

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment

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From: Nancy <nancynpwork@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 5:21 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Roy Lee; Wade Cowper; Supervisor Nelson; Steve Lavagnino; Eleanor Gartner; Gina Fischer
Subject: SBCAN Public Comment - Pro-Housing Designation Item #2 5/20
Attachments: SBCAN_ Pro-Housing Designation - 5_20.docx.pdf

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Hello,

Please see the attached letter from Santa Barbara County Action Network (SBCAN) on the 5/20 agenda on Item D2.

Thank you,

Nancy Avoce
Assistant Director
SBCAN



May 19, 2025

To: Chair Capps and Honorable County Board of Supervisors
RE: Pro-Housing Designation - Departmental Item #2

Dear County Board of Supervisors,

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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ACTION NETWORK

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Santa Barbara County Action Network (SBCAN) appreciates the work that the County has done to remedy our current housing emergency. We appreciate efforts to secure steady revenue streams to our affordable housing funds.

Although we support the County's application and participation in the Pro-Housing Designation Program, we ask the County to enact a local designated funding source to advocate for significantly more state funds to build more affordable housing. The price of land and cost of construction in Santa Barbara County means that even existing funding available through a pro-housing designation would not be enough to significantly increase our deed-restricted affordable housing stock.

We support urgent efforts aimed to incentivize developers to build more affordable units, especially in light of the findings provided by the County Workforce Housing Study, showing that 71% of our workers are low-income (earning less than 80% of the AMI). Because the price of land and construction remains an obstacle to maximizing our affordable housing stock, we urge the County to seek policy initiatives and incentives that are favorable to developers (both public and private) to respond to the community's needs and build more of the housing that our local employees actually need. We invite the County to continue partnering with SBCAN and other like-minded stakeholders to ensure that our local County employees and developers both benefit from new housing development opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Hough".

Ken Hough, Co-Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeanne Sparks".

Jeanne Sparks, Co-Executive Director

Dick Flacks, Co-President