



# HOUSING

## SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

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## Housing Santa Cruz County June Newsletter



### Our Feature Article:

## ***Santa Cruz County Government Takes Steps to Seek Prohousing Designation***

In HSCC's 2022 Policy Platform, all jurisdictions in the county were encouraged to participate in the State of California's Prohousing Designation Program. The County is the first jurisdiction to pursue participating in this program that provides incentives in the form of additional points or other preferences in scoring competitive applications for several funding programs, including affordable housing and sustainable communities...

[Click Here to Read Full Article from HSCC](#)

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# Affordable Housing News

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## ***100% Affordable multi-family housing project gets under way in Santa Cruz***

We're excited to see the start of this work in downtown Santa Cruz, as this development gets under way between Cedar and Center streets near Cathcart Street.

[Read More](#)



## ***Habitat Helping Humanity***

A teacher, who thought homeownership was out of reach in Santa Cruz, received the key to her new home last Saturday! Let's create more opportunities like this!

[Read More](#)



## ***Scotts Valley Planning Commission to consider mixed-use development at Oak Creek Park***

After more than a decade of stops and starts, a stalled mixed-use development in Scotts Valley may finally get a green light from city officials.

[Read More](#)

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## ***Guest Commentary (from HSCC Board Member, Fred Keeley): A solution for low and very low income housing, now***

There is a solution to California's very low and low income housing crisis, and it can be launched this month.



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## HSCC Endorsements & Taking Action!

The HSCC Governing Board has sent letters of support to our legislators regarding the following bills:

**AB 1911** - Low-income Tax Credits

This bill adds a new provision to the tax credit system (the major financing mechanism for 100% affordable housing projects) to allow granting of credits for buying/remodeling etc already built projects that have expiring dedicated affordability units to extend their affordability units to extend their affordability. City of Santa Cruz has over a hundred units near their expiration.

**AB 2011** - Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022

This bill would add more areas in cities (commercially-zoned) for 100% affordable housing projects to be “by right” and have streamlined ministerial processes while also requiring prevailing wages.

**AB 2097** - Residential Development Parking Requirements

This bill allows for fewer required parking spaces if a property is within a half mile of a bus route enabling more residential units to be built.

**AB 2244** - Religious Institution Housing Allows Using Parking Lots for Affordable Housing

A bill already exists that makes it easier for religious institutions to use their land for affordable housing but this bill enables them to have fewer required parking spaces so that affordable housing can be built.

**ACA 14** - Housing Opportunities For Everyone Act

This legislation would have 5% of the general fund each year be used to address homelessness and fund affordable housing, including housing and services to prevent and end homelessness. This would require a voter-approved Constitutional Amendment.

**SB 886** Fast-track University Housing Developments

This bill would fast-track university housing developments at UC, California State Universities and community colleges by getting rid of a secondary review currently required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

## SCA 2 - Repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution

Removes majority vote requirement for publicly-funded low rent housing projects

This legislation would repeal Article 34 which requires development, construction, or acquisition of publicly-funded low-rent housing projects to be approved by a majority of voters in a city or county. Passage would reduce the red tape that currently makes it harder and more expensive to build much needed affordable housing. This would require a voter-approved Constitutional Amendment.

[Read More HSCC Endorsements and Take Action Today!](#)

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## Join Housing Santa Cruz County Today!

**Housing Santa Cruz County** is working every day to keep affordable housing development top of mind amongst policymakers and community leaders.

Your tax-deductible donation will help us maintain a steady presence and pressure at the local and State level to enact and support meaningful affordable housing policy and projects throughout Santa Cruz County. Please consider becoming a recurring contributor to our work, if you aren't already!



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Housing Santa Cruz County  
132 Van Ness Avenue,  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
United States

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