties.

(b) Upon formation of the subregional entity, the entity shall notify the council of governments of this formation. If the council of governments has not received notification from an eligible subregional entity at least 28 months prior to the scheduled housing element update required by Section 65588, the council of governments shall implement the provisions of Sections 65584 and 65584.04. The delegate subregion and the council of governments shall enter into an agreement that sets forth the process, timing, and other terms and conditions of the delegation of responsibility by the council of governments to the subregion.

(c) At least 25 months prior to the scheduled revision, the council of governments shall determine the share of regional housing need assigned to each delegate subregion. The share or shares allocated to the delegate subregion or subregions by a council of governments shall be in a proportion consistent with the distribution of households assumed for the comparable time period of the applicable regional transportation plan. Prior to allocating the regional housing needs to any delegate subregion or subregions, the council of governments shall hold at least one public hearing, and may consider requests for revision of the proposed allocation to a subregion. If a proposed revision is rejected, the council of governments shall respond with a written explanation of why the proposed revised share has not been accepted.

(d) Each delegate subregion shall fully allocate its share of the regional housing need to local governments within its subregion. If a delegate subregion fails to complete the regional housing need allocation process among its member jurisdictions in a manner consistent with this article and with the delegation agreement between the subregion and the council of governments, the allocations to member jurisdictions shall be made by the council of governments.

(Added by Stats. 2004, Ch. 696, Sec. 6. Effective January 1, 2005.)

§ 65584.04. Methodology for Distributing Existing and Projected Regional Housing Need to Cities and Counties; Development; Survey of Member Jurisdictions; Public Participation; Factors; Publication of Draft Methodology and Submission to Department Following Public Comment Period; Department Action; Notice of Adoption; Coordination with Regional Transportation Plan

(a) At least two years prior to a scheduled revision required by Section 65588, each council of governments, or delegate subregion as applicable, shall develop, in consultation with the department, a proposed methodology for distributing the existing and projected regional housing need to cities, counties, and cities and counties within the region or within the subregion, where applicable pursuant to this section. The methodology shall further the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584.

(b) (1) No more than six months prior to the development of a proposed methodology for distributing the existing and projected housing need, each council of governments shall survey each of its member jurisdictions to request, at a minimum, information regarding the factors listed in subdivision (e) that will allow the development of a methodology based upon the factors established in subdivision (e).
(2) With respect to the objective in paragraph (5) of subdivision (d) of Section 65584, the survey shall review and compile information that will allow the development of a methodology based upon the issues, strategies, and actions that are included, as available, in an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice or an Assessment of Fair Housing completed by any city or county or the department that covers communities within the area served by the council of governments, and in housing elements adopted pursuant to this article by cities and counties within the area served by the council of governments.

(3) The council of governments shall seek to obtain the information in a manner and format that is comparable throughout the region and utilize readily available data to the extent possible.

(4) The information provided by a local government pursuant to this section shall be used, to the extent possible, by the council of governments, or delegate subregion as applicable, as source information for the methodology developed pursuant to this section. The survey shall state that none of the information received may be used as a basis for reducing the total housing need established for the region pursuant to Section 65584.01.

(5) If the council of governments fails to conduct a survey pursuant to this subdivision, a city, county, or city and county may submit information related to the items listed in subdivision (e) prior to the public comment period provided for in subdivision (d).

(c) The council of governments shall electronically report the results of the survey of fair housing issues, strategies, and actions compiled pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b). The report shall describe common themes and effective strategies employed by cities and counties within the area served by the council of governments, including common themes and effective strategies around avoiding the displacement of lower-income households. The council of governments shall also identify significant barriers to affirmatively furthering fair housing at the regional level and may recommend strategies or actions to overcome those barriers. A council of governments or metropolitan planning organization, as appropriate, may use this information for any other purpose, including publication within a regional transportation plan adopted pursuant to Section 65080 or to inform the land use assumptions that are applied in the development of a regional transportation plan.

(d) Public participation and access shall be required in the development of the methodology and in the process of drafting and adoption of the allocation of the regional housing needs. Participation by organizations other than local jurisdictions and councils of governments shall be solicited in a diligent effort to achieve public participation of all economic segments of the community as well as members of protected classes under Section 12955. The proposed methodology, along with any relevant underlying data and assumptions, an explanation of how information about local government conditions gathered pursuant to subdivision (b) has been used to develop the proposed methodology, how each of the factors listed in subdivision (e) is incorporated into the methodology, and how the proposed methodology furthers the objectives listed in subdivision (e) of Section 65584, shall be distributed to all cities, counties, any subregions, and members of the public who have made a written or electronic request for the proposed methodology and published on the council of governments’, or delegate subregion’s, Internet Web site. The council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall conduct at least one public hearing to receive oral and written comments on the proposed methodology.

(e) To the extent that sufficient data is available from local governments pursuant to subdivision (b) or other sources, each council of governments, or delegate subregion as applicable, shall include the following factors to develop the methodology that allocates regional housing needs:

(1) Each member jurisdiction’s existing and projected jobs and housing relationship. This shall include an estimate based on readily available data on the number of low-wage jobs within the jurisdiction and how many housing units within the jurisdiction are affordable to low-wage workers as well as an
estimate based on readily available data, of projected job growth and projected household growth by income level within each member jurisdiction during the planning period.

(2) The opportunities and constraints to development of additional housing in each member jurisdiction, including all of the following:

(A) Lack of capacity for sewer or water service due to federal or state laws, regulations or regulatory actions, or supply and distribution decisions made by a sewer or water service provider other than the local jurisdiction that preclude the jurisdiction from providing necessary infrastructure for additional development during the planning period.

(B) The availability of land suitable for urban development or for conversion to residential use, the availability of underutilized land, and opportunities for infill development and increased residential densities. The council of governments may not limit its consideration of suitable housing sites or land suitable for urban development to existing zoning ordinances and land use restrictions of a locality, but shall consider the potential for increased residential development under alternative zoning ordinances and land use restrictions. The determination of available land suitable for urban development may exclude lands where the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the Department of Water Resources has determined that the flood management infrastructure designed to protect that land is not adequate to avoid the risk of flooding.

(C) Lands preserved or protected from urban development under existing federal or state programs, or both, designed to protect open space, farmland, environmental habitats, and natural resources on a long-term basis, including land zoned or designated for agricultural protection or preservation that is subject to a local ballot measure that was approved by the voters of that jurisdiction that prohibits or restricts conversion to non-agricultural uses.

(D) County policies to preserve prime agricultural land, as defined pursuant to Section 56064, within an unincorporated and land within an unincorporated area zoned or designated for agricultural protection or preservation that is subject to a local ballot measure that was approved by the voters of that jurisdiction that prohibits or restricts its conversion to non-agricultural uses.

(3) The distribution of household growth assumed for purposes of a comparable period of regional transportation plans and opportunities to maximize the use of public transportation and existing transportation infrastructure.

(4) Agreements between a county and cities in a county to direct growth toward incorporated areas of the county and land within an unincorporated area zoned or designated for agricultural protection or preservation that is subject to a local ballot measure that was approved by the voters of the jurisdiction that prohibits or restricts conversion to non-agricultural uses.

(5) The loss of units contained in assisted housing developments, as defined in paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, that changed to non-low-income use through mortgage prepayment, subsidy contract expirations, or termination of use restrictions.

(6) The percentage of existing households at each of the income levels listed in subdivision (e) of Section 65584 that are paying more than 30 percent and more than 50 percent of their income in rent.

(7) The rate of overcrowding.

(8) The housing needs of farmworkers.

(9) The housing needs generated by the presence of a private university or a campus of the California State University or the University of California within any member jurisdiction.

(10) The loss of units during a state of emergency that was declared by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2), during the planning period immediately preceding the relevant revision pursuant to Section 65588 that have yet to be rebuilt or replaced at the time of the analysis.

(11) The region’s greenhouse gas emissions targets provided by the State Air Resources Board pursuant
(12) Any other factors adopted by the council of governments, that further the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584, provided that the council of governments specifies which of the objectives each additional factor is necessary to further. The council of governments may include additional factors unrelated to furthering the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584 so long as the additional factors do not undermine the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584 and are applied equally across all household income levels as described in subdivision (f) of Section 65584 and the council of governments makes a finding that the factor is necessary to address significant health and safety conditions.

(f) The council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall explain in writing how each of the factors described in subdivision (e) was incorporated into the methodology and how the methodology furthers the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584. The methodology may include numerical weighting. This information and any other supporting materials used in determining the methodology, shall be posted on the council of governments’, or delegate subregion’s, Internet Web site.

(g) The following criteria shall not be a justification for a determination or a reduction in a jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need:

(1) Any ordinance, policy, voter-approved measure, or standard of a city or county that directly or indirectly limits the number of residential building permits issued by a city or county.

(2) Prior underproduction of housing in a city or county from the previous regional housing need allocation, as determined by each jurisdiction’s annual production report submitted pursuant to subparagraph (H) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 65400.

(3) Stable population numbers in a city or county from the previous regional housing needs cycle.

(h) Following the conclusion of the public comment period described in subdivision (d) on the proposed allocation methodology, and after making any revisions deemed appropriate by the council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable, as a result of comments received during the public comment period, and as a result of consultation with the department, each council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall publish a draft allocation methodology on its Internet Web site and submit the draft allocation methodology, along with the information required pursuant to subdivision (e), to the department.

(i) Within 60 days, the department shall review the draft allocation methodology and report its written findings to the council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable. In its written findings the department shall determine whether the methodology furthers the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584. If the department determines that the methodology is not consistent with subdivision (d) of Section 65584, the council of governments, or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall take one of the following actions:

(1) Revise the methodology to further the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584 and adopt a final regional, or subregional, housing need allocation methodology.

(2) Adopt the regional, or subregional, housing need allocation methodology without revisions and include within its resolution of adoption findings, supported by substantial evidence, as to why the council of governments, or delegate subregion, believes that the methodology furthers the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584 despite the findings of the department.

(j) If the department’s findings are not available within the time limits set by subdivision (i), the council of governments, or delegate subregion, may act without them.

(k) Upon either action pursuant to subdivision (i), the council of governments, or delegate subregion, shall provide notice of the adoption of the methodology to the jurisdictions within the region, or delegate subregion, as applicable, and to the department, and shall publish the adopted allocation
methodology, along with its resolution and any adopted written findings, on its Internet Web site.

(l) The department may, within 90 days, review the adopted methodology and report its findings to the
council of governments, or delegate subregion.

(m) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that housing planning be coordinated and integrated with the
regional transportation plan. To achieve this goal, the allocation plan shall allocate housing units within
the region consistent with the development pattern included in the sustainable communities strategy.
(2) The final allocation plan shall ensure that the total regional housing need, by income category, as
determined under Section 65584, is maintained, and that each jurisdiction in the region receive an
allocation of units for low- and very low income households.
(3) The resolution approving the final housing need allocation plan shall demonstrate that the plan is
consistent with the sustainable communities strategy in the regional transportation plan and furthers
the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584.
(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 990, Sec. 3.7. (AB 2238) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65584.05. Draft Allocation of Regional Housing Needs; Distribution; Request for Revisions and
Modification; Appeal; Public Hearings; Proposed Final Allocation and Adoption of Final Plan; Authority
of Council of Governments

(a) At least one and one-half years prior to the scheduled revision required by Section 65588, each
council of governments and delegate subregion, as applicable, shall distribute a draft allocation of
regional housing needs to each local government in the region or subregion, where applicable, and the
department, based on the methodology adopted pursuant to Section 65584.04 and shall publish the
draft allocation on its Internet Web site. The draft allocation shall include the underlying data and
methodology on which the allocation is based, and a statement as to how it furthers the objectives
listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584. It is the intent of the Legislature that the draft allocation
should be distributed prior to the completion of the update of the applicable regional transportation
plan. The draft allocation shall distribute to localities and subregions, if any, within the region the entire
regional housing need determined pursuant to Section 65584.01 or within subregions, as applicable, the
subregion’s entire share of the regional housing need determined pursuant to Section 65584.03.

(b) Within 45 days following receipt of the draft allocation, a local government within the region or the
delegate subregion, as applicable, or the department may appeal to the council of governments or the
delegate subregion for a revision of the share of the regional housing need proposed to be allocated to
one or more local governments. Appeals shall be based upon comparable data available for all affected
jurisdictions and accepted planning methodology, and supported by adequate documentation, and shall
include a statement as to why the revision is necessary to further the intent of the objectives listed in
subdivision (d) of Section 65584. An appeal pursuant to this subdivision shall be consistent with, and not
to the detriment of, the development pattern in an applicable sustainable communities strategy
developed pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 65080. Appeals shall be limited to any
of the following circumstances:
(1) The council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, failed to adequately consider the
information submitted pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 65584.04.
(2) The council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, failed to determine the share of the
regional housing need in accordance with the information described in, and the methodology
established pursuant to, Section 65584.04, and in a manner that further, and does not undermine, the
intent of the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584.
(3) A significant and unforeseen change in circumstances has occurred in the local jurisdiction or
jurisdictions that merits a revision of the information submitted pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section
65584.04. Appeals on this basis shall only be made by the jurisdiction or jurisdictions where the change
in circumstances has occurred.

(c) At the close of the period for filing appeals pursuant to subdivision (b), the council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall notify all other local governments within the region or delegate subregion and the department of all appeals and shall make all materials submitted in support of each appeal available on a publicly available Internet Web site. Local governments and the department may, within 45 days, comment on one or more appeals. If no appeals are filed, the draft allocation shall be issued as the proposed final allocation plan pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (e).

(d) No later than 30 days after the close of the comment period, and after providing all local governments within the region or delegate subregion, as applicable, at least 21 days prior notice, the council of governments or delegate subregion shall conduct one public hearing to consider all appeals filed pursuant to subdivision (b) and all comments received pursuant to subdivision (c).

(e) No later than 45 days after the public hearing pursuant to subdivision (d), the council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall do both of the following:

1. Make a final determination that either accepts, rejects, or modifies each appeal for a revised share filed pursuant to subdivision (b). Final determinations shall be based upon the information and methodology described in Section 65584.04 and whether the revision is necessary to further the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584. The final determination shall be in writing and shall include written findings as to how the determination is consistent with this article. The final determination on an appeal may require the council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, to adjust the share of the regional housing need allocated to one or more local governments that are not the subject of an appeal.

2. Issue a proposed final allocation plan.

(f) In the proposed final allocation plan, the council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall adjust allocations to local governments based upon the results of the appeals process. If the adjustments total 7 percent or less of the regional housing need determined pursuant to Section 65584.01, or, as applicable, total 7 percent or less of the subregion’s share of the regional housing need as determined pursuant to Section 65584.03, then the council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall distribute the adjustments proportionally to all local governments. If the adjustments total more than 7 percent of the regional housing need, then the council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, shall develop a methodology to distribute the amount greater than the 7 percent to local governments. In no event shall the total distribution of housing need equal less than the regional housing need, as determined pursuant to Section 65584.01, nor shall the subregional distribution of housing need equal less than its share of the regional housing need as determined pursuant to Section 65584.03.

(g) Within 45 days after the issuance of the proposed final allocation plan by the council of governments and each delegate subregion, as applicable, the council of governments shall hold a public hearing to adopt a final allocation plan. To the extent that the final allocation plan fully allocates the regional share of statewide housing need, as determined pursuant to Section 65584.01 and has taken into account all appeals, the council of governments shall have final authority to determine the distribution of the region’s existing and projected housing need as determined pursuant to Section 65584.01. The council of governments shall submit its final allocation plan to the department within three days of adoption. Within 30 days after the department’s receipt of the final allocation plan adopted by the council of governments, the department shall determine whether or not the final allocation plan is consistent with the existing and projected housing need for the region, as determined pursuant to Section 65584.01. The department may revise the determination of the council of governments if necessary to obtain this consistency.

(h) Any authority of the council of governments to review and revise the share of a city or county of the
regional housing need under this section shall not constitute authority to revise, approve, or disapprove the manner in which the share of the city or county of the regional housing need is implemented through its housing program.

(i) Any time period in subdivision (d) or (e) may be extended by a council of governments or delegate subregion, as applicable, for up to 30 days.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 989, Sec. 4. (AB 1771) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65584.06. Cities and Counties Without Council of Governments; Determination and Distribution of Existing and Projected Housing Needs by Department; Draft and Proposed Revisions;Modification; Final Allocation

(a) For cities and counties without a council of governments, the department shall determine and distribute the existing and projected housing need, in accordance with Section 65584 and this section. If the department determines that a county or counties, supported by a resolution adopted by the board or boards of supervisors, and a majority of cities within the county or counties representing a majority of the population of the county or counties, possess the capability and resources and has agreed to accept the responsibility, with respect to its jurisdiction, for the distribution of the regional housing need, the department shall delegate this responsibility to the cities and county or counties.

(b) The distribution of regional housing need shall, based upon available data and in consultation with the cities and counties, take into consideration market demand for housing, the distribution of household growth within the county assumed in the regional transportation plan where applicable, employment opportunities and commuting patterns, the availability of suitable sites and public facilities, agreements between a county and cities in a county to direct growth toward incorporated areas of the county, or other considerations as may be requested by the affected cities or counties and agreed to by the department. As part of the allocation of the regional housing need, the department shall provide each city and county with data describing the assumptions and methodology used in calculating its share of the regional housing need. Consideration of suitable housing sites or land suitable for urban development is not limited to existing zoning ordinances and land use restrictions of a locality, but shall include consideration of the potential for increased residential development under alternative zoning ordinances and land use restrictions. The determination of available land suitable for urban development may exclude lands where the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the Department of Water Resources has determined that the flood management infrastructure designed to protect that land is not adequate to avoid the risk of flooding.

(c) Within 90 days following the department’s determination of a draft distribution of the regional housing need to the cities and the county, a city or county may propose to revise the determination of its share of the regional housing need in accordance with criteria set forth in the draft distribution. The proposed revised share shall be based upon comparable data available for all affected jurisdictions, and accepted planning methodology, and shall be supported by adequate documentation.

(d) (1) Within 60 days after the end of the 90-day time period for the revision by the cities or county, the department shall accept the proposed revision, modify its earlier determination, or indicate why the proposed revision is inconsistent with the regional housing need.

(2) If the department does not accept the proposed revision, then, within 30 days, the city or county may request a public hearing to review the determination.

(3) The city or county shall be notified within 30 days by certified mail, return receipt requested, of at least one public hearing regarding the determination.

(4) The date of the hearing shall be at least 10 but not more than 15 days from the date of the notification.

(5) Before making its final determination, the department shall consider all comments received and shall
include a written response to each request for revision received from a city or county. 

(e) If the department accepts the proposed revision or modifies its earlier determination, the city or county shall use that share. If the department grants a revised allocation pursuant to subdivision (d), the department shall ensure that the total regional housing need is maintained. The department’s final determination shall be in writing and shall include information explaining how its action is consistent with this section. If the department indicates that the proposed revision is inconsistent with the regional housing need, the city or county shall use the share that was originally determined by the department. The department, within its final determination, may adjust the allocation of a city or county that was not the subject of a request for revision of the draft distribution.

(f) The department shall issue a final regional housing need allocation for all cities and counties within 45 days of the completion of the local review period.

(g) Statutory changes enacted after the date the department issued a final determination pursuant to this section shall not be a basis for a revision of the final determination. (Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 989, Sec. 5. (AB 1771) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65584.07. Reduction of County Share of Regional Housing Needs; Conditions; Amended Housing Elements; Revision upon Incorporation of New City; Revision upon Annexation

(a) During the period between adoption of a final regional housing needs allocation and the due date of the housing element update under Section 65588, the council of governments, or the department, whichever assigned the county’s share, shall reduce the share of regional housing needs of a county if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) One or more cities within the county agree to increase its share or their shares in an amount equivalent to the reduction.

(2) The transfer of shares shall only occur between a county and cities within that county.

(3) The county’s share of low-income and very low income housing shall be reduced only in proportion to the amount by which the county’s share of moderate- and above moderate-income housing is reduced.

(4) The council of governments or the department, whichever assigned the county’s share, shall approve the proposed reduction, if it determines that the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) above have been satisfied. The county and city or cities proposing the transfer shall submit an analysis of the factors and circumstances, with all supporting data, justifying the revision to the council of governments or the department. The council of governments shall submit a copy of its decision regarding the proposed reduction to the department.

(b) (1) The county and cities that have executed transfers of regional housing needs pursuant to subdivision (a) shall use the revised regional housing need allocation in their housing elements and shall adopt their housing elements by the deadlines set forth in Section 65588.

(2) A city that has received a transfer of a regional housing need pursuant to subdivision (c) shall adopt or amend its housing element within 30 months of the effective date of incorporation.

(3) A county or city that has received a transfer of regional housing need pursuant to subdivision (d) shall amend its housing element within 180 days of the effective date of the transfer.

(4) A county or city is responsible for identifying sites to accommodate its revised regional housing need by the deadlines set forth in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3).

(5) All materials and data used to justify any revision shall be made available upon request to any interested party within seven days upon payment of reasonable costs of reproduction unless the costs are waived due to economic hardship. A fee may be charged to interested parties for any additional costs caused by the amendments made to former subdivision (c) of Section 65584 that reduced from 45 to 7 days the time within which materials and data were required to be made available to interested
parties.

(c) (1) If an incorporation of a new city occurs after the council of governments, subregional entity, or the department for areas with no council of governments, has made its final allocation under Section 65584.03, 65584.04, 65584.06, or 65584.08, a portion of the county’s allocation shall be transferred to the new city. The city and county may reach a mutually acceptable agreement for transfer of a portion of the county’s allocation to the city, which shall be accepted by the council of governments, subregional entity, or the department, whichever allocated the county’s share. If the affected parties cannot reach a mutually acceptable agreement, then either party may submit a written request to the council of governments, subregional entity, or to the department for areas with no council of governments, to consider the facts, data, and methodology presented by both parties and determine the number of units, by income category, that should be transferred from the county’s allocation to the new city.

(2) Within 90 days after the date of incorporation, either the transfer, by income category, agreed upon by the city and county, or a written request for a transfer, shall be submitted to the council of governments, subregional entity, or to the department, whichever allocated the county’s share. A mutually acceptable transfer agreement shall be effective immediately upon receipt by the council of governments, the subregional entity, or the department. A copy of a written transfer request submitted to the council of governments shall be submitted to the department. The council of governments, subregional entity, or the department, whichever allocated the county’s share, shall make the transfer effective within 180 days after receipt of the written request. If the council of governments allocated the county’s share, the transfer shall be based on the methodology adopted pursuant to Section 65584.04 or 65584.08. If the subregional entity allocated the subregion’s share, the transfer shall be based on the methodology adopted pursuant to Section 65584.03. If the department allocated the county’s share, the transfer shall be based on the considerations specified in Section 65584.06. The transfer shall neither reduce the total regional housing needs nor change the regional housing needs allocated to other cities by the council of governments, subregional entity, or the department. A copy of the transfer finalized by the council of governments or subregional entity shall be submitted to the department. The council of governments, the subregional entity, or the department, as appropriate, may extend the 90-day deadline if it determines an extension is consistent with the objectives of this article.

(d) (1) If an annexation of unincorporated land to a city occurs after the council of governments, subregional entity, or the department for areas with no council of governments, has made its final allocation under Section 65584.03, 65584.04, 65584.06, or 65584.08, a portion of the county’s allocation may be transferred to the city. The city and county may reach a mutually acceptable agreement for transfer of a portion of the county’s allocation to the city, which shall be accepted by the council of governments, subregional entity, or the department, whichever allocated the county’s share. If the affected parties cannot reach a mutually acceptable agreement, then either party may submit a written request to the council of governments, subregional entity, or to the department for areas with no council of governments, to consider the facts, data, and methodology presented by both parties and determine the number of units, by income category, that should be transferred from the county’s allocation to the city.

(2) (A) Except as provided under subparagraph (B), within 90 days after the date of annexation, either the transfer, by income category, agreed upon by the city and county, or a written request for a transfer, shall be submitted to the council of governments, subregional entity, and to the department. A mutually acceptable transfer agreement shall be effective immediately upon receipt by the council of governments, the subregional entity, or the department. The council of governments, subregional entity, or the department for areas with no council of governments, shall make the transfer effective within 180 days after receipt of the written request. If the council of governments allocated the county’s
share, the transfer shall be based on the methodology adopted pursuant to Section 65584.04 or 65584.08. If the subregional entity allocated the subregion’s share, the transfer shall be based on the methodology adopted pursuant to Section 65584.03. If the department allocated the county’s share, the transfer shall be based on the considerations specified in Section 65584.06. The transfer shall neither reduce the total regional housing needs nor change the regional housing needs allocated to other cities by the council of governments, subregional entity, or the department for areas with no council of governments. A copy of the transfer finalized by the council of governments or subregional entity shall be submitted to the department. The council of governments, the subregional entity, or the department, as appropriate, may extend the 90-day deadline if it determines an extension is consistent with the objectives of this article.

(B) If the annexed land is subject to a development agreement authorized under subdivision (b) of Section 65865 that was entered into by a city and a landowner prior to January 1, 2008, the revised determination shall be based upon the number of units allowed by the development agreement.

(3) A transfer shall not be made when the council of governments or the department, as applicable, confirms that the annexed land was fully incorporated into the methodology used to allocate the city’s share of the regional housing needs.

(Amended by Stats. 2008, Ch. 11, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2009.)

§ 65584.09. Lack of Sites Identified or Available to Accommodate Regional Housing Need

(a) For housing elements due pursuant to Section 65588 on or after January 1, 2006, if a city or county in the prior planning period failed to identify or make available adequate sites to accommodate that portion of the regional housing need allocated pursuant to Section 65584, then the city or county shall, within the first year of the planning period of the new housing element, zone or rezone adequate sites to accommodate the unaccommodated portion of the regional housing need allocation from the prior planning period.

(b) The requirements under subdivision (a) shall be in addition to any zoning or rezoning required to accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 for the new planning period.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to diminish the requirement of a city or county to accommodate its share of the regional housing need for each income level during the planning period set forth in Section 65588, including the obligations to (1) implement programs included pursuant to Section 65583 to achieve the goals and objectives, including programs to zone or rezone land, and (2) timely adopt a housing element with an inventory described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and a program to make sites available pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583, which can accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need.

(Added by Stats. 2005, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2006.)

§ 65584.1. Costs in Distributing Regional Housing Needs; Fees Charged to Local Governments

Councils of government may charge a fee to local governments to cover the projected reasonable, actual costs of the council in distributing regional housing needs pursuant to this article. Any fee shall not exceed the estimated amount required to implement its obligations pursuant to Sections 65584, 65584.01, 65584.02, 65584.03, 65584.04, 65584.05, and 65584.07. A city, county, or city and county may charge a fee, not to exceed the amount charged in the aggregate to the city, county, or city and county by the council of governments, to reimburse it for the cost of the fee charged by the council of government to cover the council’s actual costs in distributing regional housing needs. The legislative body of the city, county, or city and county shall impose the fee pursuant to Section 66016, except that if the fee creates revenue in excess of actual costs, those revenues shall be refunded to the payers of
§ 65584.2. Share of Regional Housing Need; Review or Appeal
A local government may, but is not required to, conduct a review or appeal regarding allocation data provided by the department or the council of governments pertaining the locality’s share of the regional housing need or the submittal of data or information for a proposed allocation, as permitted by this article.
(Added by Stats. 2004, Ch. 227, Sec. 59. Effective August 16, 2004.)

§ 65584.3. Los Angeles County; Cities Without Residentially Zoned Lands; Adoption of Housing Element; Transfer of Tax Increment Funds for Low- and Moderate-Income Housing; Use of Funds
(a) A city that is incorporated to promote commerce and industry, that is located in the County of Los Angeles, and that has no residentially zoned land within its boundaries on January 1, 1992, may elect to adopt a housing element that makes no provision for new housing or the share of regional housing needs as determined pursuant to Section 65584 for the current and subsequent revisions of the housing element pursuant to Section 65588, for the period of time that 20 percent of all tax increment revenue accruing from all redevelopment projects, and required to be set aside for low- and moderate-income housing pursuant to Section 33334.2 of the Health and Safety Code, is annually transferred to the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles.
(b) (1) The amount of tax increment to be transferred each year pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be determined at the end of each fiscal year, commencing with the 1992–93 fiscal year. This amount shall be transferred within 30 days of the agency receiving each installment of its allocation of tax increment moneys, commencing in 1993.
(2) On or before December 31, 1992, the agency shall make an additional payment to the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles that eliminates any indebtedness to the low- and moderate-income housing fund pursuant to Section 33334.3. This amount shall be reduced by any amount actually expended by the redevelopment agency for principal or interest payments on agency bonds issued prior to the effective date of the act that adds this section, when that portion of the agency’s tax increment revenue representing the low- and moderate-income housing set-aside funds was lawfully pledged as security for the bonds, and only to the extent that other tax increment revenue in excess of the 20-percent low- and moderate-income set-aside funds is insufficient in that fiscal year to meet in full the principal and interest payments.
(c) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall annually review the calculation and determination of the amount transferred pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b). The department may conduct an audit of these funds if and when the Director of Housing and Community Development deems an audit appropriate.
(d) The amount transferred pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) shall fulfill the obligation of that city’s redevelopment agency to provide for housing for low- and moderate-income families and individuals pursuant to Sections 33334.2 to 33334.16, inclusive, of the Health and Safety Code. The use of these funds for low- and moderate-income families in the region of the Southern California Association of Governments within which the city is located shall be deemed to be of benefit to the city’s redevelopment project areas.
(e) (1) The amount transferred pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) to the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles shall be expended to provide housing and assistance, including, but not limited to, that specified in subdivision (e) of Section 33334.2 of the Health and Safety Code for low- and moderate-income families and individuals, in the region of the Southern California Association of Governments
(2) Funds expended pursuant to this subdivision shall be expended in accordance with all of the following:
(A) The funds shall be expended for the construction of low- and moderate-income housing located no
further than 15 miles from the nearest boundary line of the City of Industry.
(B) The low- and moderate-income housing constructed pursuant to this subdivision shall be in addition
to any other housing required by the housing element of the general plan of the jurisdiction in which the
low- and moderate-income housing is constructed.
(C) Funds may be encumbered by the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles for the purposes
of this subdivision only after the authority has prepared a written plan for the expenditure of funds to
be transferred to the authority pursuant to this subdivision and has filed a copy of this expenditure plan
with the Department of Housing and Community Development.

(f) A city that meets the conditions specified in subdivision (d) shall continue to have responsibility for
preparing a housing element pursuant to Section 65583 only to the extent to which the assessment of
housing needs, statement of goals and objectives, and the five-year schedule of actions relate to the
city’s plan to maintain, preserve, and improve the housing that exists in the city on the effective date of
the act which adds this section.

(g) This section shall not become operative unless and until a parcel of land, to be dedicated for the
construction of a high school, is transferred pursuant to a written agreement between the City of
Industry and the Pomona Unified School District, and a copy of this agreement is filed with the County
Clerk of the County of Los Angeles.

(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 829, Sec. 32. Effective January 1, 1999.)

§ 65584.6. Napa County; Regional Housing Needs for Lower Income Households; Draft Agreement;
Credits; Reports
(a) The County of Napa may, during its current housing element planning period, identified in Section
65588, meet up to 15 percent of its existing share of the regional housing need for lower income
households, as defined in Section 65584, by committing funds for the purpose of constructing affordable
housing units, and constructing those units in one or more cities within the county, only after all of the
following conditions are met:
(1) An agreement has been executed between the county and the receiving city or cities, following a
public hearing held by the county and the receiving city or cities to solicit public comments on the draft
agreement. The agreement shall contain information sufficient to demonstrate that the county and city
or cities have complied with the requirements of this section and shall also include the following:
(A) A plan and schedule for timely construction of dwelling units.
(B) Site identification by street address for the units to be developed.
(C) A statement either that the sites upon which the units will be developed were identified in the
receiving city’s housing element as potential sites for the development of housing for lower-income
households, or that the units will be developed on previously unidentified sites.
(D) The number and percentage of the county’s lower-income housing needs previously transferred, for
the appropriate planning period, pursuant to this section.
(2) The council of governments that assigned the county’s share receives and approves each proposed
agreement to meet a portion of the county’s fair share housing allocation within one or more of the
cities within the county after taking into consideration the criteria of subdivision (a) of Section 65584. If
the council of governments fails to take action to approve or disapprove an agreement between the
county and the receiving city or cities within 45 days following the receipt of the agreement, the
agreement shall be deemed approved.
(3) The city or cities in which the units are developed agree not to count the units towards their share of the region’s affordable housing need.

(4) The county and the receiving city or cities, based on substantial evidence on the record, make the following findings:
   (A) Adequate sites with appropriate zoning exist in the receiving city or cities to accommodate the units to be developed pursuant to this section. The agreement shall demonstrate that the city or cities have identified sufficient vacant or underutilized or vacant and underutilized sites in their housing elements to meet their existing share of regional housing need, as allocated by the council of governments pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 65584, in addition to the sites needed to construct the units pursuant to this section.
   (B) If needed, additional subsidy or financing for the construction of the units is available.
   (C) The receiving city or cities have housing elements that have been found by the Department of Housing and Community Development to be in compliance with this article.
(5) If the sites upon which units are to be developed pursuant to this section were previously identified in the receiving city’s housing element as potential sites for the development of housing sufficient to accommodate the receiving city’s share of the lower income household need identified in its housing element, then the receiving city shall have amended its housing element to identify replacement sites by street address for housing for lower-income households. Additionally, the Department of Housing and Community Development shall have received and reviewed the amendment and found that the city’s housing element continues to comply with this article.

(6) The county and receiving city or cities shall have completed, and provided to the department, the annual report required by subdivision (b) of Section 65400.

(7) For a period of five years after a transfer occurs, the report required by subdivision (b) of Section 65400 shall include information on the status of transferred units, implementation of the terms and conditions of the transfer agreement, and information on any dwelling units actually constructed, including the number, type, location, and affordability requirements.

(8) The receiving city demonstrates that it has met, in the current or previous housing element cycle, at least 20 percent of its share of the regional need for housing for very low-income households allocated to the city pursuant to Section 65584.

(b) The credit that the county receives pursuant to this section shall not exceed 40 percent of the number of units that are affordable to lower income households and constructed and occupied during the same housing element cycle in unincorporated areas of the county. The county shall only receive the credit after the units have been constructed and occupied. Within 60 days of issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the units, the county shall inform the council of governments and the department in writing that a certificate of occupancy has been issued.

(c) Concurrent with the review by the council of governments prescribed by this section, the Department of Housing and Community Development shall evaluate the agreement to determine whether the city or cities are in substantial compliance with this section. The department shall report the results of its evaluation to the county and city or cities for inclusion in their record of compliance with this section.

(d) If at the end of the five-year period identified in subdivision (c) of Section 65583, any percentage of the regional share allocation has not been constructed as provided pursuant to subdivision (a), or, after consultation with the department, the council of governments determines that the requirements of paragraphs (5) and (7) of subdivision (a) have not been substantially complied with, the council of governments shall add the unbuilt units to Napa County’s regional share allocation for the planning period of the next periodic update of the housing element.

(e) Napa County shall not meet a percentage of its share of the regional share pursuant to subdivision...
§ 65585. Draft Element or Amendment; Submission, Review and Report; Adoption by Legislative Body; Review by Department and Report to Planning Agency; Review of Action or Failure to Act; Notification of Violation

(a) In the preparation of its housing element, each city and county shall consider the guidelines adopted by the department pursuant to Section 50459 of the Health and Safety Code. Those guidelines shall be advisory to each city or county in the preparation of its housing element.

(b) (1) At least 90 days prior to adoption of its housing element, or at least 60 days prior to the adoption of an amendment to this element, the planning agency shall submit a draft element or draft amendment to the department.

(2) The planning agency staff shall collect and compile the public comments regarding the housing element received by the city, county, or city and county, and provide these comments to each member of the legislative body before it adopts the housing element.

(3) The department shall review the draft and report its written findings to the planning agency within 90 days of its receipt of the draft in the case of an adoption or within 60 days of its receipt in the case of a draft amendment.

(c) In the preparation of its findings, the department may consult with any public agency, group, or person. The department shall receive and consider any written comments from any public agency, group, or person regarding the draft or adopted element or amendment under review.

(d) In its written findings, the department shall determine whether the draft element or draft amendment substantially complies with this article.

(e) Prior to the adoption of its draft element or draft amendment, the legislative body shall consider the findings made by the department. If the department’s findings are not available within the time limits set by this section, the legislative body may act without them.

(f) If the department finds that the draft element or draft amendment does not substantially comply with this article, the legislative body shall take one of the following actions:

(1) Change the draft element or draft amendment to substantially comply with this article.

(2) Adopt the draft element or draft amendment without changes. The legislative body shall include in its resolution of adoption written findings which explain the reasons the legislative body believes that the draft element or draft amendment substantially complies with this article despite the findings of the department.

(g) Promptly following the adoption of its element or amendment, the planning agency shall submit a copy to the department.

(h) The department shall, within 90 days, review adopted housing elements or amendments and report its findings to the planning agency.

(i) (1) (A) The department shall review any action or failure to act by the city, county, or city and county that it determines is inconsistent with an adopted housing element or Section 65583, including any failure to implement any program actions included in the housing element pursuant to Section 65583. The department shall issue written findings to the city, county, or city and county as to whether the action or failure to act substantially complies with this article, and provide a reasonable time no longer than 30 days for the city, county, or city and county to respond to the findings before taking any other action authorized by this section, including the action authorized by subparagraph (B).

(B) If the department finds that the action or failure to act by the city, county, or city and county does not substantially comply with this article, and if it has issued findings pursuant to this section that an
amendment to the housing element substantially complies with this article, the department may revoke its findings until it determines that the city, county, or city and county has come into compliance with this article.

(2) The department may consult with any local government, public agency, group, or person, and shall receive and consider any written comments from any public agency, group, or person, regarding the action or failure to act by the city, county, or city and county described in paragraph (1), in determining whether the housing element substantially complies with this article.

(j) The department shall notify the city, county, or city and county and may notify the Office of the Attorney General that the city, county, or city and county is in violation of state law if the department finds that the housing element or an amendment to this element, or any action or failure to act described in subdivision (i), does not substantially comply with this article or that any local government has taken an action in violation of the following:

(1) Housing Accountability Act (Section 65589.5 of the Government Code).
(2) Section 65863 of the Government Code.
(3) Chapter 4.3 (commencing with Section 65915) of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code.
(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 370, Sec. 1. (AB 72) Effective January 1, 2018.)

§ 65587. Housing Element Deadline; Extensions; Actions for Review of Conformity; Time for Compliance; Rezoning

(a) Each city, county, or city and county shall bring its housing element, as required by subdivision (c) of Section 65302, into conformity with the requirements of this article on or before October 1, 1981, and the deadlines set by Section 65588. Except as specifically provided in subdivision (b) of Section 65361, the Director of Planning and Research shall not grant an extension of time from these requirements.

(b) Any action brought by any interested party to review the conformity with the provisions of this article of any housing element or portion thereof or revision thereto shall be brought pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure; the court’s review of compliance with the provisions of this article shall extend to whether the housing element or portion thereof or revision thereto substantially complies with the requirements of this article.

(c) If a court finds that an action of a city, county, or city and county, which is required to be consistent with its general plan, does not comply with its housing element, the city, county, or city and county shall bring its action into compliance within 60 days. However, the court shall retain jurisdiction throughout the period for compliance to enforce its decision. Upon the court’s determination that the 60-day period for compliance would place an undue hardship on the city, county, or city and county, the court may extend the time period for compliance by an additional 60 days.

(d) (1) If a court finds that a city, county, or city and county failed to complete the rezoning required by subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583, as that deadline may be modified by the extension provided for in subdivision (f) of that section, the court shall issue an order or judgment, after considering the equities of the circumstances presented by all parties, compelling the local government to complete the rezoning within 60 days or the earliest time consistent with public hearing notice requirements in existence at the time the action was filed. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out. If the court determines that its order or judgment is not carried out, the court shall issue further orders to ensure that the purposes and policies of this article are fulfilled, including ordering, after considering the equities of the circumstances presented by all parties, that any rezoning required by subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 be completed within 60 days or the earliest time consistent with public hearing notice requirements in existence at the time the action was filed and may impose sanctions on the city,
county, or city and county.
(2) Any interested person may bring an action to compel compliance with the deadlines and requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583. The action shall be brought pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure. In any such action, the city, county, or city and county shall bear the burden of proof.
(Amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 767, Sec. 3. (AB 325) Effective January 1, 2014.)

§ 65588. Review and Revision of Housing Element
(a) Each local government shall review its housing element as frequently as appropriate to evaluate all of the following:
(1) The appropriateness of the housing goals, objectives, and policies in contributing to the attainment of the state housing goal.
(2) The effectiveness of the housing element in attainment of the community’s housing goals and objectives.
(3) The progress of the city, county, or city and county in implementation of the housing element.
(b) The housing element shall be revised as appropriate, but no less often than required by subdivision (e), to reflect the results of this periodic review. Nothing in this section shall be construed to excuse the obligations of the local government to adopt a revised housing element in accordance with the schedule specified in this section.
(c) The review and revision of housing elements required by this section shall take into account any low- or moderate-income housing provided or required pursuant to Section 65590.
(d) The review pursuant to subdivision (c) shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:
(1) The number of new housing units approved for construction within the coastal zone after January 1, 1982.
(2) The number of housing units for persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, required to be provided in new housing developments either within the coastal zone or within three miles of the coastal zone pursuant to Section 65590.
(3) The number of existing residential dwelling units occupied by persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, that have been authorized to be demolished or converted since January 1, 1982, in the coastal zone.
(4) The number of residential dwelling units for persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, that have been required for replacement or authorized to be converted or demolished as identified in paragraph (3). The location of the replacement units, either onsite, elsewhere within the locality’s jurisdiction within the coastal zone, or within three miles of the coastal zone within the locality’s jurisdiction, shall be designated in the review.
(e) Each city, county, and city and county shall revise its housing element according to the following schedule:
(1) (A) Local governments within the regional jurisdiction of the Southern California Association of Governments: June 30, 2006, for the fourth revision.
(B) Local governments within the regional jurisdiction of the Association of Bay Area Governments: June 30, 2007, for the fourth revision.
(C) Local governments within the regional jurisdiction of the Council of Fresno County Governments, the Kern County Council of Governments, and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments: June 30, 2002, for the third revision, and June 30, 2008, for the fourth revision.
(D) Local governments within the regional jurisdiction of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments: December 31, 2002, for the third revision, and June 30, 2009, for the fourth revision.
(E) Local governments within the regional jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments:
June 30, 2005, for the fourth revision.
(F) All other local governments: December 31, 2003, for the third revision, and June 30, 2009, for the fourth revision.
(2) (A) All local governments within a metropolitan planning organization in a region classified as nonattainment for one or more pollutants regulated by the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 7506), except those within the regional jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments, shall adopt the fifth revision of the housing element no later than 18 months after adoption of the first regional transportation plan to be adopted after September 30, 2010.
(B) (i) All local governments within the regional jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments shall adopt the fifth revision of the housing element no later than 18 months after adoption of the first regional transportation plan update to be adopted after September 30, 2010.
(ii) Prior to or concurrent with the adoption of the fifth revision of the housing element, each local government within the regional jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments shall identify adequate sites in its inventory pursuant to Section 65583.2 or rezone adequate sites to accommodate a prorated portion of its share of the regional housing need for the projection period representing the period from July 1, 2010, to the deadline for housing element adoption described in clause (i).
(I) For the fifth revision, a local government within the jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments that has not adopted a housing element for the fourth revision by January 1, 2009, shall revise its housing element not less than every four years, beginning on the date described in clause (i), in accordance with paragraph (4), unless the local government does both of the following:
(iia) Adopts a housing element for the fourth revision no later than March 31, 2010, which is in substantial compliance with this article.
(iib) Completes any rezoning contained in the housing element program for the fourth revision by June 30, 2010.
(II) For the sixth and subsequent revisions, a local government within the jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments shall be subject to the dates described in clause (i), in accordance with paragraph (4).
(C) All local governments within the regional jurisdiction of a metropolitan planning organization or a regional transportation planning agency that has made an election pursuant to subparagraph (L) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 65080 by June 1, 2009, shall adopt the fifth revision of the housing element no later than 18 months after adoption of the first regional transportation plan update following the election.
(D) All other local governments shall adopt the fifth revision of the housing element five years after the date specified in paragraph (1).
(3) Subsequent revisions of the housing element shall be due as follows:
(A) For local governments described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (2), 18 months after adoption of every second regional transportation plan update, provided that the deadline for adoption is no more than eight years later than the deadline for adoption of the previous eight-year housing element.
(B) For all other local governments, at five-year intervals after the date specified in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (2).
(C) If a metropolitan planning organization or a regional transportation planning agency subject to the five-year revision interval in subparagraph (B) makes an election pursuant to subparagraph (M) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 65080 after June 1, 2009, all local governments within the regional jurisdiction of that entity shall adopt the next housing element revision no later than 18 months after adoption of the first regional transportation plan update following the election. Subsequent revisions shall be due 18 months after adoption of every second regional transportation plan update,
provided that the deadline for adoption is no more than eight years later than the deadline for adoption of the previous eight-year housing element.

(4) (A) A local government that does not adopt a housing element within 120 days of the applicable deadline described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (2) or subparagraph (A) or (C) of paragraph (3) shall revise its housing element not less than every four years until the local government has adopted at least two consecutive revisions by the statutory deadline.

(B) If necessary, the local government shall adopt three consecutive four-year revisions by the statutory deadline to ensure that when the local government adopts its next housing element covering an eight-year planning period, it does so at the deadline for adoption for other local governments within the region also covering an eight-year planning period.

(C) The deadline for adoption of every second four-year revision shall be the same as the deadline for adoption for other local governments within the region.

(5) The metropolitan planning organization or a regional transportation planning agency for a region that has an eight-year revision interval pursuant to paragraph (3) shall notify the department and the Department of Transportation in writing of the estimated adoption date for its next regional transportation plan update at least 12 months prior to the estimated adoption date. The Department of Transportation shall maintain and publish on its Internet Web site a current schedule of the estimated regional transportation plan adoption dates. The department shall maintain and publish on its Internet Web site a current schedule of the estimated and actual housing element due dates. Each council of governments shall publish on its Internet Web site the estimated and actual housing element due dates, as published by the department, for the jurisdictions within its region and shall send notice of these dates to interested parties. For purposes of determining the existing and projected need for housing within a region pursuant to Sections 65584 to 65584.08, inclusive, the date of the next scheduled revision of the housing element shall be deemed to be the estimated adoption date of the regional transportation plan update described in the notice provided to the Department of Transportation plus 18 months.

(6) The new projection period shall begin on the date of December 31 or June 30 that most closely precedes the end of the previous projection period.

(f) For purposes of this article, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Planning period” shall be the time period between the due date for one housing element and the due date for the next housing element for each revision according to the applicable schedule described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (e).

(2) “Projection period” shall be the time period for which the regional housing need is calculated.

(g) For purposes of this section, “regional transportation plan update” shall mean a regional transportation plan adopted to satisfy the requirements of subdivision (d) of Section 65080.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 957, Sec. 6. (SB 1078) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65589. Construction of Article

(a) Nothing in this article shall require a city, county, or city and county to do any of the following:

(1) Expend local revenues for the construction of housing, housing subsidies, or land acquisition.

(2) Disapprove any residential development which is consistent with the general plan.

(b) Nothing in this article shall be construed to be a grant of authority or a repeal of any authority which may exist of a local government to impose rent controls or restrictions on the sale of real property.

(c) Nothing in this article shall be construed to be a grant of authority or a repeal of any authority which may exist of a local government with respect to measures that may be undertaken or required by a local government to be undertaken to implement the housing element of the local general plan.

(d) The provisions of this article shall be construed consistent with, and in promotion of, the statewide
goal of a sufficient supply of decent housing to meet the needs of all Californians.
(Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1143.)

§ 65589.3. Rebuttable Presumption of Validity of Element or Amendment in Action to Challenge Housing Element
In any action filed on or after January 1, 1991, taken to challenge the validity of a housing element, there shall be a rebuttable presumption of the validity of the element or amendment if, pursuant to Section 65585, the department has found that the element or amendment substantially complies with the requirements of this article.
(Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1441, Sec. 7.)

§ 65589.4. Attached Housing Development; Permitted Use; Requirements; Percentage of Units Available at Affordable Housing Cost; Application of Section
(a) An attached housing development shall be a permitted use not subject to a conditional use permit on any parcel zoned for an attached housing development if local law so provides or if it satisfies the requirements of subdivision (b) and either of the following:
(1) The attached housing development satisfies the criteria of Section 21159.22, 21159.23, or 21159.24 of the Public Resources Code.
(2) The attached housing development meets all of the following criteria:
(A) The attached housing development is subject to a discretionary decision other than a conditional use permit and a negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration has been adopted for the attached housing development under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code). If no public hearing is held with respect to the discretionary decision, then the negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration for the attached housing development may be adopted only after a public hearing to receive comments on the negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration.
(B) The attached housing development is consistent with both the jurisdiction’s zoning ordinance and general plan as it existed on the date the application was deemed complete, except that an attached housing development shall not be deemed to be inconsistent with the zoning designation for the site if that zoning designation is inconsistent with the general plan only because the attached housing development site has not been rezoned to conform with the most recent adopted general plan.
(C) The attached housing development is located in an area that is covered by one of the following documents that has been adopted by the jurisdiction within five years of the date the application for the attached housing development was deemed complete:
(i) A general plan.
(ii) A revision or update to the general plan that includes at least the land use and circulation elements.
(iii) An applicable community plan.
(iv) An applicable specific plan.
(D) The attached housing development consists of not more than 100 residential units with a minimum density of not less than 12 units per acre or a minimum density of not less than eight units per acre if the attached housing development consists of four or fewer units.
(E) The attached housing development is located in an urbanized area as defined in Section 21071 of the Public Resources Code or within a census-defined place with a population density of at least 5,000 persons per square mile or, if the attached housing development consists of 50 or fewer units, within an incorporated city with a population density of at least 2,500 persons per square mile and a total population of at least 25,000 persons.
(F) The attached housing development is located on an infill site as defined in Section 21061.0.5 of the
Public Resources Code.
(b) At least 10 percent of the units of the attached housing development shall be available at affordable housing cost to very low income households, as defined in Section 50105 of the Health and Safety Code, or at least 20 percent of the units of the attached housing development shall be available at affordable housing cost to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or at least 50 percent of the units of the attached housing development available at affordable housing cost to moderate-income households, consistent with Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer of the attached housing development shall provide sufficient legal commitments to the local agency to ensure the continued availability and use of the housing units for very low, low-, or moderate-income households for a period of at least 30 years.
(c) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a local agency from applying design and site review standards in existence on the date the application was deemed complete.
(d) The provisions of this section are independent of any obligation of a jurisdiction pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65583 to identify multifamily sites developable by right.
(e) This section does not apply to the issuance of coastal development permits pursuant to the California Coastal Act (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code).
(f) This section does not relieve a public agency from complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code) or relieve an applicant or public agency from complying with the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66473)).
(g) This section is applicable to all cities and counties, including charter cities, because the Legislature finds that the lack of affordable housing is of vital statewide importance, and thus a matter of statewide concern.
(h) For purposes of this section, “attached housing development” means a newly constructed or substantially rehabilitated structure containing two or more dwelling units and consisting only of residential units, but does not include an accessory dwelling unit, as defined by paragraph (4) of subdivision (j) of Section 65852.2, or the conversion of an existing structure to condominiums.
(Amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 720, Sec. 3. (SB 1069) Effective January 1, 2017.)

§ 65589.5. Legislative Findings and Declarations; Housing Development Projects Affordable to Very Low, Low-, OR Moderate-Income Households; Emergency Shelters; Written Findings Required Prior to Disapproval or Conditional Approval; Compliance with Other Laws; Definitions; Enforcement; Short Title
(a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
(A) The lack of housing, including emergency shelters, is a critical problem that threatens the economic, environmental, and social quality of life in California.
(B) California housing has become the most expensive in the nation. The excessive cost of the state’s housing supply is partially caused by activities and policies of many local governments that limit the approval of housing, increase the cost of land for housing, and require that high fees and exactions be paid by producers of housing.
(C) Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.
(D) Many local governments do not give adequate attention to the economic, environmental, and social costs of decisions that result in disapproval of housing development projects, reduction in density of housing projects, and excessive standards for housing development projects.
(2) In enacting the amendments made to this section by the act adding this paragraph, the Legislature
further finds and declares the following:
(A) California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state’s environmental and climate objectives.
(B) While the causes of this crisis are multiple and complex, the absence of meaningful and effective policy reforms to significantly enhance the approval and supply of housing affordable to Californians of all income levels is a key factor.
(C) The crisis has grown so acute in California that supply, demand, and affordability fundamentals are characterized in the negative: underserved demands, constrained supply, and protracted unaffordability.
(D) According to reports and data, California has accumulated an unmet housing backlog of nearly 2,000,000 units and must provide for at least 180,000 new units annually to keep pace with growth through 2025.
(E) California’s overall homeownership rate is at its lowest level since the 1940s. The state ranks 49th out of the 50 states in homeownership rates as well as in the supply of housing per capita. Only one-half of California’s households are able to afford the cost of housing in their local regions.
(F) Lack of supply and rising costs are compounding inequality and limiting advancement opportunities for many Californians.
(G) The majority of California renters, more than 3,000,000 households, pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third, more than 1,500,000 households, pay more than 50 percent of their income toward rent.
(H) When Californians have access to safe and affordable housing, they have more money for food and health care; they are less likely to become homeless and in need of government-subsidized services; their children do better in school; and businesses have an easier time recruiting and retaining employees.
(I) An additional consequence of the state’s cumulative housing shortage is a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by the displacement and redirection of populations to states with greater housing opportunities, particularly working- and middle-class households. California’s cumulative housing shortfall therefore has not only national but international environmental consequences.
(J) California’s housing picture has reached a crisis of historic proportions despite the fact that, for decades, the Legislature has enacted numerous statutes intended to significantly increase the approval, development, and affordability of housing for all income levels, including this section.
(K) The Legislature’s intent in enacting this section in 1982 and in expanding its provisions since then was to significantly increase the approval and construction of new housing for all economic segments of California’s communities by meaningfully and effectively curbing the capability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible housing development projects and emergency shelters. That intent has not been fulfilled.
(L) It is the policy of the state that this section should be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.
(3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the conditions that would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), arise infrequently.
(b) It is the policy of the state that a local government not reject or make infeasible housing development projects, including emergency shelters, that contribute to meeting the need determined
pursuant to this article without a thorough analysis of the economic, social, and environmental effects of the action and without complying with subdivision (d).

(c) The Legislature also recognizes that premature and unnecessary development of agricultural lands for urban uses continues to have adverse effects on the availability of those lands for food and fiber production and on the economy of the state. Furthermore, it is the policy of the state that development should be guided away from prime agricultural lands; therefore, in implementing this section, local jurisdictions should encourage, to the maximum extent practicable, in filling existing urban areas.

(d) A local agency shall not disapprove a housing development project, including farmworker housing as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 50199.7 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, or condition approval in a manner that renders the housing development project infeasible for development for the use of very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, including through the use of design review standards, unless it makes written findings, based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record, as to one of the following:

1. The jurisdiction has adopted a housing element pursuant to this article that has been revised in accordance with Section 65588, is in substantial compliance with this article, and the jurisdiction has met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need allocation pursuant to Section 65584 for the planning period for the income category proposed for the housing development project, provided that any disapproval or conditional approval shall not be based on any of the reasons prohibited by Section 65008. If the housing development project includes a mix of income categories, and the jurisdiction has not met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need for one or more of those categories, then this paragraph shall not be used to disapprove or conditionally approve the housing development project. The share of the regional housing need met by the jurisdiction shall be calculated consistently with the forms and definitions that may be adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400. In the case of an emergency shelter, the jurisdiction shall have met or exceeded the need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. Any disapproval or conditional approval pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with applicable law, rule, or standards.

2. The housing development project or emergency shelter as proposed would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible. As used in this paragraph, a “specific, adverse impact” means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety.

3. The denial of the housing development project or imposition of conditions is required in order to comply with specific state or federal law, and there is no feasible method to comply without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible.

4. The housing development project or emergency shelter is proposed on land zoned for agriculture or resource preservation that is surrounded on at least two sides by land being used for agricultural or resource preservation purposes, or which does not have adequate water or wastewater facilities to serve the project.

5. The housing development project or emergency shelter is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction’s zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation as specified in any element of the general plan.
as it existed on the date the application was deemed complete, and the jurisdiction has adopted a revised housing element in accordance with Section 65588 that is in substantial compliance with this article. For purposes of this section, a change to the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation subsequent to the date the application was deemed complete shall not constitute a valid basis to disapprove or condition approval of the housing development project or emergency shelter.

(A) This paragraph cannot be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project if the housing development project is proposed on a site that is identified as suitable or available for very low, low-, or moderate-income households in the jurisdiction’s housing element, and consistent with the density specified in the housing element, even though it is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction’s zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation.

(B) If the local agency has failed to identify in the inventory of land in its housing element sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period and are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for residential uses or designated in any element of the general plan for commercial uses if residential uses are permitted or conditionally permitted within commercial designations. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate the local agency’s share of the regional housing need for the very low, low-, and moderate-income categories.

(C) If the local agency has failed to identify a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit, has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, or has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones can accommodate at least one emergency shelter, as required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve an emergency shelter proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for industrial, commercial, or multifamily residential uses. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from complying with the congestion management program required by Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) of Division 1 of Title 7 or the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Neither shall anything in this section be construed to relieve the local agency from making one or more of the findings required pursuant to Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).

(f) (1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring the housing development project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density permitted on the site and proposed by the development.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring an emergency shelter project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies that are consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction’s need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to
paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied by the local agency to facilitate and accommodate the development of the emergency shelter project.

(3) This section does not prohibit a local agency from imposing fees and other exactions otherwise authorized by law that are essential to provide necessary public services and facilities to the housing development project or emergency shelter.

(4) For purposes of this section, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity.

(g) This section shall be applicable to charter cities because the Legislature finds that the lack of housing, including emergency shelter, is a critical statewide problem.

(h) The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:

(1) “Feasible” means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.

(2) “Housing development project” means a use consisting of any of the following:

(A) Residential units only.

(B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least two-thirds of the square footage designated for residential use.

(C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.

(3) “Housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households” means that either (A) at least 20 percent of the total units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or (B) 100 percent of the units shall be sold or rented to persons and families of moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. Housing units targeted for lower income households shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the lower income eligibility limits are based. Housing units targeted for persons and families of moderate income shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 100 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the moderate-income eligibility limits are based.

(4) “Area median income” means area median income as periodically established by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer shall provide sufficient legal commitments to ensure continued availability of units for very low or low-income households in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision for 30 years.

(5) “Disapprove the housing development project” includes any instance in which a local agency does either of the following:

(A) Votes on a proposed housing development project application and the application is disapproved, including any required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.

(B) Fails to comply with the time periods specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65950. An extension of time pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) shall be deemed to be an extension of time pursuant to this paragraph.

(i) If any city, county, or city and county denies approval or imposes conditions, including design changes, lower density, or a reduction of the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure under the applicable planning and zoning in force at the time the application is deemed
complete pursuant to Section 65943, that have a substantial adverse effect on the viability or affordability of a housing development for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, and the denial of the development or the imposition of conditions on the development is the subject of a court action which challenges the denial or the imposition of conditions, then the burden of proof shall be on the local legislative body to show that its decision is consistent with the findings as described in subdivision (d) and that the findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence in the record. For purposes of this section, “lower density” includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.

(j) (1) When a proposed housing development project complies with applicable, objective general plan, zoning, and subdivision standards and criteria, including design review standards, in effect at the time that the housing development project’s application is determined to be complete, but the local agency proposes to disapprove the project or to impose a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, the local agency shall base its decision regarding the proposed housing development project upon written findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:

(A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a “specific, adverse impact” means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete.

(B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.

(2) (A) If the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, it shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity as follows:

(i) Within 30 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains 150 or fewer housing units.

(ii) Within 60 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains more than 150 units.

(B) If the local agency fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A), the housing development project shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with the applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.

(3) For purposes of this section, the receipt of a density bonus pursuant to Section 65915 shall not constitute a valid basis upon which to find a proposed housing development project is inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity, with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.

(4) For purposes of this section, a proposed housing development project is not inconsistent with the applicable zoning standards and criteria, and shall not require a rezoning, if the housing development project is consistent with the objective general plan standards and criteria but the zoning for the project site is inconsistent with the general plan. If the local agency has complied with paragraph (2), the local agency may require the proposed housing development project to comply with the objective standards and criteria of the zoning which is consistent with the general plan, however, the standards and criteria
shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density allowed on the site by the
general plan and proposed by the proposed housing development project.
(5) For purposes of this section, “lower density” includes any conditions that have the same effect or
impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
(k) (1) (A) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the development or
emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any
action brought to enforce this section, a court finds that either (i) the local agency, in violation of
subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner
rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or
moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by
this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, or (ii) the local
agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with
applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the
project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without
making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, the court shall issue an order or
judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days, including, but not limited to, an order
that the local agency take action on the housing development project or emergency shelter. The court
may issue an order or judgment directing the local agency to approve the housing development project
or emergency shelter if the court finds that the local agency acted in bad faith when it disapproved or
conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section. The
court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out and shall award
reasonable attorney’s fees and costs of suit to the plaintiff or petitioner, except under extraordinary
circumstances in which the court finds that awarding fees would not further the purposes of this
section. For purposes of this section, “lower density” includes conditions that have the same effect or
impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
(B) (i) Upon a determination that the local agency has failed to comply with the order or judgment
compelling compliance with this section within 60 days issued pursuant to subparagraph (A), the court
shall impose fines on a local agency that has violated this section and require the local agency to deposit
any fine levied pursuant to this subdivision into a local housing trust fund. The local agency may elect to
instead deposit the fine into the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular
Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund. The fine shall be in a minimum
amount of ten thousand dollars ($10,000) per housing unit in the housing development project on the
date the application was deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943. In determining the amount of
fine to impose, the court shall consider the local agency’s progress in attaining its target allocation of the
regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 and any prior violations of this section. Fines shall not
be paid out of funds already dedicated to affordable housing, including, but not limited to, Low and
Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds, funds dedicated to housing for very low, low-, and moderate-
income households, and federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Community Development
Block Grant Program funds. The local agency shall commit and expend the money in the local housing
trust fund within five years for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable
to extremely low, very low, or low-income households. After five years, if the funds have not been
expended, the money shall revert to the state and be deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if
Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan
Fund, for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low,
very low, or low-income households.
(iii) If any money derived from a fine imposed pursuant to this subparagraph is deposited in the Housing
Rehabilitation Loan Fund, then, notwithstanding Section 50661 of the Health and Safety Code, that
money shall be available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.

(C) If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section are fulfilled, including, but not limited to, an order to vacate the decision of the local agency and to approve the housing development project, in which case the application for the housing development project, as proposed by the applicant at the time the local agency took the initial action determined to be in violation of this section, along with any standard conditions determined by the court to be generally imposed by the local agency on similar projects, shall be deemed to be approved unless the applicant consents to a different decision or action by the local agency.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, “housing organization” means a trade or industry group whose local members are primarily engaged in the construction or management of housing units or a nonprofit organization whose mission includes providing or advocating for increased access to housing for low-income households and have filed written or oral comments with the local agency prior to action on the housing development project. A housing organization may only file an action pursuant to this section to challenge the disapproval of a housing development by a local agency. A housing organization shall be entitled to reasonable attorney’s fees and costs if it is the prevailing party in an action to enforce this section.

(I) If the court finds that the local agency (1) acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section and (2) failed to carry out the court’s order or judgment within 60 days as described in subdivision (k), the court, in addition to any other remedies provided by this section, shall multiply the fine determined pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) by a factor of five. For purposes of this section, “bad faith” includes, but is not limited to, an action that is frivolous or otherwise entirely without merit.

(m) Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this section shall be brought pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the local agency shall prepare and certify the record of proceedings in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure no later than 30 days after the petition is served, provided that the cost of preparation of the record shall be borne by the local agency, unless the petitioner elects to prepare the record as provided in subdivision (n) of this section. A petition to enforce the provisions of this section shall be filed and served no later than 90 days from the later of (1) the effective date of a decision of the local agency imposing conditions on, disapproving, or any other final action on a housing development project or (2) the expiration of the time periods specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h). Upon entry of the trial court’s order, a party may, in order to obtain appellate review of the order, file a petition within 20 days after service upon it of a written notice of the entry of the order, or within such further time not exceeding an additional 20 days as the trial court may for good cause allow, or may appeal the judgment or order of the trial court under Section 904.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the local agency appeals the judgment of the trial court, the local agency shall post a bond, in an amount to be determined by the court, to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.

(n) In any action, the record of the proceedings before the local agency shall be filed as expeditiously as possible and, notwithstanding Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure or subdivision (m) of this section, all or part of the record may be prepared (1) by the petitioner with the petition or petitioner’s points and authorities, (2) by the respondent with respondent’s points and authorities, (3) after payment of costs by the petitioner, or (4) as otherwise directed by the court. If the expense of preparing the record has been borne by the petitioner and the petitioner is the prevailing party, the expense shall be taxable as costs.

(o) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Housing Accountability Act.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 243, Sec. 1. (AB 3194) Effective January 1, 2019.)
§ 65589.6. Burden of Proof; Conformance to Conditions in § 65589.5
In any action taken to challenge the validity of a decision by a city, county, or city and county to
disapprove a project or approve a project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density
pursuant to Section 65589.5, the city, county, or city and county shall bear the burden of proof that its
decision has conformed to all of the conditions specified in Section 65589.5.
(Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1104, Sec. 1.)

§ 65589.7. Delivery of Housing Element; Priority of Services; Policies and Procedures; Findings of
Necessity
(a) The housing element adopted by the legislative body and any amendments made to that element
shall be immediately delivered to all public agencies or private entities that provide water or sewer
services for municipal and industrial uses, including residential, within the territory of the legislative
body. Each public agency or private entity providing water or sewer services shall grant a priority for the
provision of these services to proposed developments that include housing units affordable to lower
income households.
(b) A public agency or private entity providing water or sewer services shall adopt written policies and
procedures, not later than July 1, 2006, and at least once every five years thereafter, with specific
objective standards for provision of services in conformance with this section. For private water and
sewer companies regulated by the Public Utilities Commission, the commission shall adopt written
policies and procedures for use by those companies in a manner consistent with this section. The
policies and procedures shall take into account all of the following:
(1) Regulations and restrictions adopted pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 350) of
Division 1 of the Water Code, relating to water shortage emergencies.
(2) The availability of water supplies as determined by the public agency or private entity pursuant to an
urban water management plan adopted pursuant to Part 2.6 (commencing with Section 10610) of
Division 6 of the Water Code.
(3) Plans, documents, and information relied upon by the public agency or private entity that is not an
“urban water supplier,” as defined in Section 10617 of the Water Code, or that provides sewer service,
that provide a reasonable basis for making service determinations.
(c) A public agency or private entity that provides water or sewer services shall not deny or condition the
approval of an application for services to, or reduce the amount of services applied for by, a proposed
development that includes housing units affordable to lower income households unless the public
agency or private entity makes specific written findings that the denial, condition, or reduction is
necessary due to the existence of one or more of the following:
(1) The public agency or private entity providing water service does not have “sufficient water supply,”
as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 66473.7, or is operating under a water shortage
emergency as defined in Section 350 of the Water Code, or does not have sufficient water treatment or
distribution capacity, to serve the needs of the proposed development, as demonstrated by a written
engineering analysis and report.
(2) The public agency or private entity providing water service is subject to a compliance order issued by
the State Department of Health Services that prohibits new water connections.
(3) The public agency or private entity providing sewer service does not have sufficient treatment or
collection capacity, as demonstrated by a written engineering analysis and report on the condition of
the treatment or collection works, to serve the needs of the proposed development.
(4) The public agency or private entity providing sewer service is under an order issued by a regional
water quality control board that prohibits new sewer connections.
(5) The applicant has failed to agree to reasonable terms and conditions relating to the provision of service generally applicable to development projects seeking service from the public agency or private entity, including, but not limited to, the requirements of local, state, or federal laws and regulations or payment of a fee or charge imposed pursuant to Section 66013.

(d) The following definitions apply for purposes of this section:

(1) “Proposed developments that include housing units affordable to lower income households” means that dwelling units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, at an affordable housing cost, as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or an affordable rent, as defined in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) “Water or sewer services” means supplying service through a pipe or other constructed conveyance for a residential purpose, and does not include the sale of water for human consumption by a water supplier to another water supplier for resale. As used in this section, “water service” provided by a public agency or private entity applies only to water supplied from public water systems subject to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 116275) of Part 12 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code.

(e) This section is intended to neither enlarge nor diminish the existing authority of a city, county, or city and county in adopting a housing element. Failure to deliver a housing element adopted by the legislative body or amendments made to that element, to a public agency or private entity providing water or sewer services shall neither invalidate any action or approval of a development project nor exempt a public agency or private entity from the obligations under this section. The special districts which provide water or sewer services related to development, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 56426, are included within this section.

(f) The Legislature finds and declares that this section shall be applicable to all cities and counties, including charter cities, because the Legislature finds that the lack of affordable housing is a matter of vital statewide importance.

(Added by Stats. 2005, Ch. 727, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2006.)

§ 65589.8. Fixed Percentage of Affordable Housing Units; Satisfaction of Requirement by Construction of Rental Housing at Affordable Monthly Rents

A local government which adopts a requirement in its housing element that a housing development contain a fixed percentage of affordable housing units, shall permit a developer to satisfy all or a portion of that requirement by constructing rental housing at affordable monthly rents, as determined by the local government.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to expand or contract the authority of a local government to adopt an ordinance, charter amendment, or policy requiring that any housing development contain a fixed percentage of affordable housing units.

(Added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 787, Sec. 1.)
B. Actions or Proceedings: Government Code §§ 65750-65763

Government Code - GOV
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
CHAPTER 3. Local Planning [65100 - 65763]
(Chapter 3 repealed and added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 1880.)
ARTICLE 14. Actions or Proceedings [65750 - 65763]
(Article 14 added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 27, Sec. 2.)


§ 65750. Definitions
As used in this article, unless the context requires otherwise:
(a) “Petition” includes any form of pleading brought pursuant to Section 65751, whether it is a petition, complaint, cross-complaint, complaint in intervention, or any other form.
(b) “Petitioner” includes a petitioner, plaintiff, cross-complainant, or intervenor who files an action of any kind pursuant to Section 65751.
(Repealed and added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 2.)

§ 65751. Writ of Mandate
Any action to challenge a general plan or any element thereof on the grounds that such plan or element does not substantially comply with the requirements of Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300) shall be brought pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
(Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 3.)

§ 65752. Preference over Other Civil Actions
All actions brought pursuant to Section 65751, including the hearing of any such action on appeal from the decision of a lower court, shall be given preference over all other civil actions before the court in the matter of setting the same for hearing or trial, and in hearing the same, to the end that all such actions shall be speedily heard and determined.
(Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 27, Sec. 2.)

§ 65753. Request for Hearing or Trial; Time; Continuance; Dismissal
(a) The petitioner shall request a hearing or trial on the alternative writ or peremptory writ of mandate, and any other party may request a hearing or trial, within 90 days of the date the petitioner files the petition for a writ of mandate pursuant to Section 65751. If no request for a hearing or trial is filed within 90 days of the date that petition is filed, the action or proceeding may be set for hearing or trial or dismissed on the motion of any party other than the petitioner or may be dismissed on the court’s own motion.
(b) Within 30 days of the filing of the request for a hearing or trial pursuant to subdivision (a), the court shall set a date for a hearing or trial on the action or part of an action brought pursuant to Section 65751. The hearing or trial shall be set to be heard at the earliest possible date that the business of the court permits, but not more than 120 days after the filing of a request for hearing under this section.
The court may continue for a reasonable time the date of the hearing or trial upon written motion and a finding of good cause. However, if the court grants a continuance to a respondent, it shall, upon the written motion of the petitioner and upon the petitioner meeting the requirements of Section 65757, grant the relief provided in Section 65757 as temporary relief but shall not enjoin any housing developments which comply with applicable provisions of law and which may be developed without having an impact on the ability of the city, county, or city and county to properly adopt and implement an adequate housing element.

(Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 4.)

§ 65754. Finding that General Plan or Element Not in Conformity with § 65300 et seq.; Duties of Local Agency and Department

In any action brought to challenge the validity of the general plan of any city, county, or city and county, or any mandatory element thereof, if the court, in a final judgment in favor of the plaintiff or petitioner, finds that the general plan or any mandatory element of the general plan does not substantially comply with the requirements of Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300):

(a) The city, county, or city and county shall bring its general plan or relevant mandatory element or elements thereof into compliance with the requirements of Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300) within 120 days.

Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (b) of Section 65585, the planning agency of the city, county, or city and county shall submit a draft of its revised housing element or housing element amendment at least 45 days prior to its adoption to the Department of Housing and Community Development for its review, notifying the department that the element is subject to the review procedure set forth in this section.

The department shall review the draft element or amendment and report its findings to the planning agency within 45 days of receipt of the draft. The legislative body shall consider the department’s findings prior to final adoption of the housing element or amendment if the department’s findings are reported to the planning agency within 45 days after the department receives that draft element or amendment.

(b) The city or county, including the chartered cities specified in subdivision (d) of Section 65860, shall, in accordance with Section 65860, bring its zoning ordinance into consistency with its general plan or relevant mandatory element or elements thereof within 120 days after the general plan has been amended in accordance with subdivision (a).

(Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 5.)

§ 65754.5. Actions Challenging Validity of General Plan or Element; Injunctions Against Housing Developments

(a) During the pendency of any action described in Section 65754, or when issuing a final judgment in favor of the plaintiff or petitioner finding that the general plan or any element thereof does not conform to the requirements of Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300), the court shall not enjoin the development of any housing development with respect to which all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The legislative body of the city, county, or city and county has approved a development project, as defined by Section 65928, for housing or a specific plan for the housing development and determined the development project for housing or the specific plan to be consistent with the general plan of the city, county, or city and county.

(2) The legislative body of the city, county, or city and county has certified an environmental impact report or a negative declaration for the development project for housing or for the specific plan for housing pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, Division 13 (commencing with Section
21000) of the Public Resources Code, and no legal action was brought within the applicable statute of limitations period relating to that environmental impact report or negative declaration.

(3) The owner of the land upon which the housing is proposed to be developed, in satisfaction of any requirements imposed and in reliance upon any action taken by the city, county, or city and county pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2), has irrevocably committed one million dollars ($1,000,000), or more, for public infrastructure, including, but not limited to, roads, and water and sewer facilities.

(4) The proposed housing development may be developed without having an impact upon the city, county, or city and county’s ability to implement an adequate housing element or to properly adopt an adequate housing element if the court determines, in the pending action, that the general plan or plan element is inadequate. The court shall apply the provisions of Section 65760 to determine whether a housing development will have an impact on the ability of the city, county, or city and county to properly adopt and implement an adequate housing element.

(b) The provisions of this section shall be applicable to any legal action pending on January 1, 1984, and to every action commenced on or after that date.

(c) This section shall not be construed to preclude a public agency from exercising discretion, in a manner authorized by any other provision of law, to alter plans, zoning, or subsequent development approvals applicable to those lands, or from enacting and enforcing further regulations upon their use.

(Added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 911, Sec. 2.)

§ 65755. Actions Challenging Validity of General Plan or Element; Court Orders and Judgments; Interference with Other Rights and Protections

(a) The court shall include, in the order or judgment rendered pursuant to Section 65754, one or more of the following provisions for any or all types or classes of developments or any or all geographic segments of the city, county, or city and county until the city, county, or city and county has substantially complied with the requirements of Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300):

(1) Suspend the authority of the city, county, or city and county pursuant to Division 13 (commencing with Section 17910) of the Health and Safety Code, to issue building permits, or any category of building permits, and all other related permits, except that the city, county, or city and county shall continue to function as an enforcement agency for review of permit applications for appropriate codes and standards compliance, prior to the issuance of building permits and other related permits for residential housing for that city, county, or city and county.

(2) Suspend the authority of the city, county, or city and county, pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 65800) to grant any and all categories of zoning changes, variances, or both.

(3) Suspend the authority of the city, county, or city and county, pursuant to Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410), to grant subdivision map approvals for any and all categories of subdivision map approvals.

(4) Mandate the approval of all applications for building permits, or other related construction permits, for residential housing where a final subdivision map, parcel map, or plot plan has been approved for the project, where the approval will not impact on the ability of the city, county, or city and county to properly adopt and implement an adequate housing element, and where the permit application conforms to all code requirements and other applicable provisions of law except those zoning laws held to be invalid by the final court order, and changes to the zoning ordinances adopted after such final court order which were enacted for the purpose of preventing the construction of a specific residential development.

(5) Mandate the approval of any or all final subdivision maps for residential housing projects which have previously received a tentative map approval from the city, county, or city and county pursuant to Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410) when the final map conforms to the approved tentative
map, the tentative map has not expired, and where approval will not impact on the ability of the city, county, or city and county to properly adopt and implement an adequate housing element.

(6) Mandate that notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 66473.5 and 66474, any tentative subdivision map for a residential housing project shall be approved if all of the following requirements are met:

(A) The approval of the map will not significantly impair the ability of the city, county, or city and county to adopt and implement those elements or portions thereof of the general plan which have been held to be inadequate.

(B) The map complies with all of the provisions of Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410), except those parts which would require disapproval of the project due to the inadequacy of the general plan.

(C) The approval of the map will not affect the ability of the city, county, or city and county to adopt and implement an adequate housing element.

(D) The map is consistent with the portions of the general plan not found inadequate and the proposed revisions, if applicable, to the part of the plan held inadequate.

(b) Any order or judgment of a court which includes the remedies described in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subdivision (a) shall exclude from the operation of that order or judgment any action, program, or project required by law to be consistent with a general or specific plan if the court finds that the approval or undertaking of the action, program, or project complies with both of the following requirements:

(1) That it will not significantly impair the ability of the city, county, or city and county to adopt or amend all or part of the applicable plan as may be necessary to make the plan substantially comply with the requirements of Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300) in the case of a general plan, or Article 8 (commencing with Section 65450) in the case of a specific plan.

(2) That it is consistent with those portions of the plan challenged in the action or proceeding and found by the court to substantially comply with applicable provisions of law.

The party seeking exclusion from any order or judgment of a court pursuant to this subdivision shall have the burden of showing that the action, program, or project complies with paragraphs (1) and (2).

(c) Notwithstanding Section 65754.4 or subdivisions (a) and (b), in any action or proceeding brought pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 65009, no remedy pursuant to this section or injunction pursuant to Section 65754.5 shall abrogate, impair, or otherwise interfere with the full exercise of the rights and protections granted to (1) an applicant for a tentative map pursuant to Section 66474.2, or (2) a developer pursuant to Sections 65866 and 66498.1.

(Amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 767, Sec. 4. (AB 325) Effective January 1, 2014.)

§ 65756. Reference; Third Party Judicial Assistants; Report
If the court orders a reference of any action brought pursuant to this article or pursuant to any provision of law which grants a court the authority to appoint expert witnesses, monitors, masters, or other third party judicial assistants used in complex litigation, the referee, monitor, master, or third party judicial assistant so appointed shall report their findings to the court within not more than 90 days following that reference.

(Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 7.)

§ 65757. Temporary Relief
During the pendency of any action described in Section 65754, the court may, upon a showing of probable success on the merits, grant the relief provided in Section 65755 as temporary relief. In any order granting temporary relief, the court shall not enjoin during the pendency of the action any housing developments which comply with applicable provisions of law and which may be developed without
having an impact on the ability of the city, county, or city and county to properly adopt and implement
an adequate housing element. Any housing developments permitted to proceed during the pendency of
the action shall not be subject to the restrictions specified in subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 65754 as
part of any final judgment.
(Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 27, Sec. 2.)

§ 65758. Temporary Orders; Request for Final Determination
If the court orders any temporary relief in an action or proceeding subject to this article, any party to the
action or proceeding may file with the court a written request that the court make a final determination
in the action or proceeding, and the court shall thereafter make a final determination and enter
judgment within 180 days of the date the request was filed, unless the party who filed the request files a
withdrawal of the request with the court prior to the filing by the court of its memorandum of intended
decision.
(Repealed and added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 9.)

§ 65759. Inapplicability of Environmental Quality Act; Initial Study; Environmental Assessment; Time;
Extensions
In any action brought under this section:
(a) The California Environmental Quality Act, Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public
Resources Code, does not apply to any action necessary to bring its general plan or relevant mandatory
elements of the plan into compliance with any court order or judgment under this article.
(1) The local agency shall, however, prepare an initial study, within the time limitations specified in
Section 65754, to determine the environmental effects of the proposed action necessary to comply with
the court order. The initial study shall contain substantially the same information as is required for an
initial study pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 15080 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.
(2) If as a result of the initial study, the local agency determines that the action may have a significant
effect on the environment, the local agency shall prepare, within the time limitations specified in
Section 65754, an environmental assessment, the content of which substantially conforms to the
required content for a draft environmental impact report set forth in Article 9 (commencing with
Section 15140) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. The local agency shall include notice of
the preparation of the environmental assessment in all notices provided for the amendments to the
general plan proposed to comply with the court order.
(3) The environmental assessment shall be deemed to be a part of the general plan and shall only be
reviewable as provided in this article.
(4) The local agency may comply with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, Division
13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code, in any action necessary to bring its
general plan or the plan’s relevant mandatory elements into compliance with any court order or
judgment under this section so long as it does so within the time limitations specified in Section 65754.
(b) The court for good cause shown may grant not more than two extensions of time, not to exceed a
total of 240 days, in order to meet the requirements imposed by Section 65754.
(Amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 1183, Sec. 3.)

§ 65760. Consideration of Relevant Factors by Court; Presumption
In determining whether a housing development will have an impact on the ability of the city, county, or
city and county to properly adopt and implement an adequate housing element, the court shall consider
all relevant factors. There is a conclusive presumption that any housing development, 25 percent of
which units are affordable to persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined by Section
50093 of the Health and Safety Code, can be developed without having an impact on the ability of the city, county, or city and county to properly adopt and implement an adequate housing element, except where the approval of a housing development may prevent the city, county, or city and county from complying with the final judgment of the court. (Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 9.5.)

§ 65761. NO Revocation of Permits Issued Prior to Filing of Complaint; NO Limitation on Action Relating to Open-Space Lands
In no event shall any court grant as relief in any action brought pursuant to this article the revocation of any building permits or related permits for the construction of residential housing which has been issued prior to the filing of the complaint in such action. Nothing in this section shall be construed as a limitation on the ability to bring an action and to grant relief for a violation of Article 10.5 (commencing with Section 65560). (Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 27, Sec. 2.)

§ 65762. Invalidation for Noncompliance with Other Laws; Other Remedies
Nothing in this article shall prohibit a court from invalidating any development permit based on failure to comply with the Subdivision Map Act, Division 2 (commencing with Section 66401) of Title 7 of the Government Code, the California Environmental Quality Act, Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code, the Planning and Zoning Law, Title 7 (commencing with Section 65000) of the Government Code, or other applicable laws. The procedures and remedies set forth in this article shall not be construed to affect the substantive standards of court review of a general plan or of other local government land use decisions. The remedies set forth in this article are interim measures which shall have no application after a general plan has been revised to substantially comply with state law. (Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 10.)

§ 65763. Application of Article to Proceedings Set Forth Herein; Article Construction as Creating Other Causes of Action
(a) The provisions of this article apply to all actions, proceedings, and causes of action set forth in this article, whether commenced or alleged by the filing of a petition, complaint, cross-complaint, complaint in intervention, or otherwise.
(b) Nothing in this article shall be deemed or construed to create any cause of action in or to confer standing to sue upon any person, entity, public officer, or agency in the State of California, or any other public officer or agency. (Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1039, Sec. 11.)
II. PROHIBITION ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Government Code § 65008

Government Code - GOV
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
CHAPTER 1. General Provisions [65000 - 65010]
(Heading of Chapter 1 amended by Stats. 1956, 1st Ex. Sess., Ch. 33.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&sectionNum=65008

§ 65008. Discrimination; prohibition; exceptions
(a) Any action pursuant to this title by any city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency in this state is null and void if it denies to any individual or group of individuals the enjoyment of residence, landownership, tenancy, or any other land use in this state because of any of the following reasons:
   (1) (A) The lawful occupation, age, or any characteristic of the individual or group of individuals listed in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 12955, as those bases are defined in Sections 12926, 12926.1, subdivision (m) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 12955 and Section 12955.2.
   (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), with respect to familial status, subparagraph (A) shall not be construed to apply to housing for older persons, as defined in Section 12955.9. With respect to familial status, nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to affect Sections 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.10, 51.11, and 799.5 of the Civil Code, relating to housing for senior citizens. Subdivision (d) of Section 51, Section 4760, and Section 6714 of the Civil Code, and subdivisions (n), (o), and (p) of Section 12955 of this code shall apply to subparagraph (A).
   (2) The method of financing of any residential development of the individual or group of individuals.
   (3) The intended occupancy of any residential development by persons or families of very low, low, moderate, or middle income.
(b) (1) No city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency shall, in the enactment or administration of ordinances pursuant to any law, including this title, prohibit or discriminate against any residential development or emergency shelter for any of the following reasons:
   (A) Because of the method of financing.
   (B) (i) Because of the lawful occupation, age, or any characteristic listed in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 12955, as those characteristics are defined in Sections 12926, 12926.1, subdivision (m) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 12955, and Section 12955.2 of the owners or intended occupants of the residential development or emergency shelter.
   (ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), with respect to familial status, clause (i) shall not be construed to apply to housing for older persons, as defined in Section 12955.9. With respect to familial status, nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to affect Sections 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.10, 51.11, and 799.5 of the Civil Code, relating to housing for senior citizens. Subdivision (d) of Section 51, Section 4760, and Section 6714 of the Civil Code, and subdivisions (n), (o), and (p) of Section 12955 of this code shall apply to clause (i).
   (C) Because the development or shelter is intended for occupancy by persons and families of very low, low, or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income.
(D) Because the development consists of a multifamily residential project that is consistent with both the jurisdiction’s zoning ordinance and general plan as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete, except that a project shall not be deemed to be inconsistent with the zoning designation for the site if that zoning designation is inconsistent with the general plan only because the project site has not been rezoned to conform with a more recently adopted general plan.

(2) The discrimination prohibited by this subdivision includes the denial or conditioning of a residential development or shelter because of, in whole or in part, either of the following:

(A) The method of financing.

(B) The occupancy of the development by persons protected by this subdivision, including, but not limited to, persons and families of very low, low, or moderate income.

(3) A city, county, city and county, or other local government agency may not, pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 65589.5, disapprove a housing development project or condition approval of a housing development project in a manner that renders the project infeasible if the basis for the disapproval or conditional approval includes any of the reasons prohibited in paragraph (1) or (2).

(c) For the purposes of this section, “persons and families of middle income” means persons and families whose income does not exceed 150 percent of the median income for the county in which the persons or families reside.

(d) (1) No city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency may impose different requirements on a residential development or emergency shelter that is subsidized, financed, insured, or otherwise assisted by the federal or state government or by a local public entity, as defined in Section 50079 of the Health and Safety Code, than those imposed on nonassisted developments, except as provided in subdivision (e). The discrimination prohibited by this subdivision includes the denial or conditioning of a residential development or emergency shelter based in whole or in part on the fact that the development is subsidized, financed, insured, or otherwise assisted as described in this paragraph.

(2) (A) No city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency may, because of the lawful occupation age, or any characteristic of the intended occupants listed in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 12955, as those characteristics are defined in Sections 12926, 12926.1, subdivision (m) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 12955, and Section 12955.2 or because the development is intended for occupancy by persons and families of very low, low, moderate, or middle income, impose different requirements on these residential developments than those imposed on developments generally, except as provided in subdivision (e).

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), with respect to familial status, subparagraph (A) shall not be construed to apply to housing for older persons, as defined in Section 12955.9. With respect to familial status, nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to affect Sections 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.10, 51.11, and 799.5 of the Civil Code, relating to housing for senior citizens. Subdivision (d) of Section 51, Section 4760, and Section 6714 of the Civil Code, and subdivisions (n), (o), and (p) of Section 12955 of this code shall apply to subparagraph (A).

(e) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, this section and this title do not prohibit either of the following:

(1) The County of Riverside from enacting and enforcing zoning to provide housing for older persons, in accordance with state or federal law, if that zoning was enacted prior to January 1, 1995.

(2) Any city, county, or city and county from extending preferential treatment to residential developments or emergency shelters assisted by the federal or state government or by a local public entity, as defined in Section 50079 of the Health and Safety Code, or other residential developments or emergency shelters intended for occupancy by persons and families of low and moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, or
agricultural employees, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 1140.4 of the Labor Code, and their families. This preferential treatment may include, but need not be limited to, reduction or waiver of fees or changes in architectural requirements, site development and property line requirements, building setback requirements, or vehicle parking requirements that reduce development costs of these developments.

(f) “Residential development,” as used in this section, means a single-family residence or a multifamily residence, including manufactured homes, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code.

(g) This section shall apply to chartered cities.

(h) The Legislature finds and declares that discriminatory practices that inhibit the development of housing for persons and families of very low, low, moderate, and middle incomes, or emergency shelters for the homeless, are a matter of statewide concern.

(Amended (as amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 181, Sec. 52) by Stats. 2013, Ch. 605, Sec. 28. (SB 752) Effective January 1, 2014.)
III. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS: Government Code § 65009

Government Code - GOV
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
CHAPTER 1. General Provisions [65000 - 65010]
(Heading of Chapter 1 amended by Stats. 1956, 1st Ex. Sess., Ch. 33.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&sectionNum=65009

§ 65009. Actions or proceedings challenging local zoning and planning decisions; legislative findings; limitation of issues; time limitations; application of section
(a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares that there currently is a housing crisis in California and it is essential to reduce delays and restraints upon expeditiously completing housing projects.
(2) The Legislature further finds and declares that a legal action or proceeding challenging a decision of a city, county, or city and county has a chilling effect on the confidence with which property owners and local governments can proceed with projects. Legal actions or proceedings filed to attack, review, set aside, void, or annul a decision of a city, county, or city and county pursuant to this division, including, but not limited to, the implementation of general plan goals and policies that provide incentives for affordable housing, open-space and recreational opportunities, and other related public benefits, can prevent the completion of needed developments even though the projects have received required governmental approvals.
(3) The purpose of this section is to provide certainty for property owners and local governments regarding decisions made pursuant to this division.
(b) (1) In an action or proceeding to attack, review, set aside, void, or annul a finding, determination, or decision of a public agency made pursuant to this title at a properly noticed public hearing, the issues raised shall be limited to those raised in the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the public agency prior to, or at, the public hearing, except where the court finds either of the following: (A) The issue could not have been raised at the public hearing by persons exercising reasonable diligence.
(B) The body conducting the public hearing prevented the issue from being raised at the public hearing.
(2) If a public agency desires the provisions of this subdivision to apply to a matter, it shall include in any public notice issued pursuant to this title a notice substantially stating all of the following: “If you challenge the (nature of the proposed action) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the (public entity conducting the hearing) at, or prior to, the public hearing.”
(3) The application of this subdivision to causes of action brought pursuant to subdivision (d) applies only to the final action taken in response to the notice to the city or clerk of the board of supervisors. If no final action is taken, then the issue raised in the cause of action brought pursuant to subdivision (d) shall be limited to those matters presented at a properly noticed public hearing or to those matters specified in the notice given to the city or clerk of the board of supervisors pursuant to subdivision (d), or both.
(c) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (d), no action or proceeding shall be maintained in any of the following cases by any person unless the action or proceeding is commenced and service is made on the legislative body within 90 days after the legislative body’s decision:

(A) To attack, review, set aside, void, or annul the decision of a legislative body to adopt or amend a general or specific plan. This paragraph does not apply where an action is brought based upon the complete absence of a general plan or a mandatory element thereof, but does apply to an action attacking a general plan or mandatory element thereof on the basis that it is inadequate.

(B) To attack, review, set aside, void, or annul the decision of a legislative body to adopt or amend a zoning ordinance.

(C) To determine the reasonableness, legality, or validity of any decision to adopt or amend any regulation attached to a specific plan.

(D) To attack, review, set aside, void, or annul the decision of a legislative body to adopt, amend, or modify a development agreement. An action or proceeding to attack, review, set aside, void, or annul the decisions of a legislative body to adopt, amend, or modify a development agreement shall only extend to the specific portion of the development agreement that is the subject of the adoption, amendment, or modification. This paragraph applies to development agreements, amendments, and modifications adopted on or after January 1, 1996.

(E) To attack, review, set aside, void, or annul any decision on the matters listed in Sections 65901 and 65903, or to determine the reasonableness, legality, or validity of any condition attached to a variance, conditional use permit, or any other permit.

(F) Concerning any of the proceedings, acts, or determinations taken, done, or made prior to any of the decisions listed in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E).

(2) In the case of an action or proceeding challenging the adoption or revision of a housing element pursuant to this subdivision, the action or proceeding may, in addition, be maintained if it is commenced and service is made on the legislative body within 60 days following the date that the Department of Housing and Community Development reports its findings pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 65585.

(d) (1) An action or proceeding shall be commenced and the legislative body served after the accrual of the cause of action as provided in this subdivision, if the action or proceeding meets both of the following requirements:

(A) It is brought in support of or to encourage or facilitate the development of housing that would increase the community’s supply of housing affordable to persons and families with low or moderate incomes, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or with very low incomes, as defined in Section 50105 of the Health and Safety Code, or middle-income households, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. This subdivision is not intended to require that the action or proceeding be brought in support of or to encourage or facilitate a specific housing development project.

(B) It is brought with respect to the adoption or revision of a housing element pursuant to Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3, actions taken pursuant to Section 65863.6, or Chapter 4.2 (commencing with Section 65913), or to challenge the adequacy of an ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 65915.

(2) (A) An action or proceeding challenging the adoption or revision of a housing element that the Department of Housing and Community Development has found to substantially comply with the requirements of Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3 shall be commenced, and the legislative body shall be served, within six months after the accrual of the cause of action as provided in this subdivision.

(B) An action or proceeding challenging the adoption or revision of a housing element that the Department of Housing and Community Development has found does not substantially comply with the requirements of Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3, where the legislative body
has failed to change the draft element or amendment to substantially comply with the requirements of Article 10.6 or has adopted the draft element or amendment without change and made findings pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 65585, shall be commenced, and the legislative body shall be served, within one year after the accrual of the cause of action as provided in this subdivision.

(C) An action or proceeding challenging an action taken pursuant to Section 65863.6, or Chapter 4.2 (commencing with Section 65913), or to challenge the adequacy of an ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 65915 shall be served within 180 days after the accrual of the cause of action as provided in this subdivision.

(3) (A) A cause of action brought pursuant to this subdivision shall not be maintained until 60 days have expired following notice to the city or clerk of the board of supervisors by the party bringing the cause of action, or his or her representative, specifying the deficiencies of the general plan, specific plan, zoning ordinance, or other action described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1). A cause of action brought pursuant to this subdivision shall accrue 60 days after notice is filed or the legislative body takes a final action in response to the notice, whichever occurs first.

(B) This notice may be filed at any time within 270 days after an action described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2), two years after an action described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2), or 180 days after an action described in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (2).

(4) A notice or cause of action brought by one party pursuant to this subdivision shall not bar filing of a notice and initiation of a cause of action by any other party.

(5) After the adoption of a housing element covering the current planning period, no action shall be filed pursuant to this subdivision to challenge a housing element covering a prior planning period.

(e) Upon the expiration of the time limits provided for in this section, all persons are barred from any further action or proceeding.

(f) Notwithstanding Sections 65700 and 65803, or any other provision of law, this section shall apply to charter cities.

(g) Except as provided in subdivision (d), this section shall not affect any law prescribing or authorizing a shorter period of limitation than that specified herein.

(h) Except as provided in paragraph (4) of subdivision (c), this section shall be applicable to those decisions of the legislative body of a city, county, or city and county made pursuant to this division on or after January 1, 1984.

(Amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 767, Sec. 2. (AB 325) Effective January 1, 2014.)
IV. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING: Government Code §§ 65080-65086.5

Government Code - GOV
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
CHAPTER 2.5. Transportation Planning and Programming [65080 - 65086.5]
(Heading of Chapter 2.5 amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1106.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=1.&title=7.&part=&chapter=2.5.&article=

§ 65080. Regional Transportation Plans
(a) Each transportation planning agency designated under Section 29532 or 29532.1 shall prepare and adopt a regional transportation plan directed at achieving a coordinated and balanced regional transportation system, including, but not limited to, mass transportation, highway, railroad, maritime, bicycle, pedestrian, goods movement, and aviation facilities and services. The plan shall be action-oriented and pragmatic, considering both the short-term and long-term future, and shall present clear, concise policy guidance to local and state officials. The regional transportation plan shall consider factors specified in Section 134 of Title 23 of the United States Code. Each transportation planning agency shall consider and incorporate, as appropriate, the transportation plans of cities, counties, districts, private organizations, and state and federal agencies.

(b) The regional transportation plan shall be an internally consistent document and shall include all of the following:

(1) A policy element that describes the transportation issues in the region, identifies and quantifies regional needs, and describes the desired short-range and long-range transportation goals, and pragmatic objective and policy statements. The objective and policy statements shall be consistent with the funding estimates of the financial element. The policy element of transportation planning agencies with populations that exceed 200,000 persons may quantify a set of indicators including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(A) Measures of mobility and traffic congestion, including, but not limited to, daily vehicle hours of delay per capita and vehicle miles traveled per capita.

(B) Measures of road and bridge maintenance and rehabilitation needs, including, but not limited to, roadway pavement and bridge conditions.

(C) Measures of means of travel, including, but not limited to, percentage share of all trips (work and nonwork) made by all of the following:

(i) Single occupant vehicle.

(ii) Multiple occupant vehicle or carpool.

(iii) Public transit including commuter rail and intercity rail.

(iv) Walking.

(v) Bicycling.

(D) Measures of safety and security, including, but not limited to, total injuries and fatalities assigned to each of the modes set forth in subparagraph (C).

(E) Measures of equity and accessibility, including, but not limited to, percentage of the population served by frequent and reliable public transit, with a breakdown by income bracket, and percentage of all jobs accessible by frequent and reliable public transit service, with a breakdown by income bracket.
(F) The requirements of this section may be met utilizing existing sources of information. No additional traffic counts, household surveys, or other sources of data shall be required.

(2) A sustainable communities strategy prepared by each metropolitan planning organization as follows:

(A) No later than September 30, 2010, the State Air Resources Board shall provide each affected region with greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for the automobile and light truck sector for 2020 and 2035, respectively.

(i) No later than January 31, 2009, the state board shall appoint a Regional Targets Advisory Committee to recommend factors to be considered and methodologies to be used for setting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for the affected regions. The committee shall be composed of representatives of the metropolitan planning organizations, affected air districts, the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, local transportation agencies, and members of the public, including homebuilders, environmental organizations, planning organizations, environmental justice organizations, affordable housing organizations, and others. The advisory committee shall transmit a report with its recommendations to the state board no later than September 30, 2009. In recommending factors to be considered and methodologies to be used, the advisory committee may consider any relevant issues, including, but not limited to, data needs, modeling techniques, growth forecasts, the impacts of regional jobs-housing balance on interregional travel and greenhouse gas emissions, economic and demographic trends, the magnitude of greenhouse gas reduction benefits from a variety of land use and transportation strategies, and appropriate methods to describe regional targets and to monitor performance in attaining those targets. The state board shall consider the report prior to setting the targets.

(ii) Prior to setting the targets for a region, the state board shall exchange technical information with the metropolitan planning organization and the affected air district. The metropolitan planning organization may recommend a target for the region. The metropolitan planning organization shall hold at least one public workshop within the region after receipt of the report from the advisory committee. The state board shall release draft targets for each region no later than June 30, 2010.

(iii) In establishing these targets, the state board shall take into account greenhouse gas emission reductions that will be achieved by improved vehicle emission standards, changes in fuel composition, and other measures it has approved that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the affected regions, and prospective measures the state board plans to adopt to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from other greenhouse gas emission sources as that term is defined in subdivision (i) of Section 38505 of the Health and Safety Code and consistent with the regulations promulgated pursuant to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code), including Section 38566 of the Health and Safety Code.

(iv) The state board shall update the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction targets every eight years consistent with each metropolitan planning organization’s timeframe for updating its regional transportation plan under federal law until 2050. The state board may revise the targets every four years based on changes in the factors considered under clause (iii). The state board shall exchange technical information with the Department of Transportation, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, and affected air districts and engage in a consultative process with public and private stakeholders, prior to updating these targets.

(v) The greenhouse gas emission reduction targets may be expressed in gross tons, tons per capita, tons per household, or in any other metric deemed appropriate by the state board.

(B) Each metropolitan planning organization shall prepare a sustainable communities strategy, subject to the requirements of Part 450 of Title 23 of, and Part 93 of Title 40 of, the Code of Federal Regulations, including the requirement to utilize the most recent planning assumptions considering local general plans and other factors. The sustainable communities strategy shall (i) identify the general location of
uses, residential densities, and building intensities within the region, (ii) identify areas within the region sufficient to house all the population of the region, including all economic segments of the population, over the course of the planning period of the regional transportation plan taking into account net migration into the region, population growth, household formation and employment growth, (iii) identify areas within the region sufficient to house an eight-year projection of the regional housing need for the region pursuant to Section 65584, (iv) identify a transportation network to service the transportation needs of the region, (v) gather and consider the best practically available scientific information regarding resource areas and farmland in the region as defined in subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 65080.01, (vi) consider the state housing goals specified in Sections 65580 and 65581, (vii) set forth a forecasted development pattern for the region, which, when integrated with the transportation network, and other transportation measures and policies, will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks to achieve, if there is a feasible way to do so, the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets approved by the state board, and (viii) allow the regional transportation plan to comply with Section 176 of the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 7506).

(C) (i) Within the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, as defined by Section 66502, the Association of Bay Area Governments shall be responsible for clauses (i), (ii), (iii), (v), and (vi) of subparagraph (B), the Metropolitan Transportation Commission shall be responsible for clauses (iv) and (viii) of subparagraph (B); and the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission shall jointly be responsible for clause (vii) of subparagraph (B).

(ii) Within the jurisdiction of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, as defined in Sections 66800 and 66801, the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization shall use the Regional Plan for the Lake Tahoe Region as the sustainable community strategy, provided that it complies with clauses (vii) and (viii) of subparagraph (B).

(D) In the region served by the multicounty transportation planning agency described in Section 130004 of the Public Utilities Code, a subregional council of governments and the county transportation commission may work together to propose the sustainable communities strategy and an alternative planning strategy, if one is prepared pursuant to subparagraph (I), for that subregional area. The metropolitan planning organization may adopt a framework for a subregional sustainable communities strategy or a subregional alternative planning strategy to address the intraregional land use, transportation, economic, air quality, and climate policy relationships. The metropolitan planning organization shall include the subregional sustainable communities strategy for that subregion in the regional sustainable communities strategy to the extent consistent with this section and federal law and approve the subregional alternative planning strategy, if one is prepared pursuant to subparagraph (I), for that subregional area to the extent consistent with this section. The metropolitan planning organization shall develop overall guidelines, create public participation plans pursuant to subparagraph (F), ensure coordination, resolve conflicts, make sure that the overall plan complies with applicable legal requirements, and adopt the plan for the region.

(E) The metropolitan planning organization shall conduct at least two informational meetings in each county within the region for members of the board of supervisors and city councils on the sustainable communities strategy and alternative planning strategy, if any. The metropolitan planning organization may conduct only one informational meeting if it is attended by representatives of the county board of supervisors and city council members representing a majority of the cities representing a majority of the population in the incorporated areas of that county. Notice of the meeting or meetings shall be sent to the clerk of the board of supervisors and to each city clerk. The purpose of the meeting or meetings shall be to discuss the sustainable communities strategy and the alternative planning strategy, if any, including the key land use and planning assumptions to the members of the board of supervisors and the city council members in that county and to solicit and consider their input and recommendations.
(F) Each metropolitan planning organization shall adopt a public participation plan, for development of the sustainable communities strategy and an alternative planning strategy, if any, that includes all of the following:

(i) Outreach efforts to encourage the active participation of a broad range of stakeholder groups in the planning process, consistent with the agency’s adopted Federal Public Participation Plan, including, but not limited to, affordable housing advocates, transportation advocates, neighborhood and community groups, environmental advocates, home builder representatives, broad-based business organizations, landowners, commercial property interests, and homeowner associations.

(ii) Consultation with congestion management agencies, transportation agencies, and transportation commissions.

(iii) Workshops throughout the region to provide the public with the information and tools necessary to provide a clear understanding of the issues and policy choices. At least one workshop shall be held in each county in the region. For counties with a population greater than 500,000, at least three workshops shall be held. Each workshop, to the extent practicable, shall include urban simulation computer modeling to create visual representations of the sustainable communities strategy and the alternative planning strategy.

(iv) Preparation and circulation of a draft sustainable communities strategy and an alternative planning strategy, if one is prepared, not less than 55 days before adoption of a final regional transportation plan.

(v) At least three public hearings on the draft sustainable communities strategy in the regional transportation plan and alternative planning strategy, if one is prepared. If the metropolitan transportation organization consists of a single county, at least two public hearings shall be held. To the maximum extent feasible, the hearings shall be in different parts of the region to maximize the opportunity for participation by members of the public throughout the region.

(vi) A process for enabling members of the public to provide a single request to receive notices, information, and updates.

(G) In preparing a sustainable communities strategy, the metropolitan planning organization shall consider spheres of influence that have been adopted by the local agency formation commissions within its region.

(H) Prior to adopting a sustainable communities strategy, the metropolitan planning organization shall quantify the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions projected to be achieved by the sustainable communities strategy and set forth the difference, if any, between the amount of that reduction and the target for the region established by the state board.

(I) If the sustainable communities strategy, prepared in compliance with subparagraph (B) or (D), is unable to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets established by the state board, the metropolitan planning organization shall prepare an alternative planning strategy to the sustainable communities strategy showing how those greenhouse gas emission targets would be achieved through alternative development patterns, infrastructure, or additional transportation measures or policies. The alternative planning strategy shall be a separate document from the regional transportation plan, but it may be adopted concurrently with the regional transportation plan. In preparing the alternative planning strategy, the metropolitan planning organization:

(i) Shall identify the principal impediments to achieving the targets within the sustainable communities strategy.

(ii) May include an alternative development pattern for the region pursuant to subparagraphs (B) to (G), inclusive.

(iii) Shall describe how the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets would be achieved by the alternative planning strategy, and why the development pattern, measures, and policies in the
alternative planning strategy are the most practicable choices for achievement of the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

(iv) An alternative development pattern set forth in the alternative planning strategy shall comply with Part 450 of Title 23 of, and Part 93 of Title 40 of, the Code of Federal Regulations, except to the extent that compliance will prevent achievement of the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets approved by the state board.

(v) For purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code), an alternative planning strategy shall not constitute a land use plan, policy, or regulation, and the inconsistency of a project with an alternative planning strategy shall not be a consideration in determining whether a project may have an environmental effect.

(J) (i) Prior to starting the public participation process adopted pursuant to subparagraph (F), the metropolitan planning organization shall submit a description to the state board of the technical methodology it intends to use to estimate the greenhouse gas emissions from its sustainable communities strategy and, if appropriate, its alternative planning strategy. The state board shall respond to the metropolitan planning organization in a timely manner with written comments about the technical methodology, including specifically describing any aspects of that methodology it concludes will not yield accurate estimates of greenhouse gas emissions, and suggested remedies. The metropolitan planning organization is encouraged to work with the state board until the state board concludes that the technical methodology operates accurately.

(ii) After adoption, a metropolitan planning organization shall submit a sustainable communities strategy or an alternative planning strategy, if one has been adopted, to the state board for review, including the quantification of the greenhouse gas emission reductions the strategy would achieve and a description of the technical methodology used to obtain that result. Review by the state board shall be limited to acceptance or rejection of the metropolitan planning organization’s determination that the strategy submitted would, if implemented, achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets established by the state board. The state board shall complete its review within 60 days.

(iii) If the state board determines that the strategy submitted would not, if implemented, achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, the metropolitan planning organization shall revise its strategy or adopt an alternative planning strategy, if not previously adopted, and submit the strategy for review pursuant to clause (ii). At a minimum, the metropolitan planning organization must obtain state board acceptance that an alternative planning strategy would, if implemented, achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets established for that region by the state board.

(iv) On or before September 1, 2018, and every four years thereafter to align with target setting, notwithstanding Section 10231.5, the state board shall prepare a report that assesses progress made by each metropolitan planning organization in meeting the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction targets set by the state board. The report shall include changes to greenhouse gas emissions in each region and data-supported metrics for the strategies utilized to meet the targets. The report shall also include a discussion of best practices and the challenges faced by the metropolitan planning organizations in meeting the targets, including the effect of state policies and funding. The report shall be developed in consultation with the metropolitan planning organizations and affected stakeholders. The report shall be submitted to the Assembly Committee on Transportation and the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, and to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing and the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality.

(K) Neither a sustainable communities strategy nor an alternative planning strategy regulates the use of land, nor, except as provided by subparagraph (J), shall either one be subject to any state approval. Nothing in a sustainable communities strategy shall be interpreted as superseding the exercise of the land use authority of cities and counties within the region. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to
limit the state board’s authority under any other provision of law. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to authorize the abrogation of any vested right whether created by statute or by common law. Nothing in this section shall require a city’s or county’s land use policies and regulations, including its general plan, to be consistent with the regional transportation plan or an alternative planning strategy. Nothing in this section requires a metropolitan planning organization to approve a sustainable communities strategy that would be inconsistent with Part 450 of Title 23 of, or Part 93 of Title 40 of, the Code of Federal Regulations and any administrative guidance under those regulations. Nothing in this section relieves a public or private entity or any person from compliance with any other local, state, or federal law.

(L) Nothing in this section requires projects programmed for funding on or before December 31, 2011, to be subject to the provisions of this paragraph if they (i) are contained in the 2007 or 2009 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, (ii) are funded pursuant to Chapter 12.49 (commencing with Section 8879.20) of Division 1 of Title 2, or (iii) were specifically listed in a ballot measure prior to December 31, 2008, approving a sales tax increase for transportation projects. Nothing in this section shall require a transportation sales tax authority to change the funding allocations approved by the voters for categories of transportation projects in a sales tax measure adopted prior to December 31, 2010. For purposes of this subparagraph, a transportation sales tax authority is a district, as defined in Section 7252 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, that is authorized to impose a sales tax for transportation purposes.

(M) A metropolitan planning organization, or a regional transportation planning agency not within a metropolitan planning organization, that is required to adopt a regional transportation plan not less than every five years, may elect to adopt the plan not less than every four years. This election shall be made by the board of directors of the metropolitan planning organization or regional transportation planning agency no later than June 1, 2009, or thereafter 54 months prior to the statutory deadline for the adoption of housing elements for the local jurisdictions within the region, after a public hearing at which comments are accepted from members of the public and representatives of cities and counties within the region covered by the metropolitan planning organization or regional transportation planning agency. Notice of the public hearing shall be given to the general public and by mail to cities and counties within the region no later than 30 days prior to the date of the public hearing. Notice of election shall be promptly given to the Department of Housing and Community Development. The metropolitan planning organization or the regional transportation planning agency shall complete its next regional transportation plan within three years of the notice of election.

(N) Two or more of the metropolitan planning organizations for Fresno County, Kern County, Kings County, Madera County, Merced County, San Joaquin County, Stanislaus County, and Tulare County may work together to develop and adopt multiregional goals and policies that may address interregional land use, transportation, economic, air quality, and climate relationships. The participating metropolitan planning organizations may also develop a multiregional sustainable communities strategy, to the extent consistent with federal law, or an alternative planning strategy for adoption by the metropolitan planning organizations. Each participating metropolitan planning organization shall consider any adopted multiregional goals and policies in the development of a sustainable communities strategy and, if applicable, an alternative planning strategy for its region.

(3) An action element that describes the programs and actions necessary to implement the plan and assigns implementation responsibilities. The action element may describe all transportation projects proposed for development during the 20-year or greater life of the plan. The action element shall consider congestion management programming activities carried out within the region.

(4) (A) A financial element that summarizes the cost of plan implementation constrained by a realistic projection of available revenues. The financial element shall also contain recommendations for
allocation of funds. A county transportation commission created pursuant to Section 130000 of the Public Utilities Code shall be responsible for recommending projects to be funded with regional improvement funds, if the project is consistent with the regional transportation plan. The first five years of the financial element shall be based on the five-year estimate of funds developed pursuant to Section 14524. The financial element may recommend the development of specified new sources of revenue, consistent with the policy element and action element. 

(B) The financial element of transportation planning agencies with populations that exceed 200,000 persons may include a project cost breakdown for all projects proposed for development during the 20-year life of the plan that includes total expenditures and related percentages of total expenditures for all of the following:

(i) State highway expansion.
(ii) State highway rehabilitation, maintenance, and operations.
(iii) Local road and street expansion.
(iv) Local road and street rehabilitation, maintenance, and operation.
(v) Mass transit, commuter rail, and intercity rail expansion.
(vi) Mass transit, commuter rail, and intercity rail rehabilitation, maintenance, and operations.
(vii) Pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
(viii) Environmental enhancements and mitigation.
(ix) Research and planning.
(x) Other categories.

(C) The metropolitan planning organization or county transportation agency, whichever entity is appropriate, shall consider financial incentives for cities and counties that have resource areas or farmland, as defined in Section 65080.01, for the purposes of, for example, transportation investments for the preservation and safety of the city street or county road system and farm-to-market and interconnectivity transportation needs. The metropolitan planning organization or county transportation agency, whichever entity is appropriate, shall also consider financial assistance for counties to address countywide service responsibilities in counties that contribute toward the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets by implementing policies for growth to occur within their cities.

(c) Each transportation planning agency may also include other factors of local significance as an element of the regional transportation plan, including, but not limited to, issues of mobility for specific sectors of the community, including, but not limited to, senior citizens.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, each transportation planning agency shall adopt and submit, every four years, an updated regional transportation plan to the California Transportation Commission and the Department of Transportation. A transportation planning agency located in a federally designated air quality attainment area or that does not contain an urbanized area may at its option adopt and submit a regional transportation plan every five years. When applicable, the plan shall be consistent with federal planning and programming requirements and shall conform to the regional transportation plan guidelines adopted by the California Transportation Commission. Prior to adoption of the regional transportation plan, a public hearing shall be held after the giving of notice of the hearing by publication in the affected county or counties pursuant to Section 6061.

(Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 646, Sec. 1. (SB 150) Effective January 1, 2018.)

§ 65080.01. Definitions Applicable to § 65080
The following definitions apply to terms used in Section 65080:

(a) “Resource areas” include (1) all publicly owned parks and open space; (2) open space or habitat areas protected by natural community conservation plans, habitat conservation plans, and other adopted...
natural resource protection plans; (3) habitat for species identified as candidate, fully protected, sensitive, or species of special status by local, state, or federal agencies or protected by the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, the California Endangered Species Act, or the Native Plan Protection Act; (4) lands subject to conservation or agricultural easements for conservation or agricultural purposes by local governments, special districts, or nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, areas of the state designated by the State Mining and Geology Board as areas of statewide or regional significance pursuant to Section 2790 of the Public Resources Code, and lands under Williamson Act contracts; (5) areas designated for open-space or agricultural uses in adopted open-space elements or agricultural elements of the local general plan or by local ordinance; (6) areas containing biological resources as described in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines that may be significantly affected by the sustainable communities strategy or the alternative planning strategy; and (7) an area subject to flooding where a development project would not, at the time of development in the judgment of the agency, meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program or where the area is subject to more protective provisions of state law or local ordinance.

(b) “Farmland” means farmland that is outside all existing city spheres of influence or city limits as of January 1, 2008, and is one of the following:

(1) Classified as prime or unique farmland or farmland of statewide importance.

(2) Farmland classified by a local agency in its general plan that meets or exceeds the standards for prime or unique farmland or farmland of statewide importance.

(c) “Feasible” means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors.

(d) “Consistent” shall have the same meaning as that term is used in Section 134 of Title 23 of the United States Code.

(e) “Internally consistent” means that the contents of the elements of the regional transportation plan must be consistent with each other.

(Added by Stats. 2008, Ch. 728, Sec. 5. Effective January 1, 2009.)

§ 65080.1. Designation of New Transportation Planning Agency in Geographic Area with Originally Designated Agency

Once preparation of a regional transportation plan has been commenced by or on behalf of a designated transportation planning agency, the Secretary of Transportation shall not designate a new transportation planning agency pursuant to Section 29532 for all or any part of the geographic area served by the originally designated agency unless he or she first determines that redesignation will not result in the loss to California of any substantial amounts of federal funds.

(Amended (as amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 681, Sec. 20) by Stats. 2013, Ch. 352, Sec. 310. (AB 1317) Effective September 26, 2013. Operative July 1, 2013, by Sec. 543 of Ch. 352.)

§ 65080.2. Transit Development Boards; Inclusion of Elements in Regional Improvement Program

A transportation planning agency which has within its area of jurisdiction a transit development board established pursuant to Division 11 (commencing with Section 120000) of the Public Utilities Code shall include, in the regional transportation improvement program prepared pursuant to Section 65080, those elements of the transportation improvement program prepared by the transit development board pursuant to Section 120353 of the Public Utilities Code relating to funds made available to the transit development board for transportation purposes.

(Added by renumbering Section 65080.1 by Stats. 1978, Ch. 669.)

§ 65080.3. Alternative Planning Scenario
(a) Each transportation planning agency with a population that exceeds 200,000 persons may prepare at least one “alternative planning scenario” for presentation to local officials, agency board members, and the public during the development of the triennial regional transportation plan and the hearing required under subdivision (c) of Section 65080.

(b) The alternative planning scenario shall accommodate the same amount of population growth as projected in the plan but shall be based on an alternative that attempts to reduce the growth in traffic congestion, make more efficient use of existing transportation infrastructure, and reduce the need for costly future public infrastructure.

(c) The alternative planning scenario shall be developed in collaboration with a broad range of public and private stakeholders, including local elected officials, city and county employees, relevant interest groups, and the general public. In developing the scenario, the agency shall consider all of the following:

(1) Increasing housing and commercial development around transit facilities and in close proximity to jobs and commercial activity centers.

(2) Encouraging public transit usage, ridesharing, walking, bicycling, and transportation demand management practices.

(3) Promoting a more efficient mix of current and future job sites, commercial activity centers, and housing opportunities.

(4) Promoting use of urban vacant land and “brownfield” redevelopment.

(5) An economic incentive program that may include measures such as transit vouchers and variable pricing for transportation.

(d) The planning scenario shall be included in a report evaluating all of the following:

(1) The amounts and locations of traffic congestion.

(2) Vehicle miles traveled and the resulting reduction in vehicle emissions.

(3) Estimated percentage share of trips made by each means of travel specified in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 65080.

(4) The costs of transportation improvements required to accommodate the population growth in accordance with the alternative scenario.

(5) The economic, social, environmental, regulatory, and institutional barriers to the scenario being achieved.

(e) If the adopted regional transportation plan already achieves one or more of the objectives set forth in subdivision (c), those objectives need not be discussed or evaluated in the alternative planning scenario.

(f) The alternative planning scenario and accompanying report shall not be adopted as part of the regional transportation plan, but it shall be distributed to cities and counties within the region and to other interested parties, and may be a basis for revisions to the transportation projects that will be included in the regional transportation plan.

(g) Nothing in this section grants transportation planning agencies any direct or indirect authority over local land use decisions.

(h) This section does not apply to a transportation plan adopted on or before September 1, 2001, proposed by a transportation planning agency with a population of less than 1,000,000 persons.

(Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 832, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 2001.)

§ 65080.5. Area Plan; Preparation; Adoption

(a) For each area for which a transportation planning agency is designated under subdivision (c) of Section 29532, or adopts a resolution pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65080, the Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the transportation planning agency, and subject to subdivision (e), shall prepare the regional transportation plan, and the updating thereto, for that area and submit it to
the governing body or designated policy committee of the transportation planning agency for adoption. Prior to adoption, a public hearing shall be held, after the giving of notice of the hearing by publication in the affected county or counties pursuant to Section 6061. Prior to the adoption of the regional transportation improvement program by the transportation planning agency if it prepared the program, the transportation planning agency shall consider the relationship between the program and the adopted plan. The adopted plan and program, and the updating thereto, shall be submitted to the California Transportation Commission and the department pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 65080. (b) In the case of a transportation planning agency designated under subdivision (c) of Section 29532, the transportation planning agency may prepare the regional transportation plan for the area under its jurisdiction pursuant to this chapter, if the transportation planning agency, prior to July 1, 1978, adopts by resolution a declaration of intention to do so. (c) In those areas that have a county transportation commission created pursuant to Section 130050 of the Public Utilities Code, the multicounty designated transportation planning agency, as defined in Section 130004 of that code, shall prepare the regional transportation plan and the regional transportation improvement program in consultation with the county transportation commissions. (d) Any transportation planning agency which did not elect to prepare the initial regional transportation plan for the area under its jurisdiction, may prepare the updated plan if it adopts a resolution of intention to do so at least one year prior to the date when the updated plan is to be submitted to the California Transportation Commission. (e) If the department prepares or updates a regional transportation improvement program or regional transportation plan, or both, pursuant to this section, the state-local share of funding the preparation or updating of the plan and program shall be calculated on the same basis as though the preparation or updating were to be performed by the transportation planning agency and funded under Sections 99311, 99313, and 99314 of the Public Utilities Code. (Amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 681, Sec. 21.)

§ 65080.6. Planning Agencies; California Coastal Trail; Coordination of Development
Each transportation planning agency designated under Section 29532 or 29532.1 whose jurisdiction includes a portion of the California Coastal Trail, or property designated for the trail, that is located within the coastal zone, as defined in Section 30103 of the Public Resources Code, shall coordinate with the State Coastal Conservancy, the California Coastal Commission, and the Department of Transportation regarding development of the California Coastal Trail, and each transportation planning agency shall include provisions for the California Coastal Trail in its regional plan, under Section 65080. (Added by renumbering Section 65080.1 (as added by Stats. 2007, Ch. 375, Sec. 3) by Stats. 2015, Ch. 303, Sec. 230. (AB 731) Effective January 1, 2016.)

§ 65080.9. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority; Adoption of Commute Benefit Ordinance; Definitions
(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage metropolitan planning organizations and county transportation commissions to work with local employers to adopt policies that encourage commuting by means other than driving alone. To encourage this, the Legislature hereby establishes a program in that regard in the County of Los Angeles. (b) Notwithstanding Section 40717.9 of the Health and Safety Code, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority may adopt, and revise as necessary, a commute benefit ordinance that requires covered employers operating within the authority’s area to offer all covered employees a pretax option program, consistent with Section 132(f) of the Internal Revenue Code,
allowing covered employees to elect to exclude from taxable wages employee commuting costs incurred for transit passes or vanpool charges, up to the maximum amount allowed by federal tax law.

(c) Nothing in this section shall prevent a covered employer from offering a more generous commuter benefit program that is otherwise consistent with the requirements of the applicable commute benefit ordinance. Nothing in this section shall require employees to change their behavior.

(d) An employer offering, or proposing to offer, an alternative commuter benefit program on the employer’s own initiative, or an employer otherwise required to offer an alternative commuter benefit program as a condition of a lease, original building permit, or other similar requirement, if the alternative is not consistent with the program described in subdivision (b), may seek approval of the alternative from the authority. The authority may approve an alternative if it determines that the alternative provides at least the same benefit in terms of reducing single-occupant vehicle trips as the program described in subdivision (b). An employer that offers an approved alternative to covered employees in a manner otherwise consistent with this section is not required to offer the program described in subdivision (b).

(e) The commute benefit ordinance shall provide covered employers with at least six months to comply after the ordinance is adopted.

(f) An employer that participates in, or is represented by, a transportation management association, or a transportation management organization, that provides the employer’s covered employees with the program described in subdivision (b) or an alternative commuter benefit program approved pursuant to subdivision (d), shall be deemed in compliance with the commute benefit ordinance and the transportation management association, or transportation management organization, may act on behalf of those employers in that regard. The authority shall communicate directly with the transportation management association or transportation management organization, rather than the participating employers, to determine compliance with the ordinance.

(g) A commute benefit ordinance adopted pursuant to this section shall specify all of the following:

(1) How the authority will inform covered employers about the ordinance.
(2) How compliance with the ordinance will be demonstrated.
(3) The procedures for proposing, and the criteria that will be used to evaluate, an alternative commuter benefit program pursuant to subdivision (d).
(4) Any consequences for noncompliance.

(h) Nothing in this section shall limit or restrict the statutory or regulatory authority of the authority.

(i) The authority shall not use federal planning funds in the implementation of the commute benefit ordinance.

(j) Nothing in this section shall authorize the authority to adopt a commute benefit ordinance that would affect an employer covered by a South Coast Air Quality Management District rule or regulation intended to reduce on-road mobile source emissions generated from employee commuting or to provide options for attaining equivalent emissions reductions.

(k) If the authority adopts a commute benefit ordinance pursuant to this section, the authority, before January 1, 2022, shall submit a report to the transportation policy committees of each house of the Legislature and the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following elements:

(1) A description of the program, including how the authority informed covered employers and employees of the ordinance, and of any compliance issues.
(2) The number of employers complying with the ordinance that did not previously offer a commute benefit consistent with those required by the ordinance.
(3) The number of employees who stopped driving alone to work to instead take transit or a vanpool because of the commute benefit ordinance.
(4) The number of single-occupant vehicle trips reduced per month, week, or day because of the commute benefit ordinance.
(5) The vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions reductions associated with implementation of the commute benefit ordinance.
(6) The greenhouse gas emissions reductions associated with implementation of the commute benefit ordinance as a percentage of the region’s greenhouse gas emissions target established by the State Air Resources Board.

(1) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:
(1) “Authority” means the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.
(2) “Covered employee” means an employee who performed at least an average of 20 hours of work per week within the previous calendar month within the area where the ordinance adopted pursuant to this section operates.
(3) “Covered employer” means any employer for which an average of 50 or more employees perform work for compensation at a worksite within the area where the ordinance adopted pursuant to this section operates. In determining the number of employees performing work for an employer during a given week, only employees performing work on a full-time basis shall be counted.

(Added by Stats. 2018, Ch. 173, Sec. 1. (AB 2548) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65081. Legislative Intent; Commute Benefit Ordinance; Bay Area Air Quality Management District and Metropolitan Transportation Commission; Alternative Benefits; Time Period for Compliance; Transportation Management Association; Federal Planning Funds
(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage metropolitan planning organizations and local air quality management districts or air pollution control districts to work with local employers to adopt policies that encourage commuting by means other than driving alone. To encourage this, the Legislature hereby establishes a program in that regard in the greater San Francisco Bay Area.
(b) Notwithstanding Section 40717.9 of the Health and Safety Code, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission with respect to the common area within their respective jurisdictions may jointly adopt a commute benefit ordinance that requires covered employers operating within the common area of the district and commission to offer all covered employees one of the following choices:
(1) A pretax option: a program, consistent with Section 132(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, allowing covered employees to elect to exclude from taxable wages employee commuting costs incurred for transit passes or vanpool charges, up to the maximum amount allowed by federal tax law.
(2) Employer-paid benefit: a program whereby the covered employer offers employees a subsidy to offset the monthly cost of commuting via public transit or by vanpool, or, in addition, and at the employer’s discretion, by bicycle. The subsidy shall be equal to either the monthly cost of commuting via public transit or by vanpool, or seventy-five dollars ($75), whichever is lower. The seventy-five dollar ($75) amount shall be adjusted annually consistent with the California Consumer Price Index. If the covered employer chooses to offer a subsidy to offset the monthly cost of commuting by bicycle, the subsidy shall be either the monthly cost of commuting by bicycle or twenty dollars ($20), whichever is lower.
(3) Employer-provided transit: transportation furnished by the covered employer at no cost, or low cost as determined by the district or commission, to the covered employee in a vanpool or bus, or similar multipassenger vehicle operated by or for the employer.
(c) Nothing in this section shall prevent a covered employer from offering a more generous commuter benefit that is otherwise consistent with the requirements of the applicable commute benefit ordinance. Nothing in this section shall require employees to change their behavior.
(d) An employer offering, or proposing to offer, an alternative commuter benefit on the employer’s own initiative, or an employer otherwise required to offer an alternative commuter benefit as a condition of a lease, original building permit, or other similar requirement, if the alternative is not one of the options identified in subdivision (b), may seek approval of the alternative from the district or commission. The district or commission may approve an alternative if it determines that the alternative provides at least the same benefit in terms of reducing single-occupant vehicle trips as any of the options in subdivision (b). An employer that offers an approved alternative to covered employees in a manner otherwise consistent with this section is not required to offer one of the options in subdivision (b).

(e) The commute benefit ordinance shall provide covered employers with at least six months to comply after the ordinance is adopted.

(f) An employer that participates in or is represented by a transportation management association that provides the employer’s covered employees with any of the benefits in subdivision (b), or an alternative benefit determined by the district or commission pursuant to subdivision (d) to provide at least the same benefit in terms of reducing single-occupant vehicle trips as any of the options in subdivision (b), shall be deemed in compliance with the regional ordinance, and the transportation management association may act on behalf of those employers in that regard. The district or commission shall communicate directly with the transportation management association, rather than the participating employers, to determine compliance with the ordinance.

(g) A commute benefit ordinance adopted pursuant to this section shall specify all of the following: (1) how the implementing agencies will inform covered employers about the ordinance, (2) how compliance with the ordinance will be demonstrated, (3) the procedures for proposing and the criteria that will be used to evaluate an alternative commuter benefit pursuant to subdivision (d), and (4) any consequences for noncompliance.

(h) Nothing in this section shall limit or restrict the statutory or regulatory authority of the commission or district.

(i) The commission shall not use federal planning funds in the implementation of the commute benefit ordinance.

(j) As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:
(1) “Covered employer” means any employer for which an average of 50 or more employees per week perform work for compensation within the area where the ordinance adopted pursuant to this section operates. In determining the number of employees performing work for an employer during a given week, only employees performing work on a full-time basis shall be counted.
(2) “Covered employee” means an employee who performed at least an average of 20 hours of work per week within the previous calendar month within the area where the ordinance adopted pursuant to this section operates.
(3) “District” means the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.
(4) “Commission” means the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

(Amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 483, Sec. 1. (SB 1128) Effective January 1, 2017.)

§ 65081.1. Airport Ground Access Improvement Program; Contents; Funding

(a) After consultation with other regional and local transportation agencies, each transportation planning agency whose planning area includes a primary air carrier airport shall, in conjunction with its preparation of an updated regional transportation plan, include an airport ground access improvement program.

(b) The program shall address the development and extension of mass transit systems, including passenger rail service, major arterial and highway widening and extension projects, and any other ground access improvement projects the planning agency deems appropriate.
(c) Highest consideration shall be given to mass transit for airport access improvement projects in the program.
(d) If federal funds are not available to a transportation planning agency for the costs of preparing or updating an airport ground access improvement program, the agency may charge the operators of primary air carrier airports within its planning area for the direct costs of preparing and updating the program. An airport operator against whom charges are imposed pursuant to this subdivision shall pay the amount of those charges to the transportation planning agency.
(Amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 622, Sec. 26. Effective January 1, 1998.)

§ 65081.3. Designation of Special Corridors; Priority for Long-Term Right-of-Way Preservation; Duties of Regional Transportation Planning Agency; Environmental Impact
(a) As a part of its adoption of the regional transportation plan, the designated county transportation commission, regional transportation planning agency, or the Metropolitan Transportation Commission may designate special corridors, which may include, but are not limited to, adopted state highway routes, which, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, cities, counties, and transit operators directly impacted by the corridor, are determined to be of statewide or regional priority for long-term right-of-way preservation.
(b) Prior to designating a corridor for priority acquisition, the regional transportation planning agency shall do all of the following:
(1) Establish geographic boundaries for the proposed corridor.
(2) Complete a traffic survey, including a preliminary recommendation for transportation modal split, which generally describes the traffic and air quality impacts of the proposed corridor.
(3) Consider the widest feasible range of possible transportation facilities that could be located in the corridor and the major environmental impacts they may cause to assist in making the corridor more environmentally sensitive and, in the long term, a more viable site for needed transportation improvements.
(c) A designated corridor of statewide or regional priority shall be specifically considered in the certified environmental impact report completed for the adopted regional transportation plan required by the California Environmental Quality Act, which shall include a review of the environmental impacts of the possible transportation facilities which may be located in the corridor. The environmental impact report shall include a survey within the corridor boundaries to determine if there exist any of the following:
(1) Rare or endangered plant or animal species.
(2) Historical or cultural sites of major significance.
(3) Wetlands, vernal pools, or other naturally occurring features.
(d) The regional transportation planning agency shall designate a corridor for priority acquisition only if, after a public hearing, it finds that the range of potential transportation facilities to be located in the corridor can be constructed in a manner which will avoid or mitigate significant environmental impacts or values identified in subdivision (c), consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act and the state and federal Endangered Species Acts.
(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a corridor of statewide or regional priority may be designated as part of the regional transportation plan only if it has previously been specifically defined in the plan required pursuant to Section 134 and is consistent with the plan required pursuant to Section 135 of Title 23 of the United States Code.
(Added by Stats. 1992, Ch. 754, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1993.)

§ 65082. Five-Year Regional Transportation Improvement Program
(a) (1) A five-year regional transportation improvement program shall be prepared, adopted, and submitted to the California Transportation Commission on or before December 15 of each odd-numbered year thereafter, updated every two years, pursuant to Sections 65080 and 65080.5 and the guidelines adopted pursuant to Section 14530.1, to include regional transportation improvement projects and programs proposed to be funded, in whole or in part, in the state transportation improvement program.

(2) Major projects shall include current costs updated as of November 1 of the year of submittal and escalated to the appropriate year, and be listed by relative priority, taking into account need, delivery milestone dates, and the availability of funding.

(b) Except for those counties that do not prepare a congestion management program pursuant to Section 65088.3, congestion management programs adopted pursuant to Section 65089 shall be incorporated into the regional transportation improvement program submitted to the commission by December 15 of each odd-numbered year.

(c) Local projects not included in a congestion management program shall not be included in the regional transportation improvement program. Projects and programs adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be consistent with the capital improvement program adopted pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (b) of Section 65089, and the guidelines adopted pursuant to Section 14530.1.

(d) Other projects may be included in the regional transportation improvement program if listed separately.

(e) Unless a county not containing urbanized areas of over 50,000 population notifies the Department of Transportation by July 1 that it intends to prepare a regional transportation improvement program for that county, the department shall, in consultation with the affected local agencies, prepare the program for all counties for which it prepares a regional transportation plan.

(f) The requirements for incorporating a congestion management program into a regional transportation improvement program specified in this section do not apply in those counties that do not prepare a congestion management program in accordance with Section 65088.3.

(g) The regional transportation improvement program may include a reserve of county shares for providing funds in order to match federal funds.

(Amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 525, Sec. 7. Effective January 1, 2004.)

§ 65084. County Director of Transportation; Appointment
In order to insure coordinated planning, development, and operation of transportation systems of all types and modes, the board of supervisors of each county may appoint a county director of transportation, and specify the extent of the responsibilities of such officer.

(Added by Stats. 1972, Ch. 1253.)

§ 65085. County Officer; Designation as Director
The board of supervisors may designate any county officer who is properly qualified to serve as the county director of transportation.

(Added by Stats. 1972, Ch. 1253.)

§ 65086. Long-Term State Highway System Planning
The Department of Transportation, in consultation with transportation planning agencies, county transportation commissions, counties, and cities, shall carry out long-term state highway system planning to identify future highway improvements.

(Amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 622, Sec. 29. Effective January 1, 1998.)
§ 65086.4. Compliance with State and Federal Standards
Projects on the state highway system shall comply with applicable state and federal standards to ensure systemwide consistency with operational, safety, and maintenance needs. The department may approve exceptions to this requirement that it determines to be appropriate.
(Repealed and added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 622, Sec. 31. Effective January 1, 1998.)

§ 65086.5. Project Studies Reports for Capacity-Increasing State Highway Projects
(a) To the extent that the work does not jeopardize the delivery of the projects in the adopted state transportation improvement program, the Department of Transportation may prepare a project studies report for capacity-increasing state highway projects that are not included in the state transportation improvement program. Preparation of the project studies report shall be limited by the resources available to the department for that work, supplemented, as appropriate, by regional or local resources. The project studies report shall include the project-related factors of limits, description, scope, costs, and the amount of time needed for initiating construction.
(b) Whenever project studies reports are performed by an entity other than the Department of Transportation, the department shall review and approve the report.
(c) The Department of Transportation may be requested to prepare a project studies report for a capacity-increasing state highway project which is being proposed for inclusion in a future state transportation improvement program. The department shall have 30 days to determine whether it can complete the requested report in a timely fashion. If the department determines that it cannot complete the report in a timely fashion, the requesting entity may prepare the report. Upon submission of a project studies report to the department by the entity, the department shall complete its review and provide its comments to that entity within 60 days from the date of submission. The department shall complete its review and final determination of a report which has been revised to address the department’s comments within 30 days following submission of the revised report.
(d) The Department of Transportation, in consultation with representatives of cities, counties, and regional transportation planning agencies, shall prepare draft guidelines for the preparation of project studies reports by all entities. The guidelines shall address the development of reliable cost estimates. The department shall submit the draft guidelines to the California Transportation Commission not later than July 1, 1991. The commission shall adopt the final guidelines not later than October 1, 1991. Guidelines adopted by the commission shall apply only to project studies reports commenced after October 1, 1991.
(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 596, Sec. 3. Effective September 21, 1998.)
V. **ADMINISTRATION OF GENERAL PLAN**: Government Code § 65400

Government Code - GOV

TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)

DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)

CHAPTER 3. LOCAL PLANNING [65100 - 65763]
(Chapter 3 repealed and added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 1880.)

ARTICLE 7. ADMINISTRATION OF GENERAL PLAN [65400 - 65404]
(Article 7 added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 1880.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&sectionNum=65400

§ 65400. Duties of agency; report; failure to submit housing element portion

(a) After the legislative body has adopted all or part of a general plan, the planning agency shall do both of the following:

(1) Investigate and make recommendations to the legislative body regarding reasonable and practical means for implementing the general plan or element of the general plan, so that it will serve as an effective guide for orderly growth and development, preservation and conservation of open-space land and natural resources, and the efficient expenditure of public funds relating to the subjects addressed in the general plan.

(2) Provide by April 1 of each year an annual report to the legislative body, the Office of Planning and Research, and the Department of Housing and Community Development that includes all of the following:

(A) The status of the plan and progress in its implementation.

(B) The progress in meeting its share of regional housing needs determined pursuant to Section 65584 and local efforts to remove governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583.

The housing element portion of the annual report, as required by this paragraph, shall be prepared through the use of standards, forms, and definitions adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development. The department may review, adopt, amend, and repeal the standards, forms, or definitions, to implement this article. Any standards, forms, or definitions adopted to implement this article shall not be subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2. Before and after adoption of the forms, the housing element portion of the annual report shall include a section that describes the actions taken by the local government towards completion of the programs and status of the local government’s compliance with the deadlines in its housing element. That report shall be considered at an annual public meeting before the legislative body where members of the public shall be allowed to provide oral testimony and written comments.

The report may include the number of units that have been substantially rehabilitated, converted from nonaffordable to affordable by acquisition, and preserved consistent with the standards set forth in paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583.1. The report shall document how the units meet the standards set forth in that subdivision.

(C) The number of housing development applications received in the prior year.

(D) The number of units included in all development applications in the prior year.

(E) The number of units approved and disapproved in the prior year.
(F) The degree to which its approved general plan complies with the guidelines developed and adopted pursuant to Section 65040.2 and the date of the last revision to the general plan.

(G) A listing of sites rezoned to accommodate that portion of the city’s or county’s share of the regional housing need for each income level that could not be accommodated on sites identified in the inventory required by paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 and Section 65584.09. The listing of sites shall also include any additional sites that may have been required to be identified by Section 65863.

(H) The number of net new units of housing, including both rental housing and for-sale housing, that have been issued a completed entitlement, a building permit, or a certificate of occupancy, thus far in the housing element cycle, and the income category, by area median income category, that each unit of housing satisfies. That production report shall, for each income category described in this subparagraph, distinguish between the number of rental housing units and the number of for-sale units that satisfy each income category. The production report shall include, for each entitlement, building permit, or certificate of occupancy, a unique site identifier which must include the assessor’s parcel number, but may include street address, or other identifiers.

(I) The number of applications submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) of section 65913.4, the location and the total number of developments approved pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 65913.4, the total number of building permits issued pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 65913.4, the total number of units including both rental housing and for-sale housing by area median income category constructed using the process provided for in subdivision (b) of section 65913.4.

(J) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall post a report submitted pursuant to this paragraph on its Internet Web site within a reasonable time of receiving the report.

(b) If a court finds, upon a motion to that effect, that a city, county, or city and county failed to submit, within 60 days of the deadline established in this section, the housing element portion of the report required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) that substantially complies with the requirements of this section, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days. If the city, county, or city and county fails to comply with the court’s order within 60 days, the plaintiff or petitioner may move for sanctions, and the court may, upon that motion, grant appropriate sanctions. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out. If the court determines that its order or judgment is not carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section are fulfilled. This subdivision applies to proceedings initiated on or after the first day of October following the adoption of forms and definitions by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), but no sooner than six months following that adoption.

(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 374, Sec. 1.5. (AB 879) Effective January 1, 2018.)
VI. “NO NET LOSS” STATUTE: Government Code § 65863-65863.13

Government Code - GOV
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)
CHAPTER 4. ZONING REGULATIONS [65800 - 65912]
(Chapter 4 repealed and added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 1880.)
ARTICLE 2. ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS [65850 - 65863.13]
(Article 2 added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 1880.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=1.&title=7.&part=&chapter=4.&article=2.

§ 65863. Housing Element Inventory or Programs of Adequate Sites to Meet Regional Housing Needs; Accommodation for Unmet Housing Needs; Reduction of Residential Density by Cities or Counties; Lower Residential Density; Additional Adequate Sites

(a) Each city, county, or city and county shall ensure that its housing element inventory described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 or its housing element program to make sites available pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 can accommodate, at all times throughout the planning period, its remaining unmet share of the regional housing need allocated pursuant to Section 65584, except as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (c). At no time, except as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (c), shall a city, county, or city and county by administrative, quasi-judicial, legislative, or other action permit or cause its inventory of sites identified in the housing element to be insufficient to meet its remaining unmet share of the regional housing need for lower and moderate-income households.

(b) (1) No city, county, or city and county shall, by administrative, quasi-judicial, legislative, or other action, reduce, or require or permit the reduction of, the residential density for any parcel to, or allow development of any parcel at, a lower residential density, as defined in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (g), unless the city, county, or city and county by administrative, quasi-judicial, legislative, or other action permit or cause its inventory of sites identified in the housing element to be insufficient to meet its remaining unmet share of the regional housing need for lower and moderate-income households.

(A) The reduction is consistent with the adopted general plan, including the housing element.

(B) The remaining sites identified in the housing element are adequate to meet the requirements of Section 65583.2 and to accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. The finding shall include a quantification of the remaining unmet need for the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need at each income level and the remaining capacity of sites identified in the housing element to accommodate that need by income level.

(2) If a city, county, or city and county, by administrative, quasi-judicial, legislative, or other action, allows development of any parcel with fewer units by income category than identified in the jurisdiction’s housing element for that parcel, the city, county, or city and county shall make a written finding supported by substantial evidence as to whether or not remaining sites identified in the housing element are adequate to meet the requirements of Section 65583.2 and to accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. The finding shall include a quantification of the remaining unmet need for the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need at each income level and the remaining capacity of sites identified in the housing element to accommodate that need by income level.
(c) (1) If a reduction in residential density for any parcel would result in the remaining sites in the housing element not being adequate to meet the requirements of Section 65583.2 and to accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584, the jurisdiction may reduce the density on that parcel if it identifies sufficient additional, adequate, and available sites with an equal or greater residential density in the jurisdiction so that there is no net loss of residential unit capacity.

(2) If the approval of a development project results in fewer units by income category than identified in the jurisdiction’s housing element for that parcel and the jurisdiction does not find that the remaining sites in the housing element are adequate to accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need by income level, the jurisdiction shall within 180 days identify and make available additional adequate sites to accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need by income level. Nothing in this section shall authorize a city, county, or city and county to disapprove a housing development project on the basis that approval of the housing project would require compliance with this paragraph.

(d) The requirements of this section shall be in addition to any other law that may restrict or limit the reduction of residential density.

(e) This section requires that a city, county, or city and county be solely responsible for compliance with this section, unless a project applicant requests in his or her initial application, as submitted, a density that would result in the remaining sites in the housing element not being adequate to accommodate the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. In that case, the city, county, or city and county may require the project applicant to comply with this section. The submission of an application for purposes of this subdivision does not depend on the application being deemed complete or being accepted by the city, county, or city and county.

(f) This section shall not be construed to apply to parcels that, prior to January 1, 2003, were either (1) subject to a development agreement, or (2) parcels for which an application for a subdivision map had been submitted.

(g) (1) If the local jurisdiction has adopted a housing element for the current planning period that is in substantial compliance with Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3, for purposes of this section, “lower residential density” means the following:

(A) For sites on which the zoning designation permits residential use and that are identified in the local jurisdiction’s housing element inventory described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, fewer units on the site than were projected by the jurisdiction to be accommodated on the site pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65583.2.

(B) For sites that have been or will be rezoned pursuant to the local jurisdiction’s housing element program described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583, fewer units for the site than were projected to be developed on the site in the housing element program.

(2) (A) If the local jurisdiction has not adopted a housing element for the current planning period within 90 days of the deadline established by Section 65588 or the adopted housing element is not in substantial compliance with Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3 within 180 days of the deadline established by Section 65588, “lower residential density” means any of the following:

(i) For residually zoned sites, a density that is lower than 80 percent of the maximum allowable residential density for that parcel or 80 percent of the maximum density required by paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583.2, whichever is greater.

(ii) For sites on which residential and nonresidential uses are permitted, a use that would result in the development of fewer than 80 percent of the number of residential units that would be allowed under the maximum residential density for the site parcel or 80 percent of the maximum density required by paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583.2, whichever is greater.
(B) If the council of governments fails to complete a final housing need allocation pursuant to the deadlines established by Section 65584.05, then for purposes of this paragraph, the deadline pursuant to Section 65588 shall be extended by a time period equal to the number of days of delay incurred by the council of governments in completing the final housing need allocation.

(h) An action that obligates a jurisdiction to identify and make available additional adequate sites for residential development pursuant to this section creates no obligation under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code) to identify, analyze, or mitigate the environmental impacts of that subsequent action to identify and make available additional adequate sites as a reasonably foreseeable consequence of that action. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as a determination as to whether or not the subsequent action by a city, county, or city and county to identify and make available additional adequate sites is a “project” for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).

(i) Notwithstanding Section 65803, this section shall also apply to a charter city.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 856, Sec. 7. (SB 1333) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65863.4. Multifamily Dwellings; Proposed Density Reductions; Approval of Nonconforming Use Ordinance Prior to Noticing Hearing; Notice; Hearing; Application

(a) Prior to noticing a public hearing on a proposed zoning ordinance or amendment to a zoning ordinance reducing the density permitted on property authorized for multifamily dwelling uses, the planning commission and legislative body shall approve a nonconforming use ordinance for multifamily dwellings that are involuntarily damaged or destroyed, which may be conditioned on the approval of an ordinance or amendment to a zoning ordinance reducing the density permitted on property authorized for multifamily dwelling uses.

(b) The planning commission and legislative body shall hold a public hearing on the proposed nonconforming use ordinance. Notice of the public hearing shall be given pursuant to Section 65090. If this hearing is held at the same time as a hearing under Section 65353 or 65854, notice for the hearings may be combined.

(c) A nonconforming multifamily dwelling ordinance need not apply to multifamily dwellings which have been abandoned for a specified period prior to being involuntarily damaged or destroyed, or to multifamily dwellings constituting a public nuisance prior to being involuntarily damaged or destroyed.

(d) For purposes of this section, “multifamily dwelling” means any structure designed for human habitation that has been divided into two or more legally created independent living quarters.

(e) This section shall not apply to either of the following:

(1) A city, county, or city and county that has adopted a nonconforming use ordinance that applies to multifamily dwellings that are involuntarily damaged or destroyed.

(2) A proposed zoning ordinance or amendment to a zoning ordinance reducing the density permitted on property authorized for multifamily dwelling uses, that has been requested by the owner of the property authorized for multifamily dwelling uses.

(f) Notwithstanding Section 65803, and except as provided in subdivision (e), this section shall also apply to a charter city.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 856, Sec. 8. (SB 1333) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65863.5. Change in Zoning or Grant of Variance or Conditional Permit; Notice

Whenever the zoning covering a property is changed from one zone to another or a zoning variance or conditional use permit is granted with respect to any property, the governing body of the city or county shall, within 30 days, notify the county assessor of such action.
Notwithstanding Section 65803, this section shall apply to charter cities.
(Amended (as added by Stats. 1975, Ch. 1022) by Stats. 1980, Ch. 411, Sec. 1. Effective July 11, 1980. Operative January 1, 1981.)

§ 65863.6. Limitation on Construction of Housing Units; Consideration; Findings
(a) In carrying out this chapter, each county and city shall consider the effect of ordinances adopted pursuant to this chapter on the housing needs of the region in which the local jurisdiction is situated and balance these needs against the public service needs of its residents and available fiscal and environmental resources. Any ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter which, by its terms, limits the number of housing units which may be constructed on an annual basis shall contain findings as to the public health, safety, and welfare of the city or county to be promoted by the adoption of the ordinance which justify reducing the housing opportunities of the region.
(b) Notwithstanding Section 65803, this section shall also apply to a charter city.
(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 856, Sec. 9. (SB 1333) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65863.7. Mobilehome Park; Conversion, Closure or Cessation; Impact Report; Notice to Residents; Hearing; Bankruptcy Exception; Fees; Application of Section
(a) Prior to the conversion of a mobilehome park to another use, except pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410) of Title 7), or prior to closure of a mobilehome park or cessation of use of the land as a mobilehome park, the person or entity proposing the change in use shall file a report on the impact of the conversion, closure, or cessation of use upon the displaced residents of the mobilehome park to be converted or closed. In determining the impact of the conversion, closure, or cessation of use on displaced mobilehome park residents, the report shall address the availability of adequate replacement housing in mobilehome parks and relocation costs.
(b) The person proposing the change in use shall provide a copy of the report to a resident of each mobilehome in the mobilehome park at least 15 days prior to the hearing, if any, on the impact report by the advisory agency, or if there is no advisory agency, by the legislative body.
(c) When the impact report is filed prior to the closure or cessation of use, the person or entity proposing the change shall provide a copy of the report to a resident of each mobilehome in the mobilehome park at the same time as the notice of the change is provided to the residents pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (g) of Section 798.56 of the Civil Code.
(d) When the impact report is filed prior to the closure or cessation of use, the person or entity filing the report or park resident may request, and shall have a right to, a hearing before the legislative body on the sufficiency of the report.
(e) The legislative body, or its delegated advisory agency, shall review the report, prior to any change of use, and may require, as a condition of the change, the person or entity to take steps to mitigate any adverse impact of the conversion, closure, or cessation of use on the ability of displaced mobilehome park residents to find adequate housing in a mobilehome park. The steps required to be taken to mitigate shall not exceed the reasonable costs of relocation.
(f) If the closure or cessation of use of a mobilehome park results from the entry of an order for relief in bankruptcy, the provisions of this section shall not be applicable.
(g) The legislative body may establish reasonable fees pursuant to Section 66016 to cover any costs incurred by the local agency in implementing this section and Section 65863.8. Those fees shall be paid by the person or entity proposing the change in use.
(h) This section is applicable to charter cities.
(i) This section is applicable when the closure, cessation, or change of use is the result of a decision by a local governmental entity or planning agency not to renew a conditional use permit or zoning variance
under which the mobilehome park has operated, or as a result of any other zoning or planning decision, action, or inaction. In this case, the local governmental agency is the person proposing the change in use for the purposes of preparing the impact report required by this section and is required to take steps to mitigate the adverse impact of the change as may be required in subdivision (e).

(j) This section is applicable when the closure, cessation, or change of use is the result of a decision by an enforcement agency, as defined in Section 18207 of the Health and Safety Code, to suspend the permit to operate the mobilehome park. In this case, the mobilehome park owner is the person proposing the change in use for purposes of preparing the impact report required by this section and is required to take steps to mitigate the adverse impact of the change as may be required in subdivision (e).

(Amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 500, Sec. 47. (AB 1059) Effective January 1, 2010.)

§ 65863.8. Mobilehome Park; Conversion to Other Use; Notice to Residents and Owners of Mobilehomes
(a) A local agency to which application has been made for the conversion of a mobilehome park to another use shall, at least 30 days prior to a hearing or any other action on the application, inform the applicant in writing of the provisions of Section 798.56 of the Civil Code and all applicable local requirements which impose upon the applicant a duty to notify residents and mobilehome owners of the mobilehome park of the proposed change in use, and shall specify therein the manner in which the applicant shall verify that residents and mobilehome owners of the mobilehome park have been notified of the proposed change in use. Neither a hearing on the application, nor any other action thereon, shall be taken by the local agency before the applicant has satisfactorily verified that the residents and mobilehome owners have been so notified, in the manner prescribed by law or local regulation.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 65803, this section shall also apply to a charter city.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 856, Sec. 10. (SB 1333) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65863.9. Expiration; Local Agency Permits Issued in Conjunction with Tentative Subdivision Map; Coastal Development Permits
Unless an earlier expiration appears on the face of the permit, any permit which is issued by a local agency in conjunction with a tentative subdivision map for a planned unit development shall expire no sooner than the approved tentative map, or any extension thereof, whichever occurs later.

Local coastal development permits issued by a local agency in conjunction with a tentative subdivision map for a planned unit development shall expire no sooner than the approved tentative map, and any extension of the map shall be in accordance with the applicable local coastal program, if any, which is in effect.

(Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 990, Sec. 1.)

§ 65863.10. Defined Terms; Notice of Termination of Subsidy Contract or Prepayment of Governmental Assistance or Expiration of Rental Restrictions; Exemptions; Contents of Notice; Persons to Receive Notice; Service of Notice; Compliance; Injunctive Relief
(a) As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Affected public entities” means the mayor of the city in which the assisted housing development is located, or, if located in an unincorporated area, the chair of the board of supervisors of the county; the appropriate local public housing authority, if any; and the Department of Housing and Community Development.
(2) “Affected tenant” means a tenant household residing in an assisted housing development, as defined in paragraph (3), at the time notice is required to be provided pursuant to this section, that benefits from the government assistance.

(3) “Assisted housing development” means a multifamily rental housing development that receives governmental assistance under any of the following programs:

(A) New construction, substantial rehabilitation, moderate rehabilitation, property disposition, and loan management set-aside programs, or any other program providing project-based assistance, under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1437f).

(B) The following federal programs:

(i) The Below-Market-Interest-Rate Program under Section 221(d)(3) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. Sec. 1715 l(d)(3) and (5)).

(ii) Section 236 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. Sec. 1715z-1).


(C) Programs for rent supplement assistance under Section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, as amended (12 U.S.C. Sec. 1701s).

(D) Programs under Sections 514, 515, 516, 533, and 538 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1485).

(E) Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(F) Section 142(d) of the Internal Revenue Code or its predecessors (tax-exempt private activity mortgage revenue bonds).

(G) Section 147 of the Internal Revenue Code (Section 501(c)(3) bonds).

(H) Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (Community Development Block Grant Program).

(I) Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended (HOME Investment Partnership Program).

(J) Titles IV and V of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, as amended, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Supportive Housing Program, Shelter Plus Care Program, and surplus federal property disposition program.

(K) Grants and loans made by the Department of Housing and Community Development, including the Rental Housing Construction Program, CHRP-R, and other rental housing finance programs.


(M) The following assistance provided by counties or cities in exchange for restrictions on the maximum rents that may be charged for units within a multifamily rental housing development and on the maximum tenant income as a condition of eligibility for occupancy of the unit subject to the rent restriction, as reflected by a recorded agreement with a county or city:

(i) Loans or grants provided using tax increment financing pursuant to the Community Redevelopment Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code).

(ii) Local housing trust funds, as referred to in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 50843 of the Health and Safety Code.

(iii) The sale or lease of public property at or below market rates.

(iv) The granting of density bonuses, or concessions or incentives, including fee waivers, parking variances, or amendments to general plans, zoning, or redevelopment project area plans, pursuant to Chapter 4.3 (commencing with Section 65915).

Assistance pursuant to this subparagraph shall not include the use of tenant-based Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1437f(o), excluding subparagraph (13) relating to project-based assistance). Restrictions shall not include any rent control or rent stabilization ordinance imposed by a county, city, or city and county.
(4) “City” means a general law city, a charter city, or a city and county.
(5) “Expiration of rental restrictions” means the expiration of rental restrictions for an assisted housing development described in paragraph (3) unless the development has other recorded agreements restricting the rent to the same or lesser levels for at least 50 percent of the units.
(6) “Low or moderate income” means having an income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.
(7) “Prepayment” means the payment in full or refinancing of the federally insured or federally held mortgage indebtedness prior to its original maturity date, or the voluntary cancellation of mortgage insurance, on an assisted housing development described in paragraph (3) that would have the effect of removing the current rent or occupancy or rent and occupancy restrictions contained in the applicable laws and the regulatory agreement.
(8) “Termination” means an owner’s decision not to extend or renew its participation in a federal, state, or local government subsidy program or private, nongovernmental subsidy program for an assisted housing development described in paragraph (3), either at or prior to the scheduled date of the expiration of the contract, that may result in an increase in tenant rents or a change in the form of the subsidy from project-based to tenant-based.
(9) “Very low income” means having an income as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) (1) At least 12 months prior to the anticipated date of the termination of a subsidy contract, the expiration of rental restrictions, or prepayment on an assisted housing development, the owner proposing the termination or prepayment of governmental assistance or the owner of an assisted housing development in which there will be the expiration of rental restrictions shall provide a notice of the proposed change to each affected tenant household residing in the assisted housing development at the time the notice is provided and to the affected public entities. An owner who meets the requirements of Section 65863.13 shall be exempt from providing that notice. The notice shall contain all of the following:
(A) In the event of termination, a statement that the owner intends to terminate the subsidy contract or rental restrictions upon its expiration date, or the expiration date of any contract extension thereto.
(B) In the event of the expiration of rental restrictions, a statement that the restrictions will expire, and in the event of prepayment, termination, or the expiration of rental restrictions whether the owner intends to increase rents during the 12 months following prepayment, termination, or the expiration of rental restrictions to a level greater than permitted under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code.
(C) In the event of prepayment, a statement that the owner intends to pay in full or refinance the federally insured or federally held mortgage indebtedness prior to its original maturity date, or voluntarily cancel the mortgage insurance.
(D) The anticipated date of the termination, prepayment of the federal or other program or expiration of rental restrictions, and the identity of the federal or other program described in subdivision (a).
(E) A statement that the proposed change would have the effect of removing the current low-income affordability restrictions in the applicable contract or regulatory agreement.
(F) A statement of the possibility that the housing may remain in the federal or other program after the proposed date of termination of the subsidy contract or prepayment if the owner elects to do so under the terms of the federal government’s or other program operator’s offer.
(G) A statement whether other governmental assistance will be provided to tenants residing in the development at the time of the termination of the subsidy contract or prepayment.
(H) A statement that a subsequent notice of the proposed change, including anticipated changes in rents, if any, for the development, will be provided at least six months prior to the anticipated date of termination of the subsidy contract, or expiration of rental restrictions, or prepayment.
(I) A statement of notice of opportunity to submit an offer to purchase, as required in Section 65863.11.
(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if an owner provides a copy of a federally required notice of
termination of a subsidy contract or prepayment at least 12 months prior to the proposed change to
each affected tenant household residing in the assisted housing development at the time the notice is
provided and to the affected public entities, the owner shall be deemed in compliance with this
subdivision, if the notice is in compliance with all federal laws. However, the federally required notice
does not satisfy the requirements of Section 65863.11.
(c) (1) At least six months prior to the anticipated date of termination of a subsidy contract, expiration of
rental restrictions or prepayment on an assisted housing development, the owner proposing the
termination or prepayment of governmental assistance or the owner of an assisted housing
development in which there will be the expiration of rental restrictions shall provide a notice of the
proposed change to each affected tenant household residing in the assisted housing development at the
time the notice is provided and to the affected public entities. An owner who meets the requirements of
Section 65863.13 shall be exempt from providing that notice.
(2) The notice to the tenants shall contain all of the following:
(A) The anticipated date of the termination or prepayment of the federal or other program, or the
expiration of rental restrictions, and the identity of the federal or other program, as described in
subdivision (a).
(B) The current rent and rent anticipated for the unit during the 12 months immediately following the
date of the prepayment or termination of the federal or other program, or expiration of rental
restrictions.
(C) A statement that a copy of the notice will be sent to the city, county, or city and county, where the
assisted housing development is located, to the appropriate local public housing authority, if any, and to
the Department of Housing and Community Development.
(D) A statement of the possibility that the housing may remain in the federal or other program after the
proposed date of subsidy termination or prepayment if the owner elects to do so under the terms of the
federal government’s or other program administrator’s offer or that a rent increase may not take place
due to the expiration of rental restrictions.
(E) A statement of the owner’s intention to participate in any current replacement subsidy program
made available to the affected tenants.
(F) The name and telephone number of the city, county, or city and county, the appropriate local public
housing authority, if any, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and a legal services
organization, that can be contacted to request additional written information about an owner’s
responsibilities and the rights and options of an affected tenant.
(3) In addition to the information provided in the notice to the affected tenant, the notice to the
affected public entities shall contain information regarding the number of affected tenants in the
project, the number of units that are government assisted and the type of assistance, the number of the
units that are not government assisted, the number of bedrooms in each unit that is government
assisted, and the ages and income of the affected tenants. The notice shall briefly describe the owner’s
plans for the project, including any timetables or deadlines for actions to be taken and specific
governmental approvals that are required to be obtained, the reason the owner seeks to terminate the
subsidy contract or prepay the mortgage, and any contacts the owner has made or is making with other
governmental agencies or other interested parties in connection with the notice. The owner shall also
attach a copy of any federally required notice of the termination of the subsidy contract or prepayment
that was provided at least six months prior to the proposed change. The information contained in the
notice shall be based on data that is reasonably available from existing written tenant and project
records.
(d) The owner proposing the termination or prepayment of governmental assistance or the owner of an assisted housing development in which there will be the expiration of rental restrictions shall provide additional notice of any significant changes to the notice required by subdivision (c) within seven business days to each affected tenant household residing in the assisted housing development at the time the notice is provided and to the affected public entities. “Significant changes” shall include, but not be limited to, any changes to the date of termination or prepayment, or expiration of rental restrictions or the anticipated new rent.

(e) (1) An owner who is subject to the requirements of this section shall also provide a copy of any notices issued to existing tenants pursuant to subdivision (b), (c), or (d) to any prospective tenant at the time he or she is interviewed for eligibility.

(2) The owner of an assisted housing development that is within three years of a scheduled expiration of rental restrictions shall also provide notice of the scheduled expiration of rental restrictions to any prospective tenant at the time he or she is interviewed for eligibility, and to existing tenants by posting the notice in an accessible location of the property. This notice shall also be provided to affected public entities. This paragraph is applicable only to owners of assisted housing developments where the rental restrictions are scheduled to expire after January 1, 2021.

(f) This section shall not require the owner to obtain or acquire additional information that is not contained in the existing tenant and project records, or to update any information in his or her records. The owner shall not be held liable for any inaccuracies contained in these records or from other sources, nor shall the owner be liable to any party for providing this information.

(g) (1) For purposes of this section, service of the notice to the affected tenants shall be made by first-class mail postage prepaid.

(2) For purposes of this section, service of notice to the city, county, city and county, appropriate local public housing authority, if any, and the Department of Housing and Community Development shall be made by either first-class mail postage prepaid or electronically to any public entity that has provided an email address for that purpose.

(h) Nothing in this section shall enlarge or diminish the authority, if any, that a city, county, city and county, affected tenant, or owner may have, independent of this section.

(i) If, prior to January 1, 2001, the owner has already accepted a bona fide offer from a qualified entity, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 65863.11, and has complied with this section as it existed prior to January 1, 2001, at the time the owner decides to sell or otherwise dispose of the development, the owner shall be deemed in compliance with this section.

(j) Injunctive relief shall be available to any party identified in paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) who is aggrieved by a violation of this section. Injunctive relief pursuant to this subdivision may include, but is not limited to, reimposition of the prior restrictions until any required notice is provided and the required period has elapsed, and restitution of any rent increases collected without compliance with this section. In a judicial action brought pursuant to this subdivision, the court may award attorney’s fees and costs to a prevailing plaintiff.

(k) The Director of Housing and Community Development shall approve forms to be used by owners to comply with subdivisions (b) and (c). Once the director has approved the forms, an owner shall use the approved forms to comply with subdivisions (b) and (c).

(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 377, Sec. 1. (AB 1521) Effective January 1, 2018.)

§ 65863.11. Assisted Housing Developments; Termination of Subsidy Contract, Prepayment of Mortgage, Sale or Other Disposition of Property; Requirements; Notice to Qualified Entities of Opportunity to Purchase; Bona Fide Offers; Appraisal; Exclusions; Certification of Compliance

(a) Terms used in this section shall be defined as follows:
(1) “Assisted housing development” and “development” mean a multifamily rental housing development of five or more units as defined in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10.
(2) “Owner” means an individual, corporation, association, partnership, joint venture, or business entity that holds title to an assisted housing development.
(3) “Tenant” means a tenant, subtenant, lessee, sublessee, or other person legally in possession or occupying the assisted housing development.
(4) “Tenant association” means a group of tenants who have formed a nonprofit corporation, cooperative corporation, or other entity or organization, or a local nonprofit, regional, or national organization whose purpose includes the acquisition of an assisted housing development and that represents the interest of at least a majority of the tenants in the assisted housing development.
(5) “Low or moderate income” means having an income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.
(6) “Very low income” means having an income as defined in Section 50105 of the Health and Safety Code.
(7) “Local nonprofit organizations” means not-for-profit corporations organized pursuant to Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000) of Title 1 of the Corporations Code that have as their principal purpose the ownership, development, or management of housing or community development projects for persons and families of low or moderate income and very low income, and which have a broadly representative board, a majority of whose members are community based and have a proven track record of local community service.
(8) “Local public agencies” means housing authorities, redevelopment agencies, or any other agency of a city, county, or city and county, whether general law or chartered, which are authorized to own, develop, or manage housing or community development projects for persons and families of low or moderate income and very low income.
(9) “Regional or national organizations” means not-for-profit, charitable corporations organized on a multicounty, state, or multistate basis that have as their principal purpose the ownership, development, or management of housing or community development projects for persons and families of low or moderate income and very low income and own and operate at least three comparable rent- and income-restricted affordable rental properties governed under a regulatory agreement with a department or agency of the State of California or the United States, either directly or by serving as the managing general partner of limited partnerships or managing member of limited liability corporations.
(10) “Regional or national public agencies” means multicounty, state, or multistate agencies that are authorized to own, develop, or manage housing or community development projects for persons and families of low or moderate income and very low income and own and operate at least three comparable rent- and income-restricted affordable rental properties governed under a regulatory agreement with a department or agency of the State of California or the United States, either directly or by serving as the managing general partner of limited partnerships or managing member of limited liability corporations.
(11) “Use restriction” means any federal, state, or local statute, regulation, ordinance, or contract that, as a condition of receipt of any housing assistance, including a rental subsidy, mortgage subsidy, or mortgage insurance, to an assisted housing development, establishes maximum limitations on tenant income as a condition of eligibility for occupancy of the units within a development, imposes any restrictions on the maximum rents that could be charged for any of the units within a development; or requires that rents for any of the units within a development be reviewed by any governmental body or agency before the rents are implemented.
(12) “Profit-motivated housing organizations and individuals” means individuals or two or more persons organized pursuant to Division 1 (commencing with Section 100) of Title 1 of, Division 3 (commencing
with Section 1200) of Title 1 of, or Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 16100) of Title 2 of, the Corporations Code, that carry on as a business for profit and own and operate at least three comparable rent- and income-restricted affordable rental properties governed under a regulatory agreement with a department or agency of the State of California or the United States, either directly or by serving as the managing general partner of limited partnerships or managing member of limited liability corporations.

(13) “Department” means the Department of Housing and Community Development.

(14) “Offer to purchase” means an offer from a qualified or nonqualified entity that is nonbinding on the owner.

(15) “Expiration of rental restrictions” has the meaning given in paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10.

(b) An owner of an assisted housing development shall not terminate a subsidy contract or prepay the mortgage pursuant to Section 65863.10, unless the owner or its agent shall first have provided each of the entities listed in subdivision (d) an opportunity to submit an offer to purchase the development, in compliance with subdivisions (g) and (h). An owner of an assisted housing development in which there will be the expiration of rental restrictions shall also provide each of the entities listed in subdivision (d) an opportunity to submit an offer to purchase the development, in compliance with subdivisions (g) and (h). An owner who meets the requirements of Section 65863.13 shall be exempt from this requirement.

(c) An owner of an assisted housing development shall not sell, or otherwise dispose of, the development at any time within the five years before the expiration of rental restrictions or at any time if the owner is eligible for prepayment or termination within five years unless the owner or its agent shall first have provided each of the entities listed in subdivision (d) an opportunity to submit an offer to purchase the development, in compliance with this section. An owner who meets the requirements of Section 65863.13 shall be exempt from this requirement.

(d) The entities to whom an opportunity to purchase shall be provided include only the following:

(1) The tenant association of the development.
(2) Local nonprofit organizations and public agencies.
(3) Regional or national nonprofit organizations and regional or national public agencies.
(4) Profit-motivated housing organizations or individuals.

(e) For the purposes of this section, to qualify as a purchaser of an assisted housing development, an entity listed in subdivision (d) shall do all of the following:

(1) Be certified by the department, based on demonstrated relevant prior experience in California and current capacity, as capable of operating the housing and related facilities for its remaining useful life, either by itself or through a management agent. The department shall establish a process for certifying qualified entities and maintain a list of entities that are certified, which list shall be updated at least annually.
(2) Agree to obligate itself and any successors in interest to maintain the affordability of the assisted housing development for households of very low, low, or moderate income for either a 30-year period from the date that the purchaser took legal possession of the housing or the remaining term of the existing federal government assistance specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10, whichever is greater. The development shall be continuously occupied in the approximate percentages that those households who have occupied that development on the date the owner gave notice of intent or the approximate percentages specified in existing use restrictions, whichever is higher. This obligation shall be recorded before the close of escrow in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the development is located and shall contain a legal description of the property, indexed to the name of the owner as grantor. An owner that obligates itself to an enforceable regulatory agreement that will ensure for a period of not less than 30 years that rents for units occupied by low- and very low income households or that are vacant at the time of executing a purchase agreement will conform with
restrictions imposed by Section 42(f) of the Internal Revenue Code shall be deemed in compliance with this paragraph. In addition, the regulatory agreement shall contain provisions requiring the renewal of rental subsidies, should they be available, provided that assistance is at a level to maintain the project’s fiscal viability.

(3) Local nonprofit organizations and public agencies shall have no member among their officers or directorate with a financial interest in assisted housing developments that have terminated a subsidy contract or prepaid a mortgage on the development without continuing the low-income restrictions. (f) If an assisted housing development is not economically feasible, as determined by all entities with regulatory agreements and deed-restrictions on the development, a purchaser shall be entitled to remove one or more units from the rent and occupancy requirements as is necessary for the development to become economically feasible, provided that once the development is again economically feasible, the purchaser shall designate the next available units as low-income units up to the original number of those units.

(g) If an owner decides to terminate a subsidy contract, or prepay the mortgage pursuant to Section 65863.10, or sell or otherwise dispose of the assisted housing development pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c), or if the owner has an assisted housing development in which there will be the expiration of rental restrictions, the owner shall first give notice of the opportunity to offer to purchase to each qualified entity on the list provided to the owner by the department, in accordance with subdivision (o), as well as to those qualified entities that directly contact the owner. The notice of the opportunity to offer to purchase must be given before or concurrently with the notice required pursuant to Section 65863.10 for a period of at least 12 months. The owner shall contact the department to obtain the list of qualified entities. The notice shall conform to the requirements of subdivision (h) and shall be sent to the entities by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. The owner shall also post a copy of the notice in a conspicuous place in the common area of the development.

(h) The initial notice of a bona fide opportunity to submit an offer to purchase shall contain all of the following:

(1) A statement addressing all of the following:
   (A) Whether the owner intends to maintain the current number of affordable units and level of affordability.
   (B) Whether the owner has an interest in selling the property.
   (C) Whether the owner has executed a contract or agreement of at least five years’ duration with a public entity to continue or replace subsidies to the property and to maintain an equal or greater number of units at an equal or deeper level of affordability and, if so, the length of the contract or agreement.

(2) A statement that each of the type of entities listed in subdivision (d), or any combination of them, has the right to purchase the development under this section.

(3) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a statement that the owner will make available to each of the types of entities listed in subdivision (d), within 15 business days of receiving a request therefor, that includes all of the following:
   (i) Itemized lists of monthly operating expenses for the property.
   (ii) Capital improvements, as determined by the owner, made within each of the two preceding calendar years at the property.
   (iii) The amount of project property reserves.
   (iv) Copies of the two most recent financial and physical inspection reports on the property, if any, filed with a federal, state, or local agency.
(v) The most recent rent roll for the property listing the rent paid for each unit and the subsidy, if any, paid by a governmental agency as of the date the notice of intent was made pursuant to Section 65863.10.
(vi) A statement of the vacancy rate at the property for each of the two preceding calendar years.
(vii) The terms of assumable financing, if any, the terms of the subsidy contract, if any, and proposed improvements to the property to be made by the owner in connection with the sale, if any.
(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply if 25 percent or less of the units on the property are subject to affordability restrictions or a rent or mortgage subsidy contract.
(C) A corporation authorized pursuant to Section 52550 of the Health and Safety Code or a public entity may share information obtained pursuant to subparagraph (A) with other prospective purchasers, and shall not be required to sign a confidentiality agreement as a condition of receiving or sharing this information, provided that the information is used for the purpose of attempting to preserve the affordability of the property.
(4) A statement that the owner has satisfied all notice requirements pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 65863.10, unless the notice of opportunity to submit an offer to purchase is delivered more than 12 months before the anticipated date of termination, prepayment, or expiration of rental restrictions.
(i) If a qualified entity elects to purchase an assisted housing development, it shall make a bona fide offer to purchase the development at the market value determined pursuant to subdivision (k), subject to the requirements of this subdivision. A qualified entity’s bona fide offer to purchase shall be submitted within 180 days of the owner’s notice of the opportunity to submit an offer pursuant to subdivision (g), identify whether it is a tenant association, nonprofit organization, public agency, or profit-motivated organizations or individuals, and certify, under penalty of perjury, that it is qualified pursuant to subdivision (e). If an owner has received a bona fide offer from a qualified entity within the first 180 days from the date of an owner’s bona fide notice of the opportunity to submit an offer to purchase, the owner shall not accept offers from any other entity and shall either accept the bona fide offer to purchase or declare under penalty of perjury in writing to the qualified entity and the department on a form approved by the department that it will not sell the property for at least five years from the date of the declaration. Once a bona fide offer is made, the owner shall take all steps reasonably required to renew any expiring housing assistance contract, or extend any available subsidies or use restrictions, if feasible, before the effective date of any expiration or termination. In the event that the owner declines to sell the property to the qualified entity, the owner shall record the declaration with the county in which the property is located. Once the owner has recorded the declaration, the owner shall be deemed to have fulfilled all obligations under this section.
(j) When a bona fide offer to purchase has been made that meets the requirements of this section and the owner wishes to sell, the owner shall accept the offer and execute a purchase agreement within 90 days of receipt of the offer.
(k) The market value of the property shall be determined by negotiation and agreement between the parties. If the parties fail to reach an agreement regarding the market value, the market value shall be determined by an appraisal process initiated by the owner’s receipt of the bona fide offer, which shall specifically reference the appraisal process provided by this subdivision as the means for determining the final purchase price. Either the owner or the qualified entity, or both, may request that the fair market value of the property’s highest and best use, based on current zoning, be determined by an independent appraiser qualified to perform multifamily housing appraisals, who shall be selected and paid by the requesting party. All appraisers shall possess qualifications equivalent to those required by the members of the Appraisal Institute and shall be certified by the department as having sufficient experience in appraising comparable rental properties in California. If the appraisals differ by less than 5 percent, the market value and sales price shall be set at the higher appraised value. If the appraisals
differ by more than 5 percent, the parties may elect to have the appraisers negotiate a mutually
agreeable market value and sales price, or to jointly select a third appraiser, whose determination of
market value and the sales price shall be binding.
(l) During the 180-day period following the initial 180-day period required pursuant to subdivision (i), an
owner may accept an offer from a person or an entity that does not qualify under subdivision (e). This
acceptance shall be made subject to the owner’s providing each qualified entity that made a bona fide
offer to purchase the first opportunity to purchase the development at the same terms and conditions
as the pending offer to purchase, unless these terms and conditions are modified by mutual consent.
The owner shall notify in writing those qualified entities of the terms and conditions of the pending offer
to purchase, sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. The qualified entity shall have
30 days from the date the notice is mailed to submit a bona fide offer to purchase and that offer shall be
accepted by the owner. The owner shall not be required to comply with the provisions of this
subdivision if the person or the entity making the offer during this time period agrees to maintain the
development for persons and families of very low, low, and moderate income in accordance with
paragraph (2) of subdivision (e). The owner shall notify the department regarding how the buyer is
meeting the requirements of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e).
(m) This section does not apply to any of the following: a government taking by eminent domain or
negotiated purchase; a forced sale pursuant to a foreclosure; a transfer by gift, devise, or operation of
law; a sale to a person who would be included within the table of descent and distribution if there were
to be a death intestate of an owner; or an owner who certifies, under penalty of perjury, the existence
of a financial emergency during the period covered by the first right of refusal requiring immediate
access to the proceeds of the sale of the development. The certification shall be made pursuant to
subdivision (p).
(n) Prior to the close of escrow, an owner selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of a development to a
purchaser who does not qualify under subdivision (e) shall certify under penalty of perjury that the
owner has complied with all provisions of this section and Section 65863.10. This certification shall be
recorded and shall contain a legal description of the property, shall be indexed to the name of the
owner as grantor, and may be relied upon by good faith purchasers and encumbrances for value and
without notice of a failure to comply with the provisions of this section.
A person or entity acting solely in the capacity of an escrow agent for the transfer of real property
subject to this section shall not be liable for any failure to comply with this section unless the escrow
agent either had actual knowledge of the requirements of this section or acted contrary to written
escrow instructions concerning the provisions of this section.
(o) The department shall undertake the following responsibilities and duties:
(1) Maintain a form containing a summary of rights and obligations under this section and make that
information available to owners of assisted housing developments as well as to tenant associations,
local nonprofit organizations, regional or national nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and other
entities with an interest in preserving the state’s subsidized housing.
(2) Compile, maintain, and update a list of entities in subdivision (d) that have either contacted the
department with an expressed interest in purchasing a development in the subject area or have been
identified by the department as potentially having an interest in participating in a right-of-first-refusal
program. The department shall publicize the existence of the list statewide. Upon receipt of a notice of
intent under Section 65863.10, the department shall make the list available to the owner proposing the
termination, prepayment, or removal of government assistance or to the owner of an assisted housing
development in which there will be the expiration of rental restrictions. If the department does not
make the list available at any time, the owner shall only be required to send a written copy of the
opportunity to submit an offer to purchase notice to the qualified entities which directly contact the
owner and to post a copy of the notice in the common area pursuant to subdivision (g).
(3) (A) Monitor compliance with this section and Sections 65863.10 and 65863.13 by owners of assisted
housing developments and, notwithstanding Section 10231.5, provide a report to the Legislature, on or
before March 31, 2019, and on or before March 31 each year thereafter, containing information for the
previous year that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
(i) The number of properties and rental units subject to this section and Sections 65863.10 and
65863.13.
(ii) The number of properties and units that did any of the following:
(I) Complied with the requirements of this section and Sections 65863.10 and 65863.13.
(II) Failed to comply with the requirements of this section and Sections 65863.10 and 65863.13.
(III) Were offered for sale and therefore subject to the purchase right provisions of this section.
(IV) Were offered for sale and complied with the purchase right provisions of this section and the
outcomes of the purchase right actions, including whether the property changed hands, to whom, and
with what impact on affordability protections.
(V) Were offered for sale and failed to comply with the purchase right provisions of this section, the
reason for their failure to comply, and the impact of their failure to comply on the affordability
protections and the tenants who were residing in the property at the time of the failure.
(VI) Claimed exemptions from the obligations of this section pursuant to Section 65863.13 by category
of reason for exemption.
(VII) Claimed exemptions from the obligations of this section and lost affordability protections and the
impact on the tenants of the loss of the affordability protections.
(VIII) Were not offered for sale and complied with the requirement to properly execute and record a
declaration.
(IX) Were not for sale and failed to comply with the requirement to properly execute and record a
declaration.
(B) To facilitate the department’s compliance monitoring owners of assisted housing developments in
which at least 25 percent of the units on the property are subject to affordability restrictions or a rent or
mortgage subsidy contract shall certify compliance with this section and Sections 65863.10 and
65863.13 to the department annually, under penalty of perjury, in a form as required by the
department.
(C) The report required to be submitted pursuant to this paragraph shall be submitted in compliance
with Section 9795.
(4) Refer violations of this section and Sections 65863.10 and 65863.13 to the Attorney General for
appropriate enforcement action.
(p) (1) The provisions of this section may be enforced either in law or in equity by any qualified entity
entitled to exercise the opportunity to purchase and right of first refusal under this section or any tenant
association at the property or any affected public entity that has been adversely affected by an owner’s
failure to comply with this section. In any judicial action brought pursuant to this subdivision, the court
may waive any bond requirement and may award attorney’s fees and costs to a prevailing plaintiff.
(2) An owner may rely on the statements, claims, or representations of any person or entity that the
person or entity is a qualified entity as specified in subdivision (d), unless the owner has actual
knowledge that the purchaser is not a qualified entity.
(3) If the person or entity is not an entity as specified in subdivision (d), that fact, in the absence of
actual knowledge as described in paragraph (2), shall not give rise to any claim against the owner for a
violation of this section.
(q) It is the intent of the Legislature that the provisions of this section are in addition to, but not preemptive of, applicable federal laws governing the sale or other disposition of a development that would result in either (1) a discontinuance of its use as an assisted housing development or (2) the termination or expiration of any low-income use restrictions that apply to the development.

(r) This section does not apply to either of the following:

(1) An assisted housing development as described in clause (iv) of subparagraph (M) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10 in which 25 percent or less of the units are subject to affordability restrictions.

(2) An assisted housing development in which 25 percent or less of the units are subject to affordability restrictions that was developed in compliance with a local ordinance, charter amendment, specific plan, resolution, or other land use policy or regulation requiring that a housing development contain a fixed percentage of units affordable to extremely low, very low, low-, or moderate-income households.

(s) The department shall comply with any obligations under this section through the use of standards, forms, and definitions adopted by the department. The department may review, adopt, amend, and repeal the standards, forms, or definitions to implement this section. Any standards, forms, or definitions adopted to implement this section shall not be subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 92, Sec. 118. (SB 1289) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65863.12. Closure, Cessation or Change of Use of Floating Home Marina; Impact Report; Copy to Residents; Mitigation of Impact; Fees

(a) Prior to the conversion of a floating home marina to another use, except pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410) of Title 7), or prior to closure of a floating home marina or cessation of use of the land as a floating home marina, the person or entity proposing the change in use shall file a report on the impact of the conversion, closure, or cessation of use upon the displaced residents of the floating home marina to be converted or closed. In determining the impact of the conversion, closure, or cessation of use on displaced floating home marina residents, the report shall address the availability of adequate replacement housing in floating home marinas and relocation costs.

(b) The person proposing the change in use shall provide a copy of the report to a resident of each floating home in the floating home marina at least 15 days prior to the hearing, if any, on the impact report by the advisory agency, or if there is no advisory agency, by the legislative body.

(c) When the impact report is filed prior to the closure or cessation of use, the person or entity proposing the change shall provide a copy of the report to a resident of each floating home in the floating home marina at the same time as the notice of the change is provided to the residents pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 800.71 of the Civil Code.

(d) When the impact report is filed prior to the closure or cessation of use, the person or entity filing the report or any resident may request, and shall have a right to, a hearing before the legislative body on the sufficiency of the report.

(e) The legislative body, or its delegated advisory agency, shall review the report, prior to any change of use, and may require, as a condition of the change, the person or entity to take steps to mitigate any adverse impact of the conversion, closure, or cessation of use on the ability of displaced floating home marina residents to find adequate housing in a floating home marina. The steps required to be taken to mitigate shall not exceed the reasonable costs of relocation.

(f) If the closure or cessation of use of a floating home marina results from the entry of an order for relief in bankruptcy, the provisions of this section shall not be applicable.
(g) The legislative body may establish reasonable fees pursuant to Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 54990) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 to cover any costs incurred by the local agency in implementing this section. Those fees shall be paid by the person or entity proposing the change in use.

(h) This section is applicable to charter cities.

(i) This section is applicable when the closure, cessation, or change of use is the result of a decision by a local governmental entity or planning agency not to renew a conditional use permit or zoning variance under which the floating home marina has operated, or as a result of any other zoning or planning decision, action, or inaction. However, a state or local governmental agency is not required to take steps to mitigate the adverse impact of the change pursuant to subdivision (e).

(j) This section applies to any floating home marina as defined in Section 800.4 of the Civil Code, and to any marina or harbor (1) which is managed by a nonprofit organization, the property, assets, and profits of which may not inure to any individual or group of individuals, but only to another nonprofit organization; (2) the rules and regulations of which are set by majority vote of the berthholders thereof; and (3) which contains berths for fewer than 25 floating homes.

(Amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 500, Sec. 48. (AB 1059) Effective January 1, 2010.)

§ 65863.13. Assisted Housing Developments; Exception to Notice Prior to Prepayment or Disposition of Property; Required Provisions in Recorded Regulatory Agreement; Regulatory Agreement Defined; Exemption

(a) An owner shall not be required to provide a notice as required by Section 65863.10 or 65863.11 if all of the following conditions are contained in a regulatory agreement that has been or will be recorded against the property at the close of escrow of the sale of the property and the owner of the property complies with the requirements below during the escrow period:

1. No low-income tenant whose rent was restricted and or subsidized and who resides in the development within 12 months of the date that the rent restrictions are, or subsidy is, scheduled to expire or terminate shall be involuntarily displaced on a permanent basis as a result of the action by the owner unless the tenant has breached the terms of the lease.

2. The owner shall accept and fully utilize all renewals of project-based assistance under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, if available, and if that assistance is at a level to maintain the project’s fiscal viability. The property shall be deemed fiscally viable if the rents permitted under the terms of the assistance are not less than the regulated rent levels established pursuant to paragraph (7).

3. The owner shall accept all enhanced Section 8 vouchers, if the tenants receive them, and all other Section 8 vouchers for future vacancies.

4. The owner shall not terminate a tenancy of a low-income household at the end of a lease term without demonstrating a breach of the lease.

5. The owner may, in selecting eligible applicants for admission, utilize criteria that permit consideration of the amount of income, as long as the owner adequately considers other factors relevant to an applicant’s ability to pay rent.

6. For assisted housing developments described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10, a new regulatory agreement, consistent with this section, is recorded that restricts the rents and incomes of the previously restricted units, except as provided in paragraph (7), (8), or (9), to an equal or greater level of affordability than previously required so that the units are affordable to households at the same or a lower percentage of area median income.

7. For housing developments that have units with project-based rental assistance upon the effective date of prepayment and subsequently become unassisted by any form of rental assistance, rents shall not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of the area median income. If any form of rental assistance is or becomes available, the owner shall apply for and accept, if awarded, the rental assistance. Rent and
occupancy levels shall then be set in accordance with federal regulations for the rental assistance program.

(8) For units that do not have project-based rental assistance upon the effective date of prepayment of a federally insured, federally held, or formerly federally insured or held mortgage and subsequently remain unassisted or become unassisted by any form of rental assistance, rents shall not exceed the greater of (i) 30 percent of 50 percent of the area median income, or (ii) for projects insured under Section 241(f) of the National Housing Act, the regulated rents, expressed as a percentage of area median income. If any form of rental assistance is or becomes available, the owner shall apply for and accept, if awarded, the rental assistance. Rent and occupancy levels shall then be set in accordance with federal regulations governing the rental assistance program.

(9) If, upon the recordation of the new regulatory agreement, any unit governed by regulatory agreement is occupied by a household whose income exceeds the applicable limit, the rent for that household shall not exceed 30 percent of that household’s adjusted income, provided that household’s rent shall not be increased by more than 10 percent annually.

(b) As used in this section, “regulatory agreement” means an agreement with a governmental agency for the purposes of any governmental program, which agreement applies to the development that would be subject to the notice requirement in Section 65863.10 and which obligates the owner and any successors in interest to maintain the affordability of the assisted housing development for households of very low, low, or moderate income for the greater of the term of the existing federal, state, or local government assistance specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65863.10 or 30 years.

(c) Section 65863.11 shall not apply to any development for which the owner is exempt from the notice requirements of Section 65863.10 pursuant to this section.

(Amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 308, Sec. 3. (SB 454) Effective January 1, 2011.)

GOVERNMENT CODE - GOV
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]
(Heading of Title 7 amended by stats. 1974, ch. 1536.)
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]
(Heading of Division 1 added by stats. 1974, ch. 1536.)
CHAPTER 4.2. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS [65913 - 65914]
(Chapter 4.2 added by stats. 1980, ch. 1152.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=1.&title=7.&part=&chapter=4.2.&article=

§ 65913. Legislative Findings and Declarations
(a) The Legislature finds and declares that there exists a severe shortage of affordable housing, especially for persons and families of low and moderate income, and that there is an immediate need to encourage the development of new housing, not only through the provision of financial assistance, but also through changes in law designed to do all of the following:
1. Expedite the local and state residential development process.
2. Assure that local governments zone sufficient land at densities high enough for production of affordable housing.
3. Assure that local governments make a diligent effort through the administration of land use and development controls and the provision of regulatory concessions and incentives to significantly reduce housing development costs and thereby facilitate the development of affordable housing, including housing for elderly persons and families, as defined by Section 50067 of the Health and Safety Code. These changes in the law are consistent with the responsibility of local government to adopt the program required by subdivision (c) of Section 65583.

(b) The Legislature further finds and declares that the costs of new housing developments have been increased, in part, by the existing permit process and by existing land use regulations and that vitally needed housing developments have been halted or rendered infeasible despite the benefits to the public health, safety, and welfare of those developments and despite the absence of adverse environmental impacts. It is, therefore, necessary to enact this chapter and to amend existing statutes which govern housing development so as to provide greater encouragement for local and state governments to approve needed and sound housing developments.

(Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1117, Sec. 1.)

§ 65913.1. Zoning Sufficient Vacant Land for Residential Use with Appropriate Standards
(a) In exercising its authority to zone for land uses and in revising its housing element pursuant to Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3, a city, county, or city and county shall designate and zone sufficient vacant land for residential use with appropriate standards, in relation to zoning for nonresidential use, and in relation to growth projections of the general plan to meet housing needs for all income categories as identified in the housing element of the general plan. For the purposes of this section:

1. “Appropriate standards” means densities and requirements with respect to minimum floor areas, building setbacks, rear and side yards, parking, the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a structure, amenities, and other requirements imposed on residential lots pursuant to the zoning
authority which contribute significantly to the economic feasibility of producing housing at the lowest possible cost given economic and environmental factors, the public health and safety, and the need to facilitate the development of housing affordable to persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, and to persons and families of lower income, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code. However, nothing in this section shall be construed to enlarge or diminish the authority of a city, county, or city and county to require a developer to construct this housing.

(2) “Vacant land” does not include agricultural preserves pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 5.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a city, county, or city and county in which less than 5 percent of the total land area is undeveloped to zone a site within an urbanized area of that city, county, or city and county for residential uses at densities that exceed those on adjoining residential parcels by 100 percent. For the purposes of this section, “urbanized area” means a central city or cities and surrounding closely settled territory, as defined by the United States Department of Commerce Bureau of the Census in the Federal Register, Volume 39, Number 85, for Wednesday, May 1, 1974, at pages 15202-15203, and as periodically updated.

(Amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 939, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2002.)

§ 65913.2. Limitations on Local Government Regulation of Subdivisions
In exercising its authority to regulate subdivisions under Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410), a city, county, or city and county shall:

(a) Refrain from imposing criteria for design, as defined in Section 66418, or improvements, as defined in Section 66419, for the purpose of rendering infeasible the development of housing for any and all economic segments of the community. However, nothing in this section shall be construed to enlarge or diminish the authority of a city, county, or city and county under other provisions of law to permit a developer to construct such housing.

(b) Consider the effect of ordinances adopted and actions taken by it with respect to the housing needs of the region in which the local jurisdiction is situated.

(c) Refrain from imposing standards and criteria for public improvements including, but not limited to, streets, sewers, fire stations, schools, or parks, which exceed the standards and criteria being applied by the city, county, or city and county at that time to its publicly financed improvements located in similarly zoned districts within that city, county, or city and county.

(Amended by Stats. 1983, Ch. 367, Sec. 1.)

§ 65913.4. Submission of Application for Development Subject to Streamlined, Ministerial Approval Process; Satisfaction of Objective Planning Standards; Documentation of Conflict with Objective Planning Standards; Design Review or Public Oversight; Parking Standards; Duration of Approval
(a) A development proponent may submit an application for a development that is subject to the streamlined, ministerial approval process provided by subdivision (b) and is not subject to a conditional use permit if the development satisfies all of the following objective planning standards:

(1) The development is a multifamily housing development that contains two or more residential units. (2) The development is located on a site that satisfies all of the following:

(A) A site that is a legal parcel or parcels located in a city if, and only if, the city boundaries include some portion of either an urbanized area or urban cluster, as designated by the United States Census Bureau, or, for unincorporated areas, a legal parcel or parcels wholly within the boundaries of an urbanized area or urban cluster, as designated by the United States Census Bureau.
(B) A site in which at least 75 percent of the perimeter of the site adjoins parcels that are developed with urban uses. For the purposes of this section, parcels that are only separated by a street or highway shall be considered to be adjoined.

(C) A site that is zoned for residential use or residential mixed-use development, or has a general plan designation that allows residential use or a mix of residential and nonresidential uses, with at least two-thirds of the square footage of the development designated for residential use.

(3) (A) The development proponent has committed to record, prior to the issuance of the first building permit, a land use restriction or covenant providing that any lower income housing units required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) shall remain available at affordable housing costs or rent to persons and families of lower income for no less than the following periods of time:

(i) Fifty-five years for units that are rented.
(ii) Forty-five years for units that are owned.

(B) The city or county shall require the recording of covenants or restrictions implementing this paragraph for each parcel or unit of real property included in the development.

(4) The development satisfies both of the following:

(A) It is located in a locality that the department has determined is subject to this subparagraph on the basis that the number of units that have been issued building permits is less than the locality’s share of the regional housing needs, by income category, for that reporting period. A locality shall remain eligible under this subparagraph until the department’s determination for the next reporting period.

(B) The development is subject to a requirement mandating a minimum percentage of below market rate housing based on one of the following:

(i) The locality did not submit its latest production report to the department by the time period required by Section 65400, or that production report reflects that there were fewer units of above moderate-income housing issued building permits than were required for the regional housing needs assessment cycle for that reporting period. In addition, if the project contains more than 10 units of housing, the project seeking approval dedicates a minimum of 10 percent of the total number of units to housing affordable to households making below 80 percent of the area median income. If the locality has adopted a local ordinance that requires that greater than 10 percent of the units be dedicated to housing affordable to households making below 80 percent of the area median income, that local ordinance applies.

(ii) The locality’s latest production report reflects that there were fewer units of housing issued building permits affordable to either very low income or low-income households by income category than were required for the regional housing needs assessment cycle for that reporting period, and the project seeking approval dedicates 50 percent of the total number of units to housing affordable to households making below 80 percent of the area median income, unless the locality has adopted a local ordinance that requires that greater than 50 percent of the units be dedicated to housing affordable to households making below 80 percent of the area median income, in which case that local ordinance applies.

(iii) The locality did not submit its latest production report to the department by the time period required by Section 65400, or if the production report reflects that there were fewer units of housing affordable to both income levels described in clauses (i) and (ii) that were issued building permits than were required for the regional housing needs assessment cycle for that reporting period, the project seeking approval may choose between utilizing clause (i) or (ii).

(5) The development, excluding any additional density or any other concessions, incentives, or waivers of development standards granted pursuant to the Density Bonus Law in Section 65915, is consistent with objective zoning standards, objective subdivision standards, and objective design review standards in effect at the time that the development is submitted to the local government pursuant to this section. For purposes of this paragraph, “objective zoning standards,” “objective subdivision standards,” and
“objective design review standards” mean standards that involve no personal or subjective judgment by a public official and are uniformly verifiable by reference to an external and uniform benchmark or criterion available and knowable by both the development applicant or proponent and the public official before submittal. These standards may be embodied in alternative objective land use specifications adopted by a city or county, and may include, but are not limited to, housing overlay zones, specific plans, inclusionary zoning ordinances, and density bonus ordinances, subject to the following:

(A) A development shall be deemed consistent with the objective zoning standards related to housing density, as applicable, if the density proposed is compliant with the maximum density allowed within that land use designation, notwithstanding any specified maximum unit allocation that may result in fewer units of housing being permitted.

(B) In the event that objective zoning, general plan, subdivision, or design review standards are mutually inconsistent, a development shall be deemed consistent with the objective zoning and subdivision standards pursuant to this subdivision if the development is consistent with the standards set forth in the general plan.

(C) The amendments to this subdivision made by the act adding this subparagraph do not constitute a change in, but are declaratory of, existing law.

(6) The development is not located on a site that is any of the following:

(A) A coastal zone, as defined in Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code.

(B) Either prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance, as defined pursuant to United States Department of Agriculture land inventory and monitoring criteria, as modified for California, and designated on the maps prepared by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the Department of Conservation, or land zoned or designated for agricultural protection or preservation by a local ballot measure that was approved by the voters of that jurisdiction.

(C) Wetlands, as defined in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Manual, Part 660 FW 2 (June 21, 1993).

(D) Within a very high fire hazard severity zone, as determined by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection pursuant to Section 51178, or within a high or very high fire hazard severity zone as indicated on maps adopted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection pursuant to Section 4202 of the Public Resources Code. This subparagraph does not apply to sites excluded from the specified hazard zones by a local agency, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 51179, or sites that have adopted fire hazard mitigation measures pursuant to existing building standards or state fire mitigation measures applicable to the development.

(E) A hazardous waste site that is listed pursuant to Section 65962.5 or a hazardous waste site designated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to Section 25356 of the Health and Safety Code, unless the Department of Toxic Substances Control has cleared the site for residential use or residential mixed uses.

(F) Within a delineated earthquake fault zone as determined by the State Geologist in any official maps published by the State Geologist, unless the development complies with applicable seismic protection building code standards adopted by the California Building Standards Commission under the California Building Standards Law (Part 2.5 (commencing with Section 18901) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code), and by any local building department under Chapter 12.2 (commencing with Section 8875) of Division 1 of Title 2.

(G) Within a special flood hazard area subject to inundation by the 1 percent annual chance flood (100-year flood) as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in any official maps published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. If a development proponent is able to satisfy all applicable federal qualifying criteria in order to provide that the site satisfies this subparagraph and is
otherwise eligible for streamlined approval under this section, a local government shall not deny the application on the basis that the development proponent did not comply with any additional permit requirement, standard, or action adopted by that local government that is applicable to that site. A development may be located on a site described in this subparagraph if either of the following are met:

(i) The site has been subject to a Letter of Map Revision prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and issued to the local jurisdiction.

(ii) The site meets Federal Emergency Management Agency requirements necessary to meet minimum flood plain management criteria of the National Flood Insurance Program pursuant to Part 59 (commencing with Section 59.1) and Part 60 (commencing with Section 60.1) of Subchapter B of Chapter I of Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(H) Within a regulatory floodway as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in any official maps published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, unless the development has received a no-rise certification in accordance with Section 60.3(d)(3) of Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations. If a development proponent is able to satisfy all applicable federal qualifying criteria in order to provide that the site satisfies this subparagraph and is otherwise eligible for streamlined approval under this section, a local government shall not deny the application on the basis that the development proponent did not comply with any additional permit requirement, standard, or action adopted by that local government that is applicable to that site.

(I) Lands identified for conservation in an adopted natural community conservation plan pursuant to the Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 2800) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code), habitat conservation plan pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et seq.), or other adopted natural resource protection plan.

(J) Habitat for protected species identified as candidate, sensitive, or species of special status by state or federal agencies, fully protected species, or species protected by the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et seq.), the California Endangered Species Act (Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 2050) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code), or the Native Plant Protection Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 1900) of Division 2 of the Fish and Game Code).

(K) Lands under conservation easement.

(7) The development is not located on a site where any of the following apply:

(A) The development would require the demolition of the following types of housing:

(i) Housing that is subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of moderate, low, or very low income.

(ii) Housing that is subject to any form of rent or price control through a public entity’s valid exercise of its police power.

(iii) Housing that has been occupied by tenants within the past 10 years.

(B) The site was previously used for housing that was occupied by tenants that was demolished within 10 years before the development proponent submits an application under this section.

(C) The development would require the demolition of a historic structure that was placed on a national, state, or local historic register.

(D) The property contains housing units that are occupied by tenants, and units at the property are, or were, subsequently offered for sale to the general public by the subdivider or subsequent owner of the property.

(8) The development proponent has done both of the following, as applicable:

(A) Certified to the locality that either of the following is true, as applicable:

(i) The entirety of the development is a public work for purposes of Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1720) of Part 7 of Division 2 of the Labor Code.
(ii) If the development is not in its entirety a public work, that all construction workers employed in the execution of the development will be paid at least the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for the type of work and geographic area, as determined by the Director of Industrial Relations pursuant to Sections 1773 and 1773.9 of the Labor Code, except that apprentices registered in programs approved by the Chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards may be paid at least the applicable apprentice prevailing rate. If the development is subject to this subparagraph, then for those portions of the development that are not a public work all of the following shall apply:

(I) The development proponent shall ensure that the prevailing wage requirement is included in all contracts for the performance of the work.

(II) All contractors and subcontractors shall pay to all construction workers employed in the execution of the work at least the general prevailing rate of per diem wages, except that apprentices registered in programs approved by the Chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards may be paid at least the applicable apprentice prevailing rate.

(III) Except as provided in subclause (V), all contractors and subcontractors shall maintain and verify payroll records pursuant to Section 1776 of the Labor Code and make those records available for inspection and copying as provided therein.

(IV) Except as provided in subclause (V), the obligation of the contractors and subcontractors to pay prevailing wages may be enforced by the Labor Commissioner through the issuance of a civil wage and penalty assessment pursuant to Section 1741 of the Labor Code, which may be reviewed pursuant to Section 1742 of the Labor Code, within 18 months after the completion of the development, by an underpaid worker through an administrative complaint or civil action, or by a joint labor-management committee though a civil action under Section 1771.2 of the Labor Code. If a civil wage and penalty assessment is issued, the contractor, subcontractor, and surety on a bond or bonds issued to secure the payment of wages covered by the assessment shall be liable for liquidated damages pursuant to Section 1742.1 of the Labor Code.

(V) Subclauses (III) and (IV) shall not apply if all contractors and subcontractors performing work on the development are subject to a project labor agreement that requires the payment of prevailing wages to all construction workers employed in the execution of the development and provides for enforcement of that obligation through an arbitration procedure. For purposes of this clause, “project labor agreement” has the same meaning as set forth in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 2500 of the Public Contract Code.

(VI) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 1773.1 of the Labor Code, the requirement that employer payments not reduce the obligation to pay the hourly straight time or overtime wages found to be prevailing shall not apply if otherwise provided in a bona fide collective bargaining agreement covering the worker. The requirement to pay at least the general prevailing rate of per diem wages does not preclude use of an alternative workweek schedule adopted pursuant to Section 511 or 514 of the Labor Code.

(B) (i) For developments for which any of the following conditions apply, certified that a skilled and trained workforce shall be used to complete the development if the application is approved:

(I) On and after January 1, 2018, until December 31, 2021, the development consists of 75 or more units with a residential component that is not 100 percent subsidized affordable housing and will be located within a jurisdiction located in a coastal or bay county with a population of 225,000 or more.

(II) On and after January 1, 2022, until December 31, 2025, the development consists of 50 or more units with a residential component that is not 100 percent subsidized affordable housing and will be located within a jurisdiction located in a coastal or bay county with a population of 225,000 or more.

(III) On and after January 1, 2018, until December 31, 2019, the development consists of 75 or more units with a residential component that is not 100 percent subsidized affordable housing and will be
located within a jurisdiction with a population of fewer than 550,000 and that is not located in a coastal or bay county.

(IV) On and after January 1, 2020, until December 31, 2021, the development consists of more than 50 units with a residential component that is not 100 percent subsidized affordable housing and will be located within a jurisdiction with a population of fewer than 550,000 and that is not located in a coastal or bay county.

(V) On and after January 1, 2022, until December 31, 2025, the development consists of more than 25 units with a residential component that is not 100 percent subsidized affordable housing and will be located within a jurisdiction with a population of fewer than 550,000 and that is not located in a coastal or bay county.

(ii) For purposes of this section, “skilled and trained workforce” has the same meaning as provided in Chapter 2.9 (commencing with Section 2600) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code.

(iii) If the development proponent has certified that a skilled and trained workforce will be used to complete the development and the application is approved, the following shall apply:

(I) The applicant shall require in all contracts for the performance of work that every contractor and subcontractor at every tier will individually use a skilled and trained workforce to complete the development.

(II) Every contractor and subcontractor shall use a skilled and trained workforce to complete the development.

(III) Except as provided in subclause (IV), the applicant shall provide to the locality, on a monthly basis while the development or contract is being performed, a report demonstrating compliance with Chapter 2.9 (commencing with Section 2600) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code. A monthly report provided to the locality pursuant to this subclause shall be a public record under the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of Title 1) and shall be open to public inspection. An applicant that fails to provide a monthly report demonstrating compliance with Chapter 2.9 (commencing with Section 2600) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code shall be subject to a civil penalty of ten thousand dollars ($10,000) per month for each month for which the report has not been provided. Any contractor or subcontractor that fails to use a skilled and trained workforce shall be subject to a civil penalty of two hundred dollars ($200) per day for each worker employed in contravention of the skilled and trained workforce requirement. Penalties may be assessed by the Labor Commissioner within 18 months of completion of the development using the same procedures for issuance of civil wage and penalty assessments pursuant to Section 1741 of the Labor Code, and may be reviewed pursuant to the same procedures in Section 1742 of the Labor Code. Penalties shall be paid to the State Public Works Enforcement Fund.

(IV) Subclause (III) shall not apply if all contractors and subcontractors performing work on the development are subject to a project labor agreement that requires compliance with the skilled and trained workforce requirement and provides for enforcement of that obligation through an arbitration procedure. For purposes of this subparagraph, “project labor agreement” has the same meaning as set forth in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 2500 of the Public Contract Code.

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) and (B), a development that is subject to approval pursuant to this section is exempt from any requirement to pay prevailing wages or use a skilled and trained workforce if it meets both of the following:

(i) The project includes 10 or fewer units.

(ii) The project is not a public work for purposes of Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1720) of Part 7 of Division 2 of the Labor Code.

(9) The development did not or does not involve a subdivision of a parcel that is, or, notwithstanding this section, would otherwise be, subject to the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with
Section 66410)) or any other applicable law authorizing the subdivision of land, unless the development is consistent with all objective subdivision standards in the local subdivision ordinance, and either of the following apply:

(A) The development has received or will receive financing or funding by means of a low-income housing tax credit and is subject to the requirement that prevailing wages be paid pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (8).

(B) The development is subject to the requirement that prevailing wages be paid, and a skilled and trained workforce used, pursuant to paragraph (8).

(10) The development shall not be upon an existing parcel of land or site that is governed under the Mobilehome Residency Law (Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 798) of Title 2 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Civil Code), the Recreational Vehicle Park Occupancy Law (Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 799.20) of Title 2 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Civil Code), the Mobilehome Parks Act (Part 2.1 (commencing with Section 18200) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code), or the Special Occupancy Parks Act (Part 2.3 (commencing with Section 18860) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code).

(b) (1) If a local government determines that a development submitted pursuant to this section is in conflict with any of the objective planning standards specified in subdivision (a), it shall provide the development proponent written documentation of which standard or standards the development conflicts with, and an explanation for the reason or reasons the development conflicts with that standard or standards, as follows:

(A) Within 60 days of submittal of the development to the local government pursuant to this section if the development contains 150 or fewer housing units.

(B) Within 90 days of submittal of the development to the local government pursuant to this section if the development contains more than 150 housing units.

(2) If the local government fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to paragraph (1), the development shall be deemed to satisfy the objective planning standards specified in subdivision (a).

(c) (1) Any design review or public oversight of the development may be conducted by the local government’s planning commission or any equivalent board or commission responsible for review and approval of development projects, or the city council or board of supervisors, as appropriate. That design review or public oversight shall be objective and be strictly focused on assessing compliance with criteria required for streamlined projects, as well as any reasonable objective design standards published and adopted by ordinance or resolution by a local jurisdiction before submission of a development application, and shall be broadly applicable to development within the jurisdiction. That design review or public oversight shall be completed as follows and shall not in any way inhibit, chill, or preclude the ministerial approval provided by this section or its effect, as applicable:

(A) Within 90 days of submittal of the development to the local government pursuant to this section if the development contains 150 or fewer housing units.

(B) Within 180 days of submittal of the development to the local government pursuant to this section if the development contains more than 150 housing units.

(2) If the development is consistent with the requirements of subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) and is consistent with all objective subdivision standards in the local subdivision ordinance, an application for a subdivision pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410)) shall be exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code) and shall be subject to the public oversight timelines set forth in paragraph (1).

(d) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, a local government, whether or not it has adopted an ordinance governing automobile parking requirements in multifamily developments, shall not impose automobile
parking standards for a streamlined development that was approved pursuant to this section in any of the following instances:

(A) The development is located within one-half mile of public transit.

(B) The development is located within an architecturally and historically significant historic district.

(C) When on-street parking permits are required but not offered to the occupants of the development.

(D) When there is a car share vehicle located within one block of the development.

(2) If the development does not fall within any of the categories described in paragraph (1), the local government shall not impose automobile parking requirements for streamlined developments approved pursuant to this section that exceed one parking space per unit.

(e) (1) If a local government approves a development pursuant to this section, then, notwithstanding any other law, that approval shall not expire if the project includes public investment in housing affordability, beyond tax credits, where 50 percent of the units are affordable to households making below 80 percent of the area median income.

(2) If a local government approves a development pursuant to this section and the project does not include 50 percent of the units affordable to households making below 80 percent of the area median income, that approval shall automatically expire after three years except that a project may receive a one-time, one-year extension if the project proponent can provide documentation that there has been significant progress toward getting the development construction ready, such as filing a building permit application.

(3) If a local government approves a development pursuant to this section, that approval shall remain valid for three years from the date of the final action establishing that approval and shall remain valid thereafter for a project so long as vertical construction of the development has begun and is in progress. Additionally, the development proponent may request, and the local government shall have discretion to grant, an additional one-year extension to the original three-year period. The local government’s action and discretion in determining whether to grant the foregoing extension shall be limited to considerations and process set forth in this section.

(f) A local government shall not adopt any requirement, including, but not limited to, increased fees or inclusionary housing requirements, that applies to a project solely or partially on the basis that the project is eligible to receive ministerial or streamlined approval pursuant to this section.

(g) This section shall not affect a development proponent’s ability to use any alternative streamlined by right permit processing adopted by a local government, including the provisions of subdivision (i) of Section 65583.2.

(h) The California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code) does not apply to actions taken by a state agency or local government to lease, convey, or encumber land owned by the local government or to facilitate the lease, conveyance, or encumbrance of land owned by the local government, or to provide financial assistance to a development that receives streamlined approval pursuant to this section that is to be used for housing for persons and families of very low, low, or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.

(i) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Affordable housing cost” has the same meaning as set forth in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) “Affordable rent” has the same meaning as set forth in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.

(3) “Department” means the Department of Housing and Community Development.

(4) “Development proponent” means the developer who submits an application for streamlined approval pursuant to this section.
(5) “Completed entitlements” means a housing development which has received all the required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.

(6) “Locality” or “local government” means a city, including a charter city, a county, including a charter county, or a city and county, including a charter city and county.

(7) “Production report” means the information reported pursuant to subparagraph (H) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 65400.

(8) “State agency” includes every state office, officer, department, division, bureau, board, and commission, but does not include the California State University or the University of California.

(9) “Subsidized” means units that are price or rent restricted such that the units are permanently affordable to households meeting the definitions of very low and lower income, as defined in Sections 50079.5 and 50105 of the Health and Safety Code.

(10) “Reporting period” means either of the following:

(A) The first half of the regional housing needs assessment cycle.

(B) The last half of the regional housing needs assessment cycle.

(11) “Urban uses” means any current or former residential, commercial, public institutional, transit or transportation passenger facility, or retail use, or any combination of those uses.

(j) The department may review, adopt, amend, and repeal guidelines to implement uniform standards or criteria that supplement or clarify the terms, references, or standards set forth in this section. Any guidelines or terms adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall not be subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(k) The determination of whether an application for a development is subject to the streamlined ministerial approval process provided by subdivision (b) is not a “project” as defined in Section 21065 of the Public Resources Code.

(l) It is the policy of the state that this section be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, increased housing supply.

(m) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026, and as of that date is repealed.

§ 65913.7. Violations; Compliance; Jurisdiction; Extension of Time for Undue Hardship

If a court finds that an action of a city, county, or city and county is in violation of Section 65913.1 or 65913.2, the city, county, or city and county shall bring its action into compliance within 60 days. However, the court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce its decision. Upon the court’s determination that the 60-day period for compliance would place an undue hardship on the city, county, or city and county, the court may extend the time period for compliance by an additional 60 days.

(Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 1355, Sec. 3.)

§ 65913.8. Public Capital Facility Improvement Related to Development Project; Prohibition of Fee or Other Payment Including Amount for Maintenance and Operation as Condition for Approval; Exceptions

A fee, charge, or other form of payment imposed by a governing body of a local agency for a public capital facility improvement related to a development project may not include an amount for the maintenance or operation of an improvement when the fee, charge, or other form of payment is required as a condition of the approval of a development project, or required to fulfill a condition of the approval. However, a fee, charge, or other form of payment may be required for the maintenance and operation of an improvement meeting the criteria of either subdivision (a) or (b), as follows:
(a) The improvement is (1) designed and installed to serve only the specific development project on which the fee, charge, or other form of payment is imposed, (2) the improvement serves 19 or fewer lots or units, and (3) the local agency makes a finding, based upon substantial evidence, that it is infeasible or impractical to form a public entity for maintenance of the improvement or to annex the property served by the improvement to an entity as described in subdivision (b).

(b) The improvement is within a water district, sewer maintenance district, street lighting district, or drainage district. In these circumstances, a payment for maintenance or operation may be required for a period not to exceed 24 months when, subsequent to the construction of the improvement, either the local agency forms a public entity or assessment district to finance the maintenance or operation, or the area containing the improvement is annexed to a public entity that will finance the maintenance or operation, whichever is earlier. The local agency may extend a fee, charge, or other form of payment pursuant to this section once for whatever duration it deems reasonable beyond the 24-month period upon making a finding, based upon substantial evidence, that this time period is insufficient for creation of, or annexation to, a public entity or an assessment district that would finance the maintenance or operation.

As used in this section, “development project” and “local agency” have the same meaning as provided in subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 66000.

(Added by Stats. 1988, Ch. 1309, Sec. 1.)

§ 65913.9. Application of Chapter; Legislative Findings and Declarations
This chapter shall apply to all cities, including charter cities, counties, and cities and counties. The Legislature finds and declares that the development of a sufficient supply of housing to meet the needs of all Californians is a matter of statewide concern.

(Added by renumbering Section 65913.4 by Stats. 1982, Ch. 1355, Sec. 2.)

§ 65914. Attorney Fees and Costs; Award in Actions Against Public Entity Housing Development Activities or Nonprofit Housing Corporations
(a) In any civil action or proceeding, including, but not limited to, an action brought pursuant to Section 21167 of the Public Resources Code, against a public entity that has issued planning, subdivision, or other approvals for a housing development, to enjoin the carrying out or approval of a housing development or to secure a writ of mandate relative to the approval of, or a decision to carry out the housing development, the court, after entry of final judgment and the time to appeal has elapsed, and after notice to the plaintiff or plaintiffs, may award all reasonably incurred costs of suit, including attorney’s fees, to the prevailing public entity or nonprofit housing corporation that is the real party in interest and the permit applicant of the low- and moderate-income housing if it finds all of the following:

(1) The housing development meets or exceeds the requirements for low- and moderate-income housing as set forth in Section 65915.

(2) The action was frivolous and undertaken with the primary purpose of delaying or thwarting the low- or moderate-income nature of the housing development or portions thereof.

(3) The public entity or nonprofit housing corporation that is the real party in interest and the permit applicant of the low- and moderate-income housing making application for costs under this section has prevailed on all issues presented by the pleadings and the public entity or nonprofit housing corporation that is the real party in interest and the permit applicant of the low- and moderate-income housing actively, through counsel or otherwise, took part on a continuing basis in the defense of the lawsuit.
(4) A demand for a preliminary injunction was made by the plaintiff and denied by a court of competent jurisdiction, or the action or proceeding was dismissed as a result of a motion for summary judgment by any defendant, and the denial or dismissal was not reversed on appeal.

(b) In any appeal of any action described in subdivision (a), the reviewing court may award all reasonably incurred costs of suit, including attorney’s fees, to the prevailing public entity or nonprofit housing corporation that is the real party in interest and the permit applicant of the low- and moderate-income housing if the court reviews and upholds the trial court’s findings with respect to paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, of subdivision (a).

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the application of any other remedies or rights provided under law.

(Amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 793, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2004.)
VIII. DENSITY BONUS LAW: *Government Code §§ 65915-65918*

GOVERNMENT CODE - GOV  
TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58]  
(Heading of Title 7 amended by stats. 1974, ch. 1536.)  
DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66210]  
(Heading of Division 1 added by stats. 1974, ch. 1536.)  
CHAPTER 4.3. DENSITY BONUSES AND OTHER INCENTIVES [65915 - 65918]  
(Chapter 4.3 added by stats. 1979, ch. 1207.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaytext.xhtml?lawcode=gov&division=1.&title=7.&part=&chapter=4.3.&article=

§ 65915. Applicants Seeking Density Bonus; Concessions or Incentives; Conditions, Agreements and Submission Requirements; Duties of Local Officials

(a) (1) When an applicant seeks a density bonus for a housing development within, or for the donation of land for housing within, the jurisdiction of a city, county, or city and county, that local government shall comply with this section. A city, county, or city and county shall adopt an ordinance that specifies how compliance with this section will be implemented. Failure to adopt an ordinance shall not relieve a city, county, or city and county from complying with this section.

(2) A local government shall not condition the submission, review, or approval of an application pursuant to this chapter on the preparation of an additional report or study that is not otherwise required by state law, including this section. This subdivision does not prohibit a local government from requiring an applicant to provide reasonable documentation to establish eligibility for a requested density bonus, incentives or concessions, as described in subdivision (d), waivers or reductions of development standards, as described in subdivision (e), and parking ratios, as described in subdivision (p).

(3) In order to provide for the expeditious processing of a density bonus application, the local government shall do all of the following:

(A) Adopt procedures and timelines for processing a density bonus application.

(B) Provide a list of all documents and information required to be submitted with the density bonus application in order for the density bonus application to be deemed complete. This list shall be consistent with this chapter.

(C) Notify the applicant for a density bonus whether the application is complete in a manner consistent with the timelines specified in Section 65943.

(D) (i) If the local government notifies the applicant that the application is deemed complete pursuant to subparagraph (C), provide the applicant with a determination as to the following matters:

(I) The amount of density bonus, calculated pursuant to subdivision (f), for which the applicant is eligible.

(II) If the applicant requests a parking ratio pursuant to subdivision (p), the parking ratio for which the applicant is eligible.

(III) If the applicant requests incentives or concessions pursuant to subdivision (d) or waivers or reductions of development standards pursuant to subdivision (e), whether the applicant has provided adequate information for the local government to make a determination as to those incentives, concessions, or waivers or reductions of development standards.

(ii) Any determination required by this subparagraph shall be based on the development project at the time the application is deemed complete. The local government shall adjust the amount of density
bonus and parking ratios awarded pursuant to this section based on any changes to the project during the course of development.

(b) (1) A city, county, or city and county shall grant one density bonus, the amount of which shall be as specified in subdivision (f), and, if requested by the applicant and consistent with the applicable requirements of this section, incentives or concessions, as described in subdivision (d), waivers or reductions of development standards, as described in subdivision (e), and parking ratios, as described in subdivision (p), when an applicant for a housing development seeks and agrees to construct a housing development, excluding any units permitted by the density bonus awarded pursuant to this section, that will contain at least any one of the following:

(A) Ten percent of the total units of a housing development for lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(B) Five percent of the total units of a housing development for very low income households, as defined in Section 50105 of the Health and Safety Code.

(C) A senior citizen housing development, as defined in Sections 51.3 and 51.12 of the Civil Code, or a mobilehome park that limits residency based on age requirements for housing for older persons pursuant to Section 798.76 or 799.5 of the Civil Code.

(D) Ten percent of the total dwelling units in a common interest development, as defined in Section 4100 of the Civil Code, for persons and families of moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, provided that all units in the development are offered to the public for purchase.

(E) Ten percent of the total units of a housing development for transitional foster youth, as defined in Section 66025.9 of the Education Code, disabled veterans, as defined in Section 18541, or homeless persons, as defined in the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11301 et seq.). The units described in this subparagraph shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction of 55 years and shall be provided at the same affordability level as very low income units.

(F) (i) Twenty percent of the total units for lower income students in a student housing development that meets the following requirements:

(I) All units in the student housing development will be used exclusively for undergraduate, graduate, or professional students enrolled full time at an institution of higher education accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges or the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. In order to be eligible under this subclause, the developer shall, as a condition of receiving a certificate of occupancy, provide evidence to the city, county, or city or county that the developer has entered into an operating agreement or master lease with one or more institutions of higher education for the institution or institutions to occupy all units of the student housing development with students from that institution or institutions. An operating agreement or master lease entered into pursuant to this subclause is not violated or breached if, in any subsequent year, there are not sufficient students enrolled in an institution of higher education to fill all units in the student housing development.

(II) The applicable 20-percent units will be used for lower income students. For purposes of this clause, “lower income students” means students who have a household income and asset level that does not exceed the level for Cal Grant A or Cal Grant B award recipients as set forth in paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) of Section 69432.7 of the Education Code. The eligibility of a student under this clause shall be verified by an affidavit, award letter, or letter of eligibility provided by the institution of higher education that the student is enrolled in, as described in subclause (I), or by the California Student Aid Commission that the student receives or is eligible for financial aid, including an institutional grant or fee waiver, from the college or university, the California Student Aid Commission, or the federal government shall be sufficient to satisfy this subclause.
(III) The rent provided in the applicable units of the development for lower income students shall be calculated at 30 percent of 65 percent of the area median income for a single-room occupancy unit type.

(IV) The development will provide priority for the applicable affordable units for lower income students experiencing homelessness. A homeless service provider, as defined in paragraph (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 103577 of the Health and Safety Code, or institution of higher education that has knowledge of a person’s homeless status may verify a person’s status as homeless for purposes of this subclause.

(ii) For purposes of calculating a density bonus granted pursuant to this subparagraph, the term “unit” as used in this section means one rental bed and its pro rata share of associated common area facilities. The units described in this subparagraph shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction of 55 years.

(2) For purposes of calculating the amount of the density bonus pursuant to subdivision (f), an applicant who requests a density bonus pursuant to this subdivision shall elect whether the bonus shall be awarded on the basis of subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), or (F) of paragraph (1).

(3) For the purposes of this section, “total units,” “total dwelling units,” or “total rental beds” does not include units added by a density bonus awarded pursuant to this section or any local law granting a greater density bonus.

(c) (1) An applicant shall agree to, and the city, county, or city and county shall ensure, the continued affordability of all very low and low-income rental units that qualified the applicant for the award of the density bonus for 55 years or a longer period of time if required by the construction or mortgage financing assistance program, mortgage insurance program, or rental subsidy program. Rents for the lower income density bonus units shall be set at an affordable rent as defined in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) An applicant shall agree to, and the city, county, or city and county shall ensure that, the initial occupant of all for-sale units that qualified the applicant for the award of the density bonus are persons and families of very low, low, or moderate income, as required, and that the units are offered at an affordable housing cost, as that cost is defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code. The local government shall enforce an equity sharing agreement, unless it is in conflict with the requirements of another public funding source or law. The following apply to the equity sharing agreement:

(A) Upon resale, the seller of the unit shall retain the value of any improvements, the downpayment, and the seller’s proportionate share of appreciation. The local government shall recapture any initial subsidy, as defined in subparagraph (B), and its proportionate share of appreciation, as defined in subparagraph (C), which amount shall be used within five years for any of the purposes described in subdivision (e) of Section 33334.2 of the Health and Safety Code that promote home ownership.

(B) For purposes of this subdivision, the local government’s initial subsidy shall be equal to the fair market value of the home at the time of initial sale minus the initial sale price to the moderate-income household, plus the amount of any downpayment assistance or mortgage assistance. If upon resale the market value is lower than the initial market value, then the value at the time of the resale shall be used as the initial market value.

(C) For purposes of this subdivision, the local government’s proportionate share of appreciation shall be equal to the ratio of the local government’s initial subsidy to the fair market value of the home at the time of initial sale.

(3) (A) An applicant shall be ineligible for a density bonus or any other incentives or concessions under this section if the housing development is proposed on any property that includes a parcel or parcels on which rental dwelling units are or, if the dwelling units have been vacated or demolished in the five-year period preceding the application, have been subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of lower or very low income; subject to any
other form of rent or price control through a public entity’s valid exercise of its police power; or occupied by lower or very low income households, unless the proposed housing development replaces those units, and either of the following applies:
(i) The proposed housing development, inclusive of the units replaced pursuant to this paragraph, contains affordable units at the percentages set forth in subdivision (b).
(ii) Each unit in the development, exclusive of a manager’s unit or units, is affordable to, and occupied by, either a lower or very low income household.
(B) For the purposes of this paragraph, “replace” shall mean either of the following:
(i) If any dwelling units described in subparagraph (A) are occupied on the date of application, the proposed housing development shall provide at least the same number of units of equivalent size to be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, persons and families in the same or lower income category as those households in occupancy. If the income category of the household in occupancy is not known, it shall be rebuttably presumed that lower income renter households occupied these units in the same proportion of lower income renter households to all renter households within the jurisdiction, as determined by the most recently available data from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy database. For unoccupied dwelling units described in subparagraph (A) in a development with occupied units, the proposed housing development shall provide units of equivalent size to be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, persons and families in the same or lower income category as the last household in occupancy. If the income category of the last household in occupancy is not known, it shall be rebuttably presumed that lower income renter households occupied these units in the same proportion of lower income renter households to all renter households within the jurisdiction, as determined by the most recently available data from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy database. All replacement calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. If the replacement units will be rental dwelling units, these units shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 55 years. If the proposed development is for-sale units, the units replaced shall be subject to paragraph (2).
(ii) If all dwelling units described in subparagraph (A) have been vacated or demolished within the five-year period preceding the application, the proposed housing development shall provide at least the same number of units of equivalent size as existed at the highpoint of those units in the five-year period preceding the application to be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, persons and families in the same or lower income category as those persons and families in occupancy at that time, if known. If the incomes of the persons and families in occupancy at the highpoint is not known, it shall be rebuttably presumed that low-income and very low income renter households occupied these units in the same proportion of low-income and very low income renter households to all renter households within the jurisdiction, as determined by the most recently available data from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy database. All replacement calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. If the replacement units will be rental dwelling units, these units shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 55 years. If the proposed development is for-sale units, the units replaced shall be subject to paragraph (2).
(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (B), for any dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A) that is or was, within the five-year period preceding the application, subject to a form of rent or price control through a local government’s valid exercise of its police power and that is or was occupied by persons or families above lower income, the city, county, or city and county may do either of the following:
(i) Require that the replacement units be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, low-income persons or families. If the replacement units will be rental dwelling units, these units shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 55 years. If the proposed development is for-sale units, the units replaced shall be subject to paragraph (2).
(ii) Require that the units be replaced in compliance with the jurisdiction’s rent or price control ordinance, provided that each unit described in subparagraph (A) is replaced. Unless otherwise required by the jurisdiction’s rent or price control ordinance, these units shall not be subject to a recorded affordability restriction.
(D) For purposes of this paragraph, “equivalent size” means that the replacement units contain at least the same total number of bedrooms as the units being replaced.
(E) Subparagraph (A) does not apply to an applicant seeking a density bonus for a proposed housing development if his or her application was submitted to, or processed by, a city, county, or city and county before January 1, 2015.
(d) (1) An applicant for a density bonus pursuant to subdivision (b) may submit to a city, county, or city and county a proposal for the specific incentives or concessions that the applicant requests pursuant to this section, and may request a meeting with the city, county, or city and county. The city, county, or city and county shall grant the concession or incentive requested by the applicant unless the city, county, or city and county makes a written finding, based upon substantial evidence, of any of the following:
(A) The concession or incentive does not result in identifiable and actual cost reductions, consistent with subdivision (k), to provide for affordable housing costs, as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or for rents for the targeted units to be set as specified in subdivision (c).
(B) The concession or incentive would have a specific, adverse impact, as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 65589.5, upon public health and safety or the physical environment or on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources and for which there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific, adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low-income and moderate-income households.
(C) The concession or incentive would be contrary to state or federal law.
(2) The applicant shall receive the following number of incentives or concessions:
(A) One incentive or concession for projects that include at least 10 percent of the total units for lower income households, at least 5 percent for very low income households, or at least 10 percent for persons and families of moderate income in a common interest development.
(B) Two incentives or concessions for projects that include at least 20 percent of the total units for lower income households, at least 10 percent for very low income households, or at least 20 percent for persons and families of moderate income in a common interest development.
(C) Three incentives or concessions for projects that include at least 30 percent of the total units for lower income households, at least 15 percent for very low income households, or at least 30 percent for persons and families of moderate income in a common interest development.
(3) The applicant may initiate judicial proceedings if the city, county, or city and county refuses to grant a requested density bonus, incentive, or concession. If a court finds that the refusal to grant a requested density bonus, incentive, or concession is in violation of this section, the court shall award the plaintiff reasonable attorney’s fees and costs of suit. Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to require a local government to grant an incentive or concession that has a specific, adverse impact, as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 65589.5, upon health, safety, or the physical environment, and for which there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact. Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to require a local government to grant an incentive or concession that would have an adverse impact on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources. The city, county, or city and county shall establish procedures for
carrying out this section, that shall include legislative body approval of the means of compliance with
this section.
(4) The city, county, or city and county shall bear the burden of proof for the denial of a requested
concession or incentive.
(e) (1) In no case may a city, county, or city and county apply any development standard that will have
the effect of physically precluding the construction of a development meeting the criteria of subdivision
(b) at the densities or with the concessions or incentives permitted by this section. An applicant may
submit to a city, county, or city and county a proposal for the waiver or reduction of development
standards that will have the effect of physically precluding the construction of a development meeting
the criteria of subdivision (b) at the densities or with the concessions or incentives permitted under this
section, and may request a meeting with the city, county, or city and county. If a court finds that the
refusal to grant a waiver or reduction of development standards is in violation of this section, the court
shall award the plaintiff reasonable attorney’s fees and costs of suit. Nothing in this subdivision shall be
interpreted to require a local government to waive or reduce development standards if the waiver or
reduction would have a specific, adverse impact, as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section
65589.5, upon health, safety, or the physical environment, and for which there is no feasible method to
satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact. Nothing in this subdivision shall be
interpreted to require a local government to waive or reduce development standards that would have
an adverse impact on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, or
to grant any waiver or reduction that would be contrary to state or federal law.
(2) A proposal for the waiver or reduction of development standards pursuant to this subdivision shall
neither reduce nor increase the number of incentives or concessions to which the applicant is entitled
pursuant to subdivision (d).
(f) For the purposes of this chapter, “density bonus” means a density increase over the otherwise
maximum allowable gross residential density as of the date of application by the applicant to the city,
county, or city and county, or, if elected by the applicant, a lesser percentage of density increase,
including, but not limited to, no increase in density. The amount of density increase to which the
applicant is entitled shall vary according to the amount by which the percentage of affordable housing
units exceeds the percentage established in subdivision (b).
(1) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision
(b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Percentage Low-Income Units</th>
<th>Percentage Density Bonus</th>
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(2) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision
(b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:
(3) (A) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be 20 percent of the number of senior housing units. 
(B) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (E) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be 20 percent of the number of the type of units giving rise to a density bonus under that subparagraph. 
(C) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (F) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be 35 percent of the student housing units. 
(4) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

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<th>Percentage Very Low Income Units</th>
<th>Percentage Density Bonus</th>
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(5) All density calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. The granting of a density bonus shall not require, or be interpreted, in and of itself, to require a general plan amendment, local coastal plan amendment, zoning change, or other discretionary approval.

(g) (1) When an applicant for a tentative subdivision map, parcel map, or other residential development approval donates land to a city, county, or city and county in accordance with this subdivision, the applicant shall be entitled to a 15-percent increase above the otherwise maximum allowable residential density for the entire development, as follows:

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<th>Percentage Very Low Income</th>
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(2) This increase shall be in addition to any increase in density mandated by subdivision (b), up to a maximum combined mandated density increase of 35 percent if an applicant seeks an increase pursuant to both this subdivision and subdivision (b). All density calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to enlarge or diminish the authority of a city, county, or city and county to require a developer to donate land as a condition of development. An applicant shall be eligible for the increased density bonus described in this subdivision if all of the following conditions are met:
(A) The applicant donates and transfers the land no later than the date of approval of the final subdivision map, parcel map, or residential development application.

(B) The developable acreage and zoning classification of the land being transferred are sufficient to permit construction of units affordable to very low income households in an amount not less than 10 percent of the number of residential units of the proposed development.

(C) The transferred land is at least one acre in size or of sufficient size to permit development of at least 40 units, has the appropriate general plan designation, is appropriately zoned with appropriate development standards for development at the density described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583.2, and is or will be served by adequate public facilities and infrastructure.

(D) The transferred land shall have all of the permits and approvals, other than building permits, necessary for the development of the very low income housing units on the transferred land, not later than the date of approval of the final subdivision map, parcel map, or residential development application, except that the local government may subject the proposed development to subsequent design review to the extent authorized by subdivision (i) of Section 65583.2 if the design is not reviewed by the local government before the time of transfer.

(E) The transferred land and the affordable units shall be subject to a deed restriction ensuring continued affordability of the units consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (c), which shall be recorded on the property at the time of the transfer.

(F) The land is transferred to the local agency or to a housing developer approved by the local agency. The local agency may require the applicant to identify and transfer the land to the developer.

(G) The transferred land shall be within the boundary of the proposed development or, if the local agency agrees, within one-quarter mile of the boundary of the proposed development.

(H) A proposed source of funding for the very low income units shall be identified not later than the date of approval of the final subdivision map, parcel map, or residential development application.

(h) (1) When an applicant proposes to construct a housing development that conforms to the requirements of subdivision (b) and includes a child care facility that will be located on the premises of, as part of, or adjacent to, the project, the city, county, or city and county shall grant either of the following:

(A) An additional density bonus that is an amount of square feet of residential space that is equal to or greater than the amount of square feet in the child care facility.

(B) An additional concession or incentive that contributes significantly to the economic feasibility of the construction of the child care facility.

(2) The city, county, or city and county shall require, as a condition of approving the housing development, that the following occur:

(A) The child care facility shall remain in operation for a period of time that is as long as or longer than the period of time during which the density bonus units are required to remain affordable pursuant to subdivision (c).

(B) Of the children who attend the child care facility, the children of very low income households, lower income households, or families of moderate income shall equal a percentage that is equal to or greater than the percentage of dwelling units that are required for very low income households, lower income households, or families of moderate income pursuant to subdivision (b).

(3) Notwithstanding any requirement of this subdivision, a city, county, or city and county shall not be required to provide a density bonus or concession for a child care facility if it finds, based upon substantial evidence, that the community has adequate child care facilities.

(4) “Child care facility,” as used in this section, means a child day care facility other than a family day care home, including, but not limited to, infant centers, preschools, extended day care facilities, and schoolage child care centers.
(i) “Housing development,” as used in this section, means a development project for five or more residential units, including mixed-use developments. For the purposes of this section, “housing development” also includes a subdivision or common interest development, as defined in Section 4100 of the Civil Code, approved by a city, county, or city and county and consists of residential units or unimproved residential lots and either a project to substantially rehabilitate and convert an existing commercial building to residential use or the substantial rehabilitation of an existing multifamily dwelling, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 65863.4, where the result of the rehabilitation would be a net increase in available residential units. For the purpose of calculating a density bonus, the residential units shall be on contiguous sites that are the subject of one development application, but do not have to be based upon individual subdivision maps or parcels. The density bonus shall be permitted in geographic areas of the housing development other than the areas where the units for the lower income households are located.

(j) (1) The granting of a concession or incentive shall not require or be interpreted, in and of itself, to require a general plan amendment, local coastal plan amendment, zoning change, study, or other discretionary approval. For purposes of this subdivision, “study” does not include reasonable documentation to establish eligibility for the concession or incentive or to demonstrate that the incentive or concession meets the definition set forth in subdivision (k). This provision is declaratory of existing law.

(2) Except as provided in subdivisions (d) and (e), the granting of a density bonus shall not require or be interpreted to require the waiver of a local ordinance or provisions of a local ordinance unrelated to development standards.

(k) For the purposes of this chapter, concession or incentive means any of the following:

(1) A reduction in site development standards or a modification of zoning code requirements or architectural design requirements that exceed the minimum building standards approved by the California Building Standards Commission as provided in Part 2.5 (commencing with Section 18901) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code, including, but not limited to, a reduction in setback and square footage requirements and in the ratio of vehicular parking spaces that would otherwise be required that results in identifiable and actual cost reductions, to provide for affordable housing costs, as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or for rents for the targeted units to be set as specified in subdivision (c).

(2) Approval of mixed-use zoning in conjunction with the housing project if commercial, office, industrial, or other land uses will reduce the cost of the housing development and if the commercial, office, industrial, or other land uses are compatible with the housing project and the existing or planned development in the area where the proposed housing project will be located.

(3) Other regulatory incentives or concessions proposed by the developer or the city, county, or city and county that result in identifiable and actual cost reductions to provide for affordable housing costs, as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or for rents for the targeted units to be set as specified in subdivision (c).

(l) Subdivision (k) does not limit or require the provision of direct financial incentives for the housing development, including the provision of publicly owned land, by the city, county, or city and county, or the waiver of fees or dedication requirements.

(m) This section does not supersede or in any way alter or lessen the effect or application of the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Any density bonus, concessions, incentives, waivers or reductions of development standards, and parking ratios to which the applicant is entitled under this section shall be permitted in a manner that is consistent with this section and Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code.
(n) If permitted by local ordinance, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a city, county, or city and county from granting a density bonus greater than what is described in this section for a development that meets the requirements of this section or from granting a proportionately lower density bonus than what is required by this section for developments that do not meet the requirements of this section.

(o) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

1. “Development standard” includes a site or construction condition, including, but not limited to, a height limitation, a setback requirement, a floor area ratio, an onsite open-space requirement, or a parking ratio that applies to a residential development pursuant to any ordinance, general plan element, specific plan, charter, or other local condition, law, policy, resolution, or regulation.

2. “Maximum allowable residential density” means the density allowed under the zoning ordinance and land use element of the general plan, or, if a range of density is permitted, means the maximum allowable density for the specific zoning range and land use element of the general plan applicable to the project. If the density allowed under the zoning ordinance is inconsistent with the density allowed under the land use element of the general plan, the general plan density shall prevail.

(p) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) upon the request of the developer, a city, county, or city and county shall not require a vehicular parking ratio, inclusive of handicapped and guest parking, of a development meeting the criteria of subdivisions (b) and (c), that exceeds the following ratios:

A. Zero to one bedroom: one onsite parking space.
B. Two to three bedrooms: two onsite parking spaces.
C. Four and more bedrooms: two and one-half parking spaces.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a development includes the maximum percentage of low-income or very low income units provided for in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (f) and is located within one-half mile of a major transit stop, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 21155 of the Public Resources Code, and there is unobstructed access to the major transit stop from the development, then, upon the request of the developer, a city, county, or city and county shall not impose a vehicular parking ratio, inclusive of handicapped and guest parking, that exceeds 0.5 spaces per bedroom. For purposes of this subdivision, a development shall have unobstructed access to a major transit stop if a resident is able to access the major transit stop without encountering natural or constructed impediments.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a development consists solely of rental units, exclusive of a manager’s unit or units, with an affordable housing cost to lower income families, as provided in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, then, upon the request of the developer, a city, county, or city and county shall not impose a vehicular parking ratio, inclusive of handicapped and guest parking, that exceeds the following ratios:

A. If the development is located within one-half mile of a major transit stop, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 21155 of the Public Resources Code, and there is unobstructed access to the major transit stop from the development, the ratio shall not exceed 0.5 spaces per unit.
B. If the development is a for-rent housing development for individuals who are 62 years of age or older that complies with Sections 51.2 and 51.3 of the Civil Code, the ratio shall not exceed 0.5 spaces per unit. The development shall have either paratransit service or unobstructed access, within one-half mile, to fixed bus route service that operates at least eight times per day.
C. If the development is a special needs housing development, as defined in Section 51312 of the Health and Safety Code, the ratio shall not exceed 0.3 spaces per unit. The development shall have either paratransit service or unobstructed access, within one-half mile, to fixed bus route service that operates at least eight times per day.

(4) If the total number of parking spaces required for a development is other than a whole number, the number shall be rounded up to the next whole number. For purposes of this subdivision, a development
may provide onsite parking through tandem parking or uncovered parking, but not through onstreet parking.

(5) This subdivision shall apply to a development that meets the requirements of subdivisions (b) and (c), but only at the request of the applicant. An applicant may request parking incentives or concessions beyond those provided in this subdivision pursuant to subdivision (d).

(6) This subdivision does not preclude a city, county, or city and county from reducing or eliminating a parking requirement for development projects of any type in any location.

(7) Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3), if a city, county, city and county, or an independent consultant has conducted an areawide or jurisdictionwide parking study in the last seven years, then the city, county, or city and county may impose a higher vehicular parking ratio not to exceed the ratio described in paragraph (1), based upon substantial evidence found in the parking study, that includes, but is not limited to, an analysis of parking availability, differing levels of transit access, walkability access to transit services, the potential for shared parking, the effect of parking requirements on the cost of market-rate and subsidized developments, and the lower rates of car ownership for low-income and very low income individuals, including seniors and special needs individuals. The city, county, or city and county shall pay the costs of any new study. The city, county, or city and county shall make findings, based on a parking study completed in conformity with this paragraph, supporting the need for the higher parking ratio.

(8) A request pursuant to this subdivision shall neither reduce nor increase the number of incentives or concessions to which the applicant is entitled pursuant to subdivision (d).

(q) Each component of any density calculation, including base density and bonus density, resulting in fractional units shall be separately rounded up to the next whole number. The Legislature finds and declares that this provision is declaratory of existing law.

(r) This chapter shall be interpreted liberally in favor of producing the maximum number of total housing units.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 937, Sec. 1.3. (SB 1227) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65915.5. Conversion of Apartments to Condominium Project; Eligibility; Procedure

(a) When an applicant for approval to convert apartments to a condominium project agrees to provide at least 33 percent of the total units of the proposed condominium project to persons and families of low or moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or 15 percent of the total units of the proposed condominium project to lower income households as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, and agrees to pay for the reasonably necessary administrative costs incurred by a city, county, or city and county pursuant to this section, the city, county, or city and county shall either (1) grant a density bonus or (2) provide other incentives of equivalent financial value. A city, county, or city and county may place such reasonable conditions on the granting of a density bonus or other incentives of equivalent financial value as it finds appropriate, including, but not limited to, conditions which assure continued affordability of units to subsequent purchasers who are persons and families of low and moderate income or lower income households.

(b) For purposes of this section, “density bonus” means an increase in units of 25 percent over the number of apartments, to be provided within the existing structure or structures proposed for conversion.

(c) For purposes of this section, “other incentives of equivalent financial value” shall not be construed to require a city, county, or city and county to provide cash transfer payments or other monetary compensation but may include the reduction or waiver of requirements which the city, county, or city and county might otherwise apply as conditions of conversion approval.
(d) An applicant for approval to convert apartments to a condominium project may submit to a city, county, or city and county a preliminary proposal pursuant to this section prior to the submittal of any formal requests for subdivision map approvals. The city, county, or city and county shall, within 90 days of receipt of a written proposal, notify the applicant in writing of the manner in which it will comply with this section. The city, county, or city and county shall establish procedures for carrying out this section, which shall include legislative body approval of the means of compliance with this section.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a city, county, or city and county to approve a proposal to convert apartments to condominiums.

(f) An applicant shall be ineligible for a density bonus or other incentives under this section if the apartments proposed for conversion constitute a housing development for which a density bonus or other incentives were provided under Section 65915.

(g) An applicant shall be ineligible for a density bonus or any other incentives or concessions under this section if the condominium project is proposed on any property that includes a parcel or parcels on which rental dwelling units are or, if the dwelling units have been vacated or demolished in the five-year period preceding the application, have been subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of lower or very low income; subject to any other form of rent or price control through a public entity’s valid exercise of its police power; or occupied by lower or very low income households, unless the proposed condominium project replaces those units, as defined in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65915, and either of the following applies:

1. The proposed condominium project, inclusive of the units replaced pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65915, contains affordable units at the percentages set forth in subdivision (a).
2. Each unit in the development, exclusive of a manager’s unit or units, is affordable to, and occupied by, either a lower or very low income household.

(h) Subdivision (g) does not apply to an applicant seeking a density bonus for a proposed housing development if their application was submitted to, or processed by, a city, county, or city and county before January 1, 2015.

(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 682, Sec. 2. (AB 2222) Effective January 1, 2015.)

§ 65915.7. Applicant for Approval of Commercial Housing; Agreement for Partnered Housing to Contribute Affordable Housing; Development Bonus

(a) When an applicant for approval of a commercial development has entered into an agreement for partnered housing described in subdivision (c) to contribute affordable housing through a joint project or two separate projects encompassing affordable housing, the city, county, or city and county shall grant to the commercial developer a development bonus as prescribed in subdivision (b). Housing shall be constructed on the site of the commercial development or on a site that is all of the following:

1. Within the boundaries of the local government.
2. In close proximity to public amenities including schools and employment centers.
3. Located within one-half mile of a major transit stop, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 21155 of the Public Resources Code.

(b) The development bonus granted to the commercial developer shall mean incentives, mutually agreed upon by the developer and the jurisdiction, that may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

1. Up to a 20-percent increase in maximum allowable intensity in the General Plan.
2. Up to a 20-percent increase in maximum allowable floor area ratio.
3. Up to a 20-percent increase in maximum height requirements.
(4) Up to a 20-percent reduction in minimum parking requirements.
(5) Use of a limited-use/limited-application elevator for upper floor accessibility.
(6) An exception to a zoning ordinance or other land use regulation.
(c) For the purposes of this section, the agreement for partnered housing shall be between the
commercial developer and the housing developer, shall identify how the commercial developer will
contribute affordable housing, and shall be approved by the city, county, or city and county.
(d) For the purposes of this section, affordable housing may be contributed by the commercial
developer in one of the following manners:
(1) The commercial developer may directly build the units.
(2) The commercial developer may donate a portion of the site or property elsewhere to the affordable
housing developer for use as a site for affordable housing.
(3) The commercial developer may make a cash payment to the affordable housing developer that shall
be used towards the costs of constructing the affordable housing project.
(e) For the purposes of this section, subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section
65915 shall apply.
(f) Nothing in this section shall preclude any additional allowances or incentives offered to developers by
local governments pursuant to law or regulation.
(g) If the developer of the affordable units does not commence with construction of those units in
accordance with timelines ascribed by the agreement described in subdivision (c), the local government
may withhold certificates of occupancy for the commercial development under construction until the
developer has completed construction of the affordable units.
(h) In order to qualify for a development bonus under this section, a commercial developer shall partner
with a housing developer that provides at least 30 percent of the total units for low-income households
or at least 15 percent of the total units for very low-income households.
(i) Nothing in this section shall preclude an affordable housing developer from seeking a density bonus,
concessions or incentives, waivers or reductions of development standards, or parking ratios under
Section 65915.
(j) A development bonus pursuant to this section shall not include a reduction or waiver of the
requirements within an ordinance that requires the payment of a fee by a commercial developer for the
promotion or provision of affordable housing.
(k) A city or county shall submit to the Department of Housing and Community Development, as part of
the annual report required by Section 65400, information describing a commercial development bonus
approved pursuant to this section, including the terms of the agreements between the commercial
developer and the affordable housing developer, and the developers and the local jurisdiction, and the
number of affordable units constructed as part of the agreements.
(l) For purposes of this section, “partner” shall mean formation of a partnership, limited liability
company, corporation, or other entity recognized by the state in which the commercial development
applicant and the affordable housing developer are each partners, members, shareholders or other
participants, or a contract or agreement between a commercial development applicant and affordable
housing developer for the development of both the commercial and the affordable housing properties.
(m) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2022, and as of that date is repealed.
(Added by Stats. 2016, Ch. 747, Sec. 2. (AB 1934) Effective January 1, 2017. Repealed as of January 1,
2022, by its own provisions.)

§ 65916. Direct Financial Contribution to Housing Developments Through Participation in Costs; Term
of Availability
Where there is a direct financial contribution to a housing development pursuant to Section 65915 through participation in cost of infrastructure, write-down of land costs, or subsidizing the cost of construction, the city, county, or city and county shall assure continued availability for low- and moderate-income units for 30 years. When appropriate, the agreement provided for in Section 65915 shall specify the mechanisms and procedures necessary to carry out this section.
(Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 1207.)

§ 65917. Legislative Intent; Developer Agreement
In enacting this chapter it is the intent of the Legislature that the density bonus or other incentives offered by the city, county, or city and county pursuant to this chapter shall contribute significantly to the economic feasibility of lower income housing in proposed housing developments. In the absence of an agreement by a developer in accordance with Section 65915, a locality shall not offer a density bonus or any other incentive that would undermine the intent of this chapter.
(Amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 115, Sec. 14. Effective January 1, 2002.)

§ 65917.2. Authorization for City or County to Establish Procedure by Ordinance to Grant Floor Area Ratio Bonus to Developer of Eligible Housing Development
(a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:
(1) “Eligible housing development” means a development that satisfies all of the following criteria:
(A) The development is a multifamily housing development that contains five or more residential units, exclusive of any other floor area ratio bonus or incentive or concession awarded pursuant to this chapter.
(B) The development is located within one of the following:
(i) An urban infill site that is within a transit priority area.
(ii) One-half mile of a major transit stop.
(C) The site of the development is zoned to allow residential use or mixed-use with a minimum planned density of at least 20 dwelling units per acre and does not include any land zoned for low density residential use or for exclusive nonresidential use.
(D) The applicant and the development satisfy the replacement requirements specified in subdivision (c) of Section 65915.
(E) The development includes at least 20 percent of the units, excluding any additional units allowed under a floor area ratio bonus or other incentives or concessions provided pursuant to this chapter, with an affordable housing cost or affordable rent to, and occupied by, persons with a household income equal to or less than 50 percent of the area median income, as determined pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, and subject to an affordability restriction for a minimum of 55 years.
(F) The development complies with the height requirements applicable to the underlying zone. A development shall not be eligible to use a floor area ratio bonus or other incentives or concessions provided pursuant to this chapter to relieve the development from a maximum height limitation.
(2) “Floor area ratio” means the ratio of gross building area of the eligible housing development, excluding structured parking areas, proposed for the project divided by the net lot area. For purposes of this paragraph, “gross building area” means the sum of all finished areas of all floors of a building included within the outside faces of its exterior walls.
(3) “Floor area ratio bonus” means an allowance for an eligible housing development to utilize a floor area ratio over the otherwise maximum allowable density permitted under the applicable zoning ordinance and land use elements of the general plan of a city or county, calculated pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b).
(4) “Major transit stop” has the same meaning as defined in Section 21155 of the Public Resources Code.
(5) “Transit priority area” has the same meaning as defined in Section 21099 of the Public Resources Code.

(b) (1) A city council, including a charter city council or the board of supervisors of a city and county, or county board of supervisors may establish a procedure by ordinance to grant a developer of an eligible housing development, upon the request of the developer, a floor area ratio bonus, calculated as provided in paragraph (2), in lieu of a density bonus awarded on the basis of dwelling units per acre.

(2) In calculating the floor area ratio bonus pursuant to this section, the allowable gross residential floor area in square feet shall be the product of all of the following amounts:

(A) The allowable residential base density in dwelling units per acre.

(B) The site area in square feet, divided by 43,560.

(C) 2,250.

(c) The city council or county board of supervisors shall not impose any parking requirement on an eligible housing development in excess of 0.1 parking spaces per unit that is affordable to persons and families with a household income equal to or less than 120 percent of the area median income and 0.5 parking spaces per unit that is offered at market rate.

(d) A city or county that adopts a floor area ratio bonus ordinance pursuant to this section shall allow an applicant seeking to develop an eligible residential development to calculate impact fees based on square feet, instead of on a per unit basis.

(e) In the case of an eligible housing development that is zoned for mixed-use purposes, any floor area ratio requirement under a zoning ordinance or land use element of the general plan of the city or county applicable to the nonresidential portion of the eligible housing development shall continue to apply notwithstanding the award of a floor area ratio bonus in accordance with this section.

(f) An applicant for a floor area ratio bonus pursuant to this section may also submit to the city, county, or city and county a proposal for specific incentives or concessions pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 65915.

(g) (1) This section shall not be interpreted to do either of the following:

(A) Supersede or preempt any other section within this chapter.

(B) Prohibit a city, county, or city and county from providing a floor area ratio bonus under terms that are different from those set forth in this section.

(2) The adoption of an ordinance pursuant to this section shall not be interpreted to relieve a city, county, or city and county from complying with Section 65915.

(Added by Stats. 2018, Ch. 915, Sec. 1. (AB 2372) Effective January 1, 2019.)

§ 65917.5. Child Care Facility in Commercial or Industrial Project; Density Bonus for Developer; Ordinance; Conditions; Assessment on Use of Space, for Other Purposes; Finding Necessary for Change

(a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) “Child care facility” means a facility installed, operated, and maintained under this section for the nonresidential care of children as defined under applicable state licensing requirements for the facility.

(2) “Density bonus” means a floor area ratio bonus over the otherwise maximum allowable density permitted under the applicable zoning ordinance and land use elements of the general plan of a city, including a charter city, city and county, or county of:

(A) A maximum of five square feet of floor area for each one square foot of floor area contained in the child care facility for existing structures.

(B) A maximum of 10 square feet of floor area for each one square foot of floor area contained in the child care facility for new structures.
For purposes of calculating the density bonus under this section, both indoor and outdoor square footage requirements for the child care facility as set forth in applicable state child care licensing requirements shall be included in the floor area of the child care facility.

(3) “Developer” means the owner or other person, including a lessee, having the right under the applicable zoning ordinance of a city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors to make an application for development approvals for the development or redevelopment of a commercial or industrial project.

(4) “Floor area” means as to a commercial or industrial project, the floor area as calculated under the applicable zoning ordinance of a city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors and as to a child care facility, the total area contained within the exterior walls of the facility and all outdoor areas devoted to the use of the facility in accordance with applicable state child care licensing requirements.

(b) A city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors may establish a procedure by ordinance to grant a developer of a commercial or industrial project, containing at least 50,000 square feet of floor area, a density bonus when that developer has set aside at least 2,000 square feet of floor area and 3,000 outdoor square feet to be used for a child care facility. The granting of a bonus shall not preclude a city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors from imposing necessary conditions on the project or on the additional square footage. Projects constructed under this section shall conform to height, setback, lot coverage, architectural review, site plan review, fees, charges, and other health, safety, and zoning requirements generally applicable to construction in the zone in which the property is located. A consortium with more than one developer may be permitted to achieve the threshold amount for the available density bonus with each developer’s density bonus equal to the percentage participation of the developer. This facility may be located on the project site or may be located offsite as agreed upon by the developer and local agency. If the child care facility is not located on the site of the project, the local agency shall determine whether the location of the child care facility is appropriate and whether it conforms with the intent of this section. The child care facility shall be of a size to comply with all state licensing requirements in order to accommodate at least 40 children.

(c) The developer may operate the child care facility itself or may contract with a licensed child care provider to operate the facility. In all cases, the developer shall show ongoing coordination with a local child care resource and referral network or local governmental child care coordinator in order to qualify for the density bonus.

(d) If the developer uses space allocated for child care facility purposes, in accordance with subdivision (b), for purposes other than for a child care facility, an assessment based on the square footage of the project may be levied and collected by the city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors. The assessment shall be consistent with the market value of the space. If the developer fails to have the space allocated for the child care facility within three years, from the date upon which the first temporary certificate of occupancy is granted, an assessment based on the square footage of the project may be levied and collected by the city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors. The assessment shall be consistent with the market value of the space. A penalty levied against a consortium of developers shall be charged to each developer in an amount equal to the developer’s percentage square feet participation. Funds collected pursuant to this subdivision shall be deposited by the city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors into a special account to be used for child care services or child care facilities.
(e) Once the child care facility has been established, prior to the closure, change in use, or reduction in the physical size of, the facility, the city, city council, including a charter city council, city and county board of supervisors, or county board of supervisors shall be required to make a finding that the need for child care is no longer present, or is not present to the same degree as it was at the time the facility was established.

(f) The requirements of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 66000) and of the amendments made to Sections 53077, 54997, and 54998 by Chapter 1002 of the Statutes of 1987 shall not apply to actions taken in accordance with this section.

(g) This section shall not apply to a voter-approved ordinance adopted by referendum or initiative.

(Added by Stats. 2008, Ch. 179, Sec. 112. Effective January 1, 2009.)

§ 65918. Charter Cities; Application of Chapter
The provisions of this chapter shall apply to charter cities.
(Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 1207.)