

CHAPTER II – HOUSING PLAN

The Housing Plan sets forth Sausalito's goals, policies and programs to be implemented over the 2015-2023 planning period of the Housing Element. The Housing Plan, which has been drafted with community and decision-maker input, is prepared in the context of: 1) Sausalito's housing needs; 2) land availability and environmental constraints; 3) funding limitations; and 4) experience gained from implementation of the City's adopted 2009-2014 Housing Element. The first section of the Housing Plan sets forth the Element's goals and policies, followed by the second section, which establishes the implementing programs. Each of these two sections is organized around the following seven goals of the Element:

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- **Preserving housing and neighborhood assets.**
Goal 1.0: Maintain and enhance the quality of existing housing and ensure that new residential development is compatible with Sausalito's small town character.
- **Encouraging diversity in housing.**
Goal 2.0: Provide opportunities for a range of housing types in a variety of locations and densities to meet the diverse needs of the Sausalito community.
- **Enhancing housing affordability.**
Goal 3.0: Expand and protect opportunities for households of all income levels to find housing in Sausalito and afford a greater choice of rental and homeownership opportunities.
- **Reducing governmental constraints.**
Goal 4.0: Reduce governmental constraints on the maintenance, improvement and development of housing while maintaining community character.
- **Promoting equal housing opportunities.**
Goal 5.0: Promote equal housing opportunities for all residents, including Sausalito's special needs populations, so that residents can reside in the housing of their choice.
- **Implementing environmental sustainability.**
Goal 6.0: Promote environmental sustainability through support of existing and new development which minimizes reliance on natural resources.
- **Promoting community involvement.**
Goal 7.0: Promote the active participation of citizens, community groups, and governmental agencies in housing and community development activities.

For the Housing Element Subcommittee Meeting of March 19, 2014

A. Goals and Policies

The following Housing Element goals and policies will guide the City's actions pertaining to housing during the planning period.

Preserving Housing and Neighborhood Assets

Goal 1.0: Maintain and enhance the quality of existing housing and ensure that new residential development is compatible with Sausalito's small town character.

Policies

Policy 1.1 Housing Design. Review proposed new housing and accessory dwelling units to achieve excellence in development design. Encourage design that enhances neighborhood identity with sensitive transition of scale and building bulk, is compatible to the surrounding neighborhood, and uses quality building materials.

Implementing Programs:

Program 4 – Residential Design Review

Policy 1.2 Historic Preservation. Support efforts to identify and preserve historic structures. Ensure the compatibility of infill development in the context of Sausalito's historic resources.

Implementing Programs:

Program 3 – Historic Design Guidelines and Preservation Incentives

Policy 1.3 Maintenance and Management of Quality Housing. Support good management practices and the long-term maintenance and improvement of existing housing through code enforcement and housing rehabilitation programs.

Implementing Programs:

Program 1 – Code Enforcement;

Program 2 – Residential Rehabilitation Loan and Energy Retrofit Programs

Policy 1.4 Rental Housing Conservation. Continue to conserve the existing rental housing stock by limiting the conversion of rental units to ownership or non-residential uses.

Implementing Programs:

Program 5 – Condominium Conversion Regulations

Policy 1.5 Protection of Existing Affordable Housing. Ensure the continued affordability of income-restricted housing for lower and moderate income households.

Implementing Programs:

Program 6 – Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Housing

Policy 1.6 Neighborhood Services. Promote neighborhood vitality and reduced reliance on the automobile by supporting the provision of neighborhood serving uses, such as grocery stores.

Implementing Programs:

Land Use Element Program LU-2.13.1 – Zoning Ordinance – Neighborhood Commercial uses

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Economic Development Element Program E-5.1.1 – Permitted Uses (Neighborhood Commercial)

Encouraging Diversity in Housing

Goal 2.0: Provide opportunities for a range of housing types in a variety of locations and densities to meet the diverse needs of the Sausalito community.

Policies

Policy 2.1 Variety of Housing Choices. Encourage diversity in the type, size, price and tenure of residential development in Sausalito, while maintaining quality of life goals.

Implementing Programs:

Program 8 – Mixed Use Zoning in Commercial Districts

Program 9 – Non-Traditional Housing Types

Program 10a – Accessory Dwelling Units – Adoption of Regulations to Encourage New ADUs

Program 10b – Accessory Dwelling Units – Registration and Amnesty of Existing ADUs

Program 11 – Liveaboard Housing

Policy 2.2 Adequate Sites. Provide adequate housing sites through appropriate land use and zoning designations, consistent with Sausalito’s regional housing growth needs.

Implementing Programs:

Program 7 – Residential and Mixed- Use Site Inventory

Policy 2.3 Adaptive Reuse.

Support innovative strategies for the adaptive reuse of commercial structures to provide for a range of housing types and residential uses, for example, the residential use of upper floors of commercial buildings.

Implementing Programs:

Program 8 – Mixed Use Zoning in Commercial Districts

Policy 2.4 Legalization of Existing Accessory Dwelling Units.

Establish an amnesty program for existing accessory dwelling units by establishing a period of time for owners of un-permitted units to register their units and make them legal.

Implementing Programs:

Program 10b – Accessory Dwelling Units – Registration and Amnesty of Existing ADUs

Policy 2.5 Creation of New Accessory Dwelling Units.

Enable the construction and/or creation of new accessory dwelling units in residential zoning districts to increase the supply of affordable housing and address a portion of Sausalito’s regional housing needs. Ensure accessory dwelling units are designed to be compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Implementing Programs:

Program 4 – Residential Design Review

Program 10a – Accessory Dwelling Units – Adoption of Regulations to Encourage New ADUs

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Policy 2.6 Liveaboard Housing.

Protect liveaboards as a source of affordable housing and officially recognize them as part of the community's housing stock. Work with residents, marine operators and owners, agencies and non-profit groups to identify ways to assist in the long-term affordability and maintenance of this unique form of housing in Sausalito.

Implementing Programs:

Program 11 – Liveaboard Housing



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Enhancing Housing Affordability

Goal 3.0: Expand and protect opportunities for households of all income levels to find housing in Sausalito and afford a greater choice of rental and homeownership opportunities.

Policies

Policy 3.1 Incentives.

Facilitate the development of affordable housing through site assembly, financial assistance, and regulatory incentives. Implement new models and approaches in the provision of affordable housing.

Implementing Programs:

Program 12 – Affordable Housing Development Assistance;

Program 13 – Local Affordable Housing Fund

Policy 3.2 Partnerships.

Explore collaborative partnerships with nonprofit organizations, developers, governmental agencies and the business community to develop, rehabilitate and preserve affordable housing.

Implementing Programs:

Program 14 – Partnerships for Affordable Housing

Policy 3.3 Homeownership Assistance.

Encourage the provision of financial assistance to low and moderate income first-time homebuyers through County and State programs.

Implementing Programs:

Program 15 – Homebuyer Assistance

Policy 3.4 Rental Assistance.

Support and publicize available rental assistance programs for lower income and special needs households.

Implementing Programs:

Program 16 – Section 8 Rental Assistance

Policy 3.5 Inclusionary Housing.

Evaluate requiring new residential developments and residential land divisions above a certain size to provide a percentage of affordable units, or contribute proportionately to the development of affordable units.

Implementing Programs:

Program 17 – Inclusionary Housing Regulations

Reducing Governmental Constraints

Goal 4.0: Reduce governmental constraints on the maintenance, improvement and development of housing while maintaining community character.

Policies

Policy 4.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing.

Support the use of various incentives to offset the costs of affordable housing while ensuring that potential impacts are addressed.

Implementing Programs:

Program 18 – Fee Deferrals and/or Waivers for Affordable Housing

Program 19 – Density Bonus and Other Incentives for Affordable Housing

Policy 4.2 Flexible Development Standards.

Provide flexibility in development standards to accommodate new models and approaches to providing housing, such as transit-oriented development, mixed use and co-housing.

Implementing Programs:

Program 8 – Mixed Use Zoning in Commercial Districts

Program 9 – Non-Traditional Housing Types

Program 10a – Accessory Dwelling Units – Adoption of Regulations to Encourage New ADUs

Program 12 – Affordable Housing Development Assistance

Policy 4.3 Efficient Use of Multi-Family Zoning.

Encourage the sustainable use of land and promote affordability by encouraging development of two-family and multi-family housing within the City's multi-family zoning districts (R-2-5, R-2-2.5, R-3).

Implementing Programs:

Program 20 – Multi Family Development in Multi-Family Districts

Policy 4.4 Development Review.

Explore continued improvements to the entitlement process to streamline and coordinate the processing of development permits, design review and environmental clearance.

Implementing Programs:

Program 3 – Historic Design Guidelines and Preservation Incentives

Policy 4.5 Zoning for Special Needs.

Provide for transitional and supportive housing, emergency shelters, and single room occupancy uses, consistent with State law.

Implementing Programs:

Program 21 – Zoning Text Amendments for Special Needs Housing

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Promoting Equal Housing Opportunities

Goal 5.0: Promote equal housing opportunities for all residents, including Sausalito's special needs populations, so that residents can reside in the housing of their choice.

Policies

Policy 5.1 Fair Housing.

Seek to ensure that individuals and families pursuing housing in Sausalito do not experience discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, disability, age, sex, familial status, national origin, sexual preference or other arbitrary factors, identified in the Fair Housing Act.

Implementing Programs:

Program 22 – Fair Housing Program

Policy 5.2 Senior Housing.

Support development and maintenance of affordable senior rental and ownership housing and supportive services to facilitate maximum independence and the ability of seniors to remain in their homes and/or in the community.

Implementing Programs:

Program 6 – Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Housing

Program 12 – Affordable Housing Development Assistance

Program 23 – Sausalito Village Senior Services

Program 24 – Home Sharing and Tenant Matching Opportunities

Policy 5.3 Family Housing.

Support families by encouraging the development of larger rental and ownership housing units for families with children, and the provision of family support services such as childcare and after-school care.

Implementing Programs:

Program 8a – Vertical Mixed Use Requirements in Commercial Districts

Program 8b – Horizontal Mixed Use Incentives in Commercial Districts

Program 12 – Affordable Housing Development Assistance

Policy 5.4 Housing for Persons with Disabilities.

Address the special housing needs of persons with disabilities through provision of supportive housing, homeowner accessibility grants, zoning for group housing, and adoption of reasonable accommodation procedures.

Implementing Programs:

Program 2 – Residential Rehabilitation Loan and Energy Retrofit Programs

Program 21 – Zoning Text Amendments for Special Needs Housing

Program 25 – Reasonable Accommodation Procedures

Program 26 – Universal Design/Visitability

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Policy 5.5 Housing for Marine Workers.

Support affordable housing options for persons employed in Sausalito's waterfront to allow them to live in the community in which they work.

Implementing Programs:

Program 11 – Liveaboard Housing

Program 27 – Housing for Marine Workers

Policy 5.6 Homeless Housing and Services.

Work cooperatively with Marin County and other applicable agencies to provide a continuum of care for the homeless, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, supportive housing and permanent affordable housing.

Implementing Programs:

Program 28 – Homeless Continuum of Care



Implementing Environmental Sustainability

Goal 6.0: Promote environmental sustainability through support of existing and new development which minimizes reliance on natural resources.

Policies

Policy 6.1 Green Building.

Develop a local Green Building Program to implement practices focused on reducing Sausalito's greenhouse gas emissions and consumption of natural resources.

Implementing Programs:

Program 29 – Local Green Building Regulations

Policy 6.2 Sustainable Construction.

Promote the use of sustainable construction techniques and environmentally sensitive design for housing.

Implementing Programs:

Program 29 – Local Green Building Regulations

Policy 6.3 Alternative Energy.

Promote the use of alternative energy sources such as solar energy, cogeneration, and non-fossil fuels.

Implementing Programs:

Program 30 – Climate Action Plan

Policy 6.4 Transportation Alternatives.

Incorporate transit and other transportation alternatives such as walking and bicycling into the design of new development.

Implementing Programs:

Program 29 – Local Green Building Regulations

Policy 6.5 Jobs/Housing Balance.

Encourage a closer link between housing and jobs in the community, including housing opportunities for Sausalito workers.

Implementing Programs:

Program 8 – Mixed Use Zoning in Commercial Districts

Program 30 – Climate Action Plan

Promoting Community Involvement

Goal 7.0: Promote the active participation of citizens, community groups, and governmental agencies in housing and community development activities.

Policies

Policy 7.1 Community Participation.

Take an active role in fostering community participation from all economic segments and special needs groups in the formulation and review of housing needs, issues and programs.

Implementing Programs:

Program 31 – Ongoing Community Education and Outreach

Policy 7.2 Public Review of Development.

Encourage public awareness and involvement in housing development proposals to facilitate the design of new housing that fits within the neighborhood context.

Implementing Programs:

Program 31 – Ongoing Community Education and Outreach

Policy 7.3 Housing Element Implementation.

Ensure the timely follow through of actions identified in the Housing Element.

Implementing Programs:

Program 32 – Housing Element Monitoring/Annual Report

Program 33 – Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Housing Needs Process

Program 34 – Staff Affordable Housing Training and Education

B. Implementing Programs

The goals and policies contained in the Housing Element are implemented through a series of housing programs. The housing programs described on the following pages include existing programs, as well as new measures and programs developed to address identified needs. The overall strategy for addressing housing needs is structured around the Element's seven goals, addressing the following themes:

- Preserving housing and neighborhood assets
- Encouraging diversity in housing
- Enhancing housing affordability
- Reducing governmental constraints
- Promoting equal housing opportunities
- Implementing environmental sustainability
- Promoting community involvement

The Summary Table 2.1 located near the end of this section specifies the following for each implementing program: program summary, 2015-2023 program objective; funding sources; entities responsible for implementation; and implementation time frame.

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The Programs below are followed by the Policy (or Policies) that they implement in parentheses.

Housing Element statutes now require an analysis of the needs of extremely low income (<30% AMI) households, and programs to assist in the creation of housing for this population. Sausalito's Housing Element sets forth several programs which help to address the needs of extremely low income households, including: Accessory Dwelling Units (Program 10); Affordable Housing Development Assistance (Program 12); Section 8 Rental Assistance (Program 16); Fee Deferrals or Waivers for Affordable Housing (Program 18); Density Bonus and Other Incentives for Affordable Housing (Program 19); Zoning Text Amendments for Special Needs Housing (Program 21); and Home Sharing and Tenant Matching Opportunities (Program 24).

Goal 1.0: Preserving Housing and Neighborhood Assets

1. Code Enforcement and Public Information

(Policy 1.3 Maintenance and Management of Quality Housing)

The existing code enforcement program seeks to protect and preserve the existing housing stock and the overall quality of neighborhoods. Enforcement of regulatory codes is fundamental to the protection of life safety within the community. Coordination of housing, building and fire code compliance can streamline compliance and improve living conditions. The opportunity exists to move beyond a pure compliance approach and begin to offer information on how qualifying property owners can utilize existing resources for improving housing conditions.

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Coordination with *Marin Housing*, [Marin Clean Energy](#) and PG&E would be increased under this program. The purpose of this implementation program is to expand the City's current Code Enforcement program to include the offering of useful referral information. The City will provide information to property owners on rehabilitation assistance available through the *Marin Housing* for lower income homeowners, and energy retrofit programs available through PG&E. This will also include information about community service clubs and other organizations that provide volunteer labor assistance housing improvement programs for homeowners physically or financially unable to maintain their homes. The City will support such programs through public outreach and coordination.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Provide informational handouts on available rehabilitation assistance and energy retrofit programs for distribution as part of the normal code enforcement process. Provide information about volunteer labor organizations on the City's website.*

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2. Residential Rehabilitation Loan and Energy Retrofit Programs *(Policy 1.3 Maintenance of Quality Housing, Policy 5.4 Housing for Persons with Disabilities)*

As a participating city in Marin County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, very low income Sausalito residents are eligible to participate in the Residential Rehabilitation Loan Program administered by *Marin Housing*. This program provides technical assistance to homeowners and makes low interest property improvement loans of up to \$35,000 for correction of substandard conditions, elimination of health and safety hazards, energy conservation measures, and accessibility improvements. Loans are available for owner-occupied single-family homes, accessory dwelling units, and houseboats and liveaboards in approved berths. Applicants apply directly through *Marin Housing*.



Sausalito homeowners and renters are eligible for a variety of financial incentives through PG&E and [Marin Clean Energy](#) for making energy efficiency improvements to their homes, [including rebates for home energy assessments, energy efficiency updates, and solar energy improvements](#). The Energy Savings Assistance Program provides free minor home improvements and replacement of old space and water heating systems for income-qualified residents. PG&E also offers rebates on hundreds of energy efficient appliances and products.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Pro-actively publicize the Marin Housing Residential Rehabilitation Loan Program, and [Marin Clean Energy](#) and PG&E energy retrofit programs on the City's website, [through Sausalito Village](#) and through brochures at City Hall and other community locations, and strive to assist [eight](#) households during the planning period. Specifically promote available rehabilitation assistance among the liveaboard community in permitted marinas.*

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3. Historic Preservation Regulations and Incentives

(Policy 1.2 Historic Preservation, Policy 4.4 Development Review)

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The City places a strong emphasis on preserving its historic resources and maintaining a unique sense of place and community. Preservation of historic buildings contributes to the high standards of the community's housing and neighborhoods. The City staff, Historic Landmarks Board, Planning Commission and City Council all work closely with property owners to preserve historic buildings. The City's Historic Overlay Zoning District provides the following incentives for preservation:

- Design Review application fees may be waived;
- The City utilizes the State of California Historic Building Code;
- Exceptions to development standards including setbacks, height, parking, coverage and FAR may be granted; and
- Uses otherwise not allowed may be approved through a conditional use permit.

The City will update the Historic Preservation regulations based on the recently adopted Historic Design Guidelines. The City will utilize the recently obtained Certified Local Government status to pursue funds for historic preservation, including funding for preservation of historic wooden boats being used as housing.

2015-2023 Objectives: Update the Historic Preservation regulations contained within the Zoning Ordinance by 2014. Disseminate the City's brochure on available sources of funds including loans and grants for historic preservation.

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4. Residential Design Review

(Policy 1.1 Housing Design, Policy 2.5 Creation of New Accessory Dwelling Units)

The City is committed to maintaining its small-town character. The Design Review process ensures proposed projects and modifications to existing buildings are consistent with the General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and design guidelines. The Design Review process also checks whether the proposed development is compatible with its surroundings and the neighborhood.

The City of Sausalito seeks to foster creativity and innovation in project design and exerts minimal control over project architecture, and hence has chosen not to adopt prescriptive design guidelines.

2015-2023 Objectives: Continue to provide design review to ensure that new projects and modifications of existing buildings are consistent with the small-town character of Sausalito.

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5. Condominium Conversion Regulations

(Policy 1.4 Rental Housing Conservation)

As a means of maintaining the supply of rental units and preserving the affordable housing stock, multi-family rental units proposed for conversion to condominium ownership are subject

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to Condominium Conversion regulations (Zoning Ordinance Chapter 10.66). These regulations set forth a series of tenant protections including tenant noticing, relocation compensation and right of first purchase, and prohibit the eviction of senior citizen tenants and conversion of low and moderate income rentals. The regulations limit the number of conversions to no greater than 5% of the City's potentially convertible rental stock in any given year. Conversions involving five or more units are subject to a 15% low and moderate income inclusionary requirement (with not less than one affordable unit provided), with resale restrictions to assure long-term affordability.

In recent years, the primary requests for condominium conversions have involved small projects (e.g., projects with four or fewer units). In order to mitigate the loss of rentals from these smaller projects, the City will evaluate strengthening its current regulations to extend the low and moderate income inclusionary requirement to projects with 3 and 4 units, providing smaller projects an option to pay an in-lieu housing fee as supported by a nexus study. In order to assure that long-term homeowners of small projects are not adversely affected, relief may be provided to projects which are primarily homeowner occupied. The City will also evaluate prohibiting conversions when the rental vacancy rate falls below a certain level (e.g., 5%).

2015-2023 Objectives: Continue to assure that the requirements of the Condominium Conversion regulations are met. *By 2016: 1) evaluate strengthening the current regulations by extending inclusionary requirements to projects with 3 or 4 units and prohibiting conversions during periods of low rental vacancy rates; and 2) examine options for providing relief for condominium conversion projects with 3 or 4 units which are primarily occupied by long-term homeowners.*

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6. Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Housing

(Policy 1.5 Protection of Existing Affordable Housing, Policy 5.2 Senior Housing)

Currently three income-restricted affordable rental projects are located in the City: Bee Street Housing (6 very low income units); Rotary Place (10 very low income units); and Sausalito Rotary Senior Housing (22 very low income units). In addition, of the 38 berths in Galilee Harbor, five berths are reserved for extremely low income, 7 for very low income, 15 for low income, and 7 for moderate income houseboat and liveaboard tenants at affordable rents. In total, 72 rent-restricted affordable housing opportunities are available, none of which are at risk of conversion to market rate.

2015-2023 Objectives: Ensure the preservation of 5 extremely low income, 45 very low income, 15 low income and 7 moderate income housing opportunities. Require long-term affordability controls on all future affordable housing projects.

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Goal 2.0: Encouraging Diversity in Housing

7. Residential and Mixed-Use Site Inventory

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(Policy 2.2 Adequate Sites)

As part of this Housing Element, a detailed analysis of all vacant and underutilized residential and commercial parcels in Sausalito was conducted. The analysis used the Marin Map GIS system and was confirmed by review of aerial photographs and site visits. A number of filters were applied in order to identify only those parcels that truly have realistic development potential. The analysis determined that under existing zoning designations, approximately 100 additional units can be accommodated within the City's residential zoning districts and approximately 50 units within the City's commercial zones. Only limited vacant sites remain, with the majority of future residential development opportunities on underutilized parcels that are more challenging to develop.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Maintain a current inventory of vacant and underutilized residential sites, and mixed-use sites within the City's commercial districts. Provide the site inventory and available development incentives information to interested developers.*

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8. Mixed Use Zoning in Commercial Districts

(Policy 2.1 Variety of Housing Choices, Policy 2.3 Adaptive Reuse, Policy 4.2 Flexible Development Standards, Policy 5.3 Family Housing, Policy 6.5 Jobs/Housing Balance)

With approximately one-third of the City's residential infill potential occurring within its commercial districts, it will be important that the City's standards facilitate residential mixed use. The following provisions currently encourage the integration of residential use within the CC, CR and CN commercial zoning districts:

- Allowances for residential housing on upper stories, up to the City's height limit of 32 feet, with commercial uses at ground level;
- Prohibition against conversion of existing residential uses to commercial (except in CC district where permitted with Minor Use Permit) ;
- Allowances for commercial and residential users to share their parking with a conditional use permit (CUP); and
- Allowances for tandem parking with a CUP.

8a. Vertical Mixed Use Requirements in Commercial Districts

"Vertical Mixed Use" (VMU) is a new mandatory requirement to be applied throughout the CN-1, CR and CC zoning districts to better facilitate the provision of upper story residential use above ground floor commercial (i.e. "vertical" mixed use), and encourage the integration of affordable units within market-rate projects. VMU requirements are as follows:

- New construction of 2nd and 3rd stories is limited to residential use.
- A minimum of one unit must be affordable. Projects with 6 or more units must provide 20% affordable units.

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- Affordable rental units are targeted to low income (80% AMI) households, and affordable ownership units are targeted to moderate income (120% AMI) households.
- Affordable units must have a minimum of two bedrooms to accommodate families.
- The affordable units must be deed-restricted for a period of not less than forty years.
- The conversion of existing upper story residential uses to commercial uses is prohibited.
- The following exceptions to VMU requirements may be approved by the City Council:
 - a. To allow the expansion of an existing business;
 - b. If the property owner can demonstrate a financial hardship; and
 - c. If project applications for non-residential uses are deemed complete prior to March 31, 2013, to allow for potential projects that are currently under consideration to be reviewed according to existing zoning regulations.

Incentives to foster the creation of upper story residential VMU units include:

- Raising the current Conditional Use Permit requirement for 4 or more residential units to 7 or more residential units.
- Allowance for commercial and residential users to share parking, and for tandem and off-site parking leases with a Minor Use Permit.
- Allowance for affordable units to vary in square footage, design and interior amenity within reason from non-affordable units to reduce the cost of providing affordable units.
- Reduction or waiver of certain application and development review fees for the affordable units.

2015-2023 Objectives: ~~Implement the City's new VMU requirements within the CN-1, CR and CC zoning districts. By 2015, develop and disseminate educational materials on the new VMU regulations.~~

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8b. Horizontal Mixed Use Overlay in Neighborhood Commercial (CN-1) District

To further facilitate the provision of housing within the Neighborhood Commercial (CN-1) Zoning District, the City has adopted a new "Horizontal Mixed Use" (HMU) Overlay with incentives to encourage the integration of housing with an affordable component¹. These are voluntary incentives that allow commercial property owners of designated CN-1 zoned sites (1901 Bridgeway and 2015 Bridgeway) to utilize the ground floor level of buildings for residential use, rather than the commercial uses otherwise required. The optional HMU incentives may be used in combination with incentives available under State density bonus law for affordable units.

In exchange for the by-right provision of ground floor residential use, the property owner would be required to:

- Ensure a minimum 30% three+ bedroom units to accommodate larger families;
- Ensure 25% very low income and 25% low income households;

¹ The integration of 100% residential projects within a commercial district is referred to as "horizontal" mixed use as it allows residential uses next to commercial uses, on either the same or nearby parcels.

- Ensure affordable units are deed-restricted for a period of not less than forty years;
- Meet the existing development standards in the Zoning Ordinance and existing findings for Design Review.

The following two sites are designated for Horizontal Mixed Use incentives:

- 1901 Bridgeway
- 2015 Bridgeway

2015-2023 Objectives: Implement the City's new, HMU Overlay and incentives on designated parcels.

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9. Non-Traditional Housing Types

(Policy 2.1 Variety of Housing Choices, Policy 4.2 Flexible Development Standards)

The community recognizes the changing housing needs of its population, including a growing number of non-family households, aging seniors in need of supportive services, and single-parent families in need of childcare and other services. To address such needs, the City can support the provision of non-traditional and innovative housing types to meet the unique needs of residents, including co-housing, shared housing, and assisted living for seniors, among others.

Co-housing is an innovative type of collaborative housing originated in Denmark in the 1960s. Co-housing communities consist of individually owned, private homes clustered around common facilities and amenities in a walkable, sustainable environment. Common features may include a community garden, recreational areas, and a common house where day care and meals can be shared. The communities are managed by the residents who have chosen to live in a close-knit neighborhood. Hundreds of co-housing communities currently exist throughout the country in a variety of settings, including communities in Berkeley, Oakland, Pleasant Hill, Cotati, Grass Valley, Davis and Santa Barbara.

Given the economic downturn, shared housing living situations are becoming more common. Homeowners are taking in renters, and renters are advertising for roommates to share in housing costs. Bringing in a tenant can be particularly helpful to the community's elderly homeowners to provide the necessary support to allow them to remain in their homes. The City supports these types of shared living situations.

Assisted living facilities are designed for elderly individuals needing assistance with certain activities of daily living - such as eating, bathing, and transportation - but desiring to live as independently as possible. Such facilities bridge the gap between independent living and nursing homes. With 7% of Sausalito's population over the age of 75, assisted living can help meet the housing and supportive service needs of the community's more frail senior residents. The Zoning Ordinance currently provides reduced parking standards for senior housing facilities.

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2015-2023 Objectives: Evaluation the modification of zoning regulations to allow for the development of alternative housing models suited to the community's housing.

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10. Accessory Dwelling Units

An accessory dwelling unit (ADU) is a self-contained living unit with cooking, eating, sleeping, and full sanitation facilities, either attached to or detached from the primary residential unit on a single lot. ADUs offer several benefits. First, they typically rent for less than apartments of comparable size, and can offer affordable rental options for seniors, single persons and even small families. Second, the primary homeowner receives supplementary income by renting out the ADU, which can help many modest income and elderly homeowners afford to remain in their homes. ADUs can offer an important opportunity to help Sausalito address its regional housing needs while maintaining the community's small town character.

The City adopted regulations in 1984 prohibiting the development of ADUs in all residential zoning districts. As part of the current Housing Element update, the City conducted a survey of residential property owners which indicated 15% of the 700+ survey respondents had an ADU on their property, and another 19% of respondents would be inclined to build an ADU if the City's regulations permitted. The community has come to recognize ADUs as a low impact approach to addressing a portion of the community's very low and low income housing needs, and the Housing Element thus establishes the following programs to both allow new ADUs and legalize existing ADUs built without permits.

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¶ Flexible development standards including relaxed height limits (under consideration is an increase from 15 feet to 18 feet) for ADUs in detached structures and exemption of ADUs from floor area standards; ¶ Discounted building permit fees; and¶ Reduced or waived parking standards on sites with demonstrated parking constraints; allowance... [1]

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10a. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

(Policy 2.1 Variety of Housing Choices, Policy 2.5 Creation of New Accessory Dwelling Units, Policy 4.2 Flexible Development Standards)

Sausalito's ADU Working Group met over several months in 2012 to develop draft ADU regulations, as well as parameters for an amnesty program for existing non-permitted ADUs. After extensive public review and refinement, City Council adopted an ordinance in November 2012 for both new and existing ADUs.

In compliance with AB 1866 adopted by the State in 2002, the City has established a ministerial approval process for ADUs within residential districts, and has developed standards which both facilitate the provision of ADUs and promote quality design and neighborhood compatibility.

2015-2023 Objectives: Implement the City's recently adopted accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations to facilitate the provision of ADUs for seniors, caregivers, and other lower and extremely low income households. Seek to create 24 ADUs during the planning period, and monitor the City's progress in conjunction with the Annual Housing Element Report.

For the Housing Element Subcommittee Meeting of March 19, 2014

10b. ADU Registration and Amnesty Program

(Policy 2.1 Variety of Housing Choices, Policy 2.4 Legalization of Existing ADUs)

The City recognizes the existence of numerous ADUs in the community built illegally which may or may not meet basic health and safety guidelines. The City's goal is to legalize these units, bring them into the City's official housing stock to contribute towards meeting regional housing needs allocation (RHNA), and make them safe and sanitary for current and future tenants.

2009-2014 Objectives: *Evaluate initiating of another amnesty program. Seek to legalize a minimum of [number TBD] ADUs [period TBD], bringing them into the City's official housing stock and crediting them towards the RHNA.*

11. Liveboards and Houseboats

(Policy 2.1 Variety of Housing, Policy 2.6 Liveboards, Policy 5.5 Housing for Marine Workers)

Sausalito has a well-established and vibrant marine culture that plays an important role in shaping the character of the community. There are eight marinas in the City where many boat owners reside in their boats as permanent housing. The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)² and Sausalito Zoning Ordinance both allow for up to 10% of marina berths to be used as liveboard housing. Liveboards provide a valuable source of affordable housing in Sausalito, offering one of the few local housing options for marine workers employed in Sausalito's waterfront. Both the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration support the provision of liveboards in well-managed marinas as an environmentally sustainable housing option.

The Housing Element recognizes liveboards as a low impact approach to addressing a key segment of the City's affordable housing needs, and establishes the following actions to maintain and enhance liveboards as a permanent form of housing in the community:

- Maintain zoning provisions which allow up to 10% of berths in recreational marinas in the C-W and W Zoning Districts to be occupied by liveboards and houseboats. While five marinas have recorded permits with BCDC authorizing 146 liveboards and have various permits on file with the City, none have local permits, which explicitly permit liveboards. The City will complete the local permitting process for BCDC approved liveboards, and officially bring them into Sausalito's housing stock.
- Coordinate with Sausalito Yacht Harbor to facilitate amendment of its BCDC permit, and provide guidance on the Conditional Use Permit process, to increase liveboard capacity from 5% to the maximum of 10%.
- Zoning Ordinance Section 10.44.170.H regarding liveboards states: "As vacancies occur, marina operators shall give preference to qualified low and moderate income tenants

² While Sausalito fronts on Richardson's Bay and its waterfront is subject to regulation by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), the City does not fall within the California Coastal Zone.

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¶ Waiver of parking requirements; ¶
Exemption of ADUs from floor area limits; ¶
Significant discounts in building permit and utility hook-up fees; ¶
Elimination of the ADU permit application fee; and ¶
Rehabilitation assistance to correct for health and safety code violations. ¶

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until such tenants constitute at least 50% of the liveaboard vessels in the marina.” The City will establish monitoring and enforcement of these provisions as part of the local permitting process.

- The majority of the City’s liveaboard community was not counted as part of the census and do not receive mail on-site. The City will coordinate with marine operators to establish a bulletin board at each marina for the posting of public notices, and pursue the establishment of mailboxes for liveaboard tenants.

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2015-2023 Objectives: Complete local permitting of BCDC approved liveaboards in 2014, and establish procedures for implementation of low and moderate income occupancy requirements. Beginning in 2015, require marinas to submit an annual report to City regarding the number of low and moderate income tenants as a means of monitoring liveaboard usage. Continue to work with Sausalito Yacht Harbor in exploring options to expand its liveaboard capacity to 10%. Pursue means to improve mail service and public communication with the liveaboard community.

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Deleted: Contact marina operators and facilitate any required local permitting in 2012. Report permitted liveaboards to the State Department of Finance (DOF) at the next reporting period in early 2013. Coordinate with Sausalito Yacht Harbor to ensure all BCDC and City permitting required for increasing liveaboard capacity to 10% is completed no later than 2013, and report permitted liveaboards to DOF in early 2014. E

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Goal 3.0: Enhancing Housing Affordability

12. Affordable Housing Development Assistance

(Policy 3.1 Incentives, Policy 4.2 Flexible Development Standards, Policy 5.2 Senior Housing, Policy 5.3 Family Housing)

The City can play an important role in facilitating the development of quality, affordable housing in the community through provision of regulatory incentives; and direct financial assistance. By utilizing various tools to facilitate infill development, the City can help to address the housing needs of its extremely low, very low, low and moderate income households. The following are among the types of incentives that will be considered upon request:

- Reduction in development fees
- Flexible development standards
- Density bonuses as described in Implementing Program 19
- City support in affordable housing funding applications
- Financial assistance through future Affordable Housing Fund resources (*refer to following program*)

2015-2023 Objectives: *Provide financial and regulatory incentives to private developers for the development of high quality affordable housing for families and seniors.*

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13. Local Affordable Housing Fund

(Policy 3.1 Incentives)

Because Sausalito does not have a Redevelopment Agency and has limited access to state and federal housing resources, the City faces practical and financial constraints in its ability to facilitate the construction of affordable housing. To create a more viable funding source, the City proposes to establish an Affordable Housing Fund that will be used to construct or help leverage construction of affordable housing. Potential Fund resources include: in-lieu fees from an Inclusionary Housing Program; in-lieu fees on small condominium conversions (three to four units); in-lieu fees for development of single-family units in multi-family districts; and commercial in-lieu fees. Implementing regulations will be established to manage the Fund and establish parameters for allocation of funds towards projects. This program will move forward once a funding source has been identified, and will coincide with the collection of fees.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Upon adoption of a program that generates in-lieu housing fees, establish a dedicated Affordable Housing Fund for deposit of in-lieu fee revenues. Consult with Marin County on their Housing Fund, and establish implementing regulations to govern Fund oversight and expenditures. Actively pursue public and private funding sources for affordable housing, and support developers in securing outside funding sources.*

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For the Housing Element Subcommittee Meeting of March 19, 2014

14. Partnerships for Affordable Housing (Policy 3.2 Partnerships)

The Bay Area is home to numerous nonprofit housing developers who have produced thousands of high-quality affordable housing projects over the past 40 years. In Sausalito, two non-profits have a track record of developing and managing successful affordable housing projects – Rotary Housing and the Ecumenical Association for Housing (EAH). The key to the success of non-profits lies in three areas: 1) their ability to access a diversity of funding sources; 2) their commitment to working cooperatively with the local community; and 3) their long-term dedication to their projects. The Nonprofit Housing Association of Northern California serves as a resource organization for affordable housing developers in the Bay Area.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Explore partnerships with a variety of affordable housing providers, utilizing the Nonprofit Housing Association of Northern California as a resource to identify nonprofits with experience in developing small scale infill projects consistent with Sausalito's character.*

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15. Homebuyer Assistance (Policy 3.3 Homeownership Assistance)

First-time homebuyers in Sausalito have access to several homebuyer assistance programs offered through *Marin Housing*.

The Mortgage Credit Certificate (MCC) program administered by *Marin Housing* provides qualified first time homebuyers with a federal income tax credit of up to 15% of the annual interest paid on the homebuyer's mortgage. This enables homebuyers to have more disposable income available to qualify for a mortgage loan and make the monthly mortgage payments. Eligibility includes maximum household incomes of approximately \$100,000 (for 2 person household), and sales price limits of approximately \$400,000.

Marin Housing also administers a Below Market Rate (BMR) first-time homebuyer program on behalf of jurisdictions in the County with inclusionary housing requirements. The BMR program includes over 300 affordable ownership units within the unincorporated County and seven participating cities. Any inclusionary units generated through Sausalito's condominium conversion regulations or potential future inclusionary housing regulations could also be administered by *Marin Housing*, thereby reducing the administrative burden to the City.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Continue participation in the Mortgage Credit Certificate (MCC) program, and as MCCs become available on an annual basis, actively publicize availability through local media and on the City's website. Pending adoption of a local inclusionary program, contact Marin Housing regarding participation in the Below Market Rate program.*

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For the Housing Element Subcommittee Meeting of March 19, 2014

16. Section 8 Rental Assistance (Policy 3.4 Rental Assistance)

The Section 8 Rental Assistance Program extends rental subsidies to very low-income households (50% area median income or AMI²), including families, seniors, and the disabled. The Section 8 Program offers a voucher that pays the difference between the current fair market rent (FMR) and what a tenant can afford to pay (i.e. 30% of household income). The voucher allows a tenant to choose housing that costs above the payment standard, provided the tenant pays the extra cost. Given the significant gap between market rents and what very low income households can afford to pay for housing, Section 8 plays a critical role in allowing such households to remain in the community, and is a key program to address the needs of extremely low and very low income households. The City will offer tenants information regarding Section 8 rental subsidies and referrals to *Marin Housing* for assistance. The City will also encourage landlords to register units with the Housing Authority by providing informational brochures to rental property owners.

2015-2023 Objectives: *The City will continue to provide brochures at City Hall and information on the City's website regarding Section 8 rental subsidies, and and refer inquiring parties to Marin Housing for assistance. The City will also encourage landlords to register their units with the Housing Authority and direct to www.GoSection8.com, Marin Housing's new enhanced program for on-line listing of rental properties.*

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17. Inclusionary Housing Regulations (Policy 3.5 Inclusionary Housing)

Inclusionary zoning is a tool used by cities to integrate affordable units within market rate developments. One-third of cities in California have adopted some form of inclusionary zoning, requiring a stated percentage (typically 10 to 20%) of affordable units to be provided within newly constructed housing projects. The majority of these regulations allow for payment of a housing in-lieu fee as an alternative to providing the required affordable units on-site. Within Marin, seven cities and the county have adopted inclusionary zoning requirements to help address local affordable housing needs and contribute towards housing element production requirements.

The City will pursue adoption of inclusionary housing regulations to require a minimum percentage of units within new residential development above an established size threshold to be price-restricted as affordable to lower and moderate income households.³ The City will consider granting in-lieu fees where there are hardships or site-specific constraints to the

² Freddie Mac, Glossary of Finance and Economic Terms, http://www.freddiemac.com/smm/a_f.htm

³ Current case law (*Palmer/Sixth Street Properties v. City of Los Angeles*) limits the application of inclusionary requirements to: 1) rental projects receiving financial or regulatory assistance from the City subject to a written development agreement; and 2) for-sale housing projects.

provision of on-site or off-site affordable housing, and the City will conduct an Inclusionary Housing Nexus Study to document the relationship between residential development and demand for affordable housing, and to determine both the maximum supportable and recommended in-lieu fee amount. In-lieu fees generated from the program will be placed in an Affordable Housing Fund to support affordable housing activities.

2015-2023 Objectives: *In 2015, conduct an Inclusionary Housing Nexus and In-Lieu Fee Study including an analysis of alternative strategies to address inclusionary requirements, such as the provision of an ADU above a detached garage. Based on the Study's findings, by 2016, develop and adopt inclusionary housing regulations structured to offer incentives to help offset the cost of providing affordable units.*

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Goal 4.0: Reducing Governmental Constraints

18. Fee Deferrals and/or Waivers for Affordable Housing (Policy 4.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing)

The City collects various fees from development projects to cover the costs of processing permits and providing services and facilities. While these fees are assessed on a pro rata share basis, they are an element in the cost of housing and could potentially constrain the provision of affordable housing. The deferral, reduction or waiver of City fees can lower the production costs of affordable housing.

The City will continue to offer a reduction in City fees as an incentive for affordable housing. In order to specifically encourage the provision of housing affordable to extremely low income (ELI) households (<30% AMI), the City will waive 100% of application processing fees for projects with a minimum of 5% ELI units.

In addition, the California legislature passed AB 641 in 2007, which helps to address the cash flow challenges inherent in many affordable housing projects during the construction phase. For affordable housing developments in which at least 49 percent of the units are affordable to low or very low-income households, AB 641 prohibits local governments from requiring the payment of local developer fees prior to receiving a certificate of occupancy.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Provide information to the affordable housing community that fee deferrals, reductions and waivers may be requested for affordable housing projects. By 2015, adopt a resolution waiving 100% of application processing fees for projects with a minimum of 5% ELI units.*

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19. Density Bonus and Other Incentives for Affordable Housing (Policy 4.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing)

Under Government Code section 65915-65918, for housing projects of at least five units cities must grant density bonuses ranging from 5% to 35% (depending on the affordability provided by the housing project) when requested by the project sponsor, and provide up to three incentives or concessions unless specific findings can be made. Local jurisdictions are required to adopt regulations that specify how compliance with the State's density bonus law will be implemented. The City is also required to establish procedures for waiving or modifying development and zoning standards that would otherwise inhibit the utilization of the density bonus on specific sites. These procedures must include, but not be limited to, such items as minimum lot size, side yard setbacks, and placement of public works improvements.

2015-2023 Objectives: *By 2014, amend the Zoning Ordinance text to comply with current State requirements, including permit processing procedures as well as regulatory concessions and incentives. Define the relationship between HMU incentives, VMU Requirements, and State density bonus law.*

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21. Zoning Text Amendments for Special Needs Housing

(Policy 4.5 Zoning for Special Needs, Policy 5.4 Housing for Persons with Disabilities)

Consistent with Senate Bill 2 (Government Code sections 65582, 65583 and 65589.5) the City will specify transitional and supportive housing to be treated as a residential use under the Zoning Ordinance, identify a zoning district where emergency shelters will be permitted by right, and specify provisions for Single-Room Occupancy buildings. The City will establish procedures to encourage and facilitate the creation of emergency shelters and transitional housing, by:

- Adding transitional housing and supportive housing to the Zoning Ordinance's definition section, and regulate as a permitted use within residential zoning districts;
- Adding single room occupancy (SRO) facilities within the Zoning Ordinance's definition section, and conditionally allow within the CC, CR and CN-1 commercial zoning districts; and
- Identifying emergency shelters as a permitted use in the Public Institutional Zoning District and in local churches.

Emergency shelters will be subject to the same development and operational standards as other permitted uses in the Public Institutional Zoning District. However, the City will develop written, objective standards to regulate the following, as permitted under SB 2:

- The maximum number of beds or persons permitted to be served nightly by the facility;
- Off-street parking based on demonstrated need, but not to exceed parking requirements for other residential or commercial uses in the same zoning district;
- The size and location of exterior and interior onsite waiting and client intake areas;
- The provision of onsite management;
- The proximity of other emergency shelters, provided that emergency shelters are not required to be more than 300 feet apart;
- The length of stay;
- Lighting; and
- Security during hours that the emergency shelter is in operation.

2015-2023 Objectives: Adopt text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to make explicit provisions for a variety of special needs housing. Develop objective standards to regulate emergency shelters as provided for under SB 2, and amend the Zoning Ordinance text within one year of Housing Element adoption.

Comment [LS3]: Housing Element Program #20 Removed, as it is anticipated to be implemented on 3/18.

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¶
20. Multi-family Development in Multi-family Districts ¶
(Policy 4.3 Efficient Use of Multi-Family Zoning)¶

¶ Encourage two-family and multi-family development on R-2-5, R-2-2.5 and R-3 residentially-zoned sites, and discourage the development of single-family homes on such sites, by evaluating the establishment of minimum density thresholds and/or varied development standards for multiple units on a sliding scale (e.g., reduced Floor Area Ratio or Lot Coverage Ratio for projects with a lower density). These would apply except where there are physical or environmental constraints, or significant incompatibility with neighborhood character. ¶

¶ Evaluate options for provision of an ADU or payment of an in-lieu housing fee as an alternative to developing multi-family units (*this measure is currently under study by a Planning Commission subcommittee*). ¶

¶ Evaluate the following incentives for addition to the Zoning Ordinance, for projects that propose the maximum number of units allowed on parcels, or projects that propose multiple units:¶

¶ Adoption of new parking standards specifically for projects with multiple units;¶

Tandem parking opportunities; and ¶
Processing priority and expedited plan checks for projects that propose multiple units.¶

¶ Amend the Design Review regulations in the Zoning Ordinance to add requirements for the submittal of schematic site design to demonstrate the feasibility of constructing the maximum number of units allowed under zoning, or reserving site capacity for the future addition of an Accessory Dwelling Unit on the subject parcel.¶

¶
2009-2014/2015-2023 Objectives: Develop and adopt standards within the Zoning Ordinance in 20142 that promote and incentivize the development of two-family and multi-family developments in multi-family zoning districts, and discourage the development of single-family homes in such districts.¶

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For the Housing Element Subcommittee Meeting of March 19, 2014

Goal 5.0: Promoting Equal Housing Opportunities

22. Fair Housing Program (Policy 5.1 Fair Housing)

Fair Housing of Marin (FROM) is the designated provider of fair housing and tenant-landlord information in Marin County. FROM provides fair housing investigation and coordinates referral services to assist individuals who may have been the victims of discrimination. Many of the people who contact FROM have basic questions about landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities; FROM's housing counselors provide clients with comprehensive information to help resolve tenant/landlord issues. FROM conducts extensive fair housing education and outreach throughout Marin County, and is a certified HUD Foreclosure Counseling agency.

2015-2023 Objectives: Continue to promote fair housing practices, and refer fair housing complaints to Fair Housing of Marin. As a means of furthering fair housing education and outreach in the local community, by 2014, the City will publicize the fair housing program through placement of fair housing services brochures at the public counter, on the City's website and in other community locations.

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23. Sausalito Senior Services (Policy 5.2 Senior Housing)

Sausalito Village is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to providing resources and assistance to enable seniors to remain in their own homes as they age. Since its establishment in 2010, Sausalito Village has recruited a growing team of Sausalito volunteers to help members with occasional transportation assistance, household tasks, home visits and phone check-ins. In addition to home support services, Sausalito Village hosts social events, cultural programs, and educational and fitness classes to support seniors in remaining active and connected to their community. The organization publishes two electronic newsletters - Sausalito Village Update is a bi-weekly community calendar of meetings and events, and Sausalito Village Voice is a more in-depth quarterly publication; both can be accessed at www.sausalitovillage.org.

In 2013 the City Council created the Age-Friendly Sausalito Task Force in response to the fact that Sausalito has one of the fastest aging populations in Marin County. The purpose of the Task Force is to assess the current age-friendliness of the City, develop a strategic plan which will assist the City in future planning.

2015-2023 Objectives: Support the efforts of Sausalito Village to allow seniors to age in place and utilize as a resource to help promote available housing assistance programs for seniors. By [date TBD], explore options to develop a citywide plan of action for seniors.

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For the Housing Element Subcommittee Meeting of March 19, 2014

24. Home Sharing and Tenant Matching Opportunities

(Policy 5.2 Senior Housing)

“Home Connection of Marin” is a free shared housing program which matches very low income home seekers with home providers interested in sharing their homes. Housing counselors interview each potential roommate and obtain references and background checks, leaving the decision to the potential roommates whether to make a match. Sharing a home promotes independent living, provides additional income for the provider, an affordable rent for the seeker, and the potential for deeper relationships for both. The average age of community members in Sausalito is growing older, and over 330 seniors currently live alone in single-family homes in the City. Shared housing promotes the efficient use of the housing stock, and can help address the housing needs of seniors in our community.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Implement a homesharing/matching program for homeseekers and single-family homeowners with excess space. Collaborate with Marin Housing and Sausalito Village Senior Services to actively promote “Home Connection of Marin” within Sausalito.*

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25. Reasonable Accommodation Procedures

(Policy 5.4 Housing for Persons with Disabilities)

It is the policy of the City to provide reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities seeking fair access to housing in the application of its zoning and building regulations. Depending on the nature and extent of a requested accessibility modification, the City would accommodate such requests either through a building permit, an administrative adjustment, or a zoning permit. While Sausalito has not identified any constraints on the development, maintenance or improvement of housing for persons with disabilities, the City does not have in place specific procedures for requesting and granting a reasonable accommodation. As a means of facilitating such requests and removing constraints for persons with disabilities, the City will develop specific written reasonable accommodation procedures.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Amend the Zoning Ordinance in 2014 and develop written procedures to allow the Community Development Director to authorize reasonable accessibility accommodations with respect to zoning, permit processing, and building regulations. Procedures will specify who may request an accommodation, time frame for decision-making and modification provisions.*

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26. Universal Design/Visitability

(Policy 5.4 Housing for Persons with Disabilities)

As the community's population continues to age, providing housing that is accessible to people of all abilities becomes increasingly important. The majority the City's housing stock was built prior to 1991 when current ADA accessibility standards took effect, and thus it is important for the City to facilitate the retrofit of existing housing to provide greater accessibility, as well as to promote accessibility in new construction. The goal of universal design is to accommodate a wide range of abilities including children, aging populations, and persons with disabilities by providing features in residential construction that enhance accessibility. Examples of universal design features include:

- Entrances without steps that make it easier for persons to enter the home;
- Wider doorways that enhance interior circulation and accommodate strollers and wheelchairs;
- Lever door handles that are easier to use, especially by parents with an infant or persons with arthritis; and
- Light switches and electrical outlets that are located at a height more convenient and accessible to the elderly.

Housing that is "visitable" is accessible at a basic level, enabling persons with disabilities to visit the homes of their friends, relatives, and neighbors. Visitability can be achieved in new construction by utilizing two simple design standards: (1) providing a 32-inch clear opening in all interior and bathroom doorways; and (2) providing at least one accessible means of ingress and egress for each unit.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Distribute the City's recently prepared brochure on universal design and visitability at City Hall, through Sausalito Village, and on the City's website.*

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27. Housing for Marine Workers

(Policy 5.5 Housing for Marine Workers)

Marine workers are an integral part of Sausalito's history and the community's working waterfront. Marine-related occupations including boat builders and boat repair workers, sailmakers, canvas workers, marine surveyors, harbor masters, ship mates, captains and merchant marines, among others. Many of Sausalito's marine workers reside on liveaboards, and the majority are lower income. The Galilee Harbor co-op was specifically established to provide an affordable liveboard community for Sausalito's artists and maritime workers, and since the opening of its new marina in 2003, has provided 38 rent- and income-restricted berths. Support of similar and other affordable housing options would help workers to locate in Sausalito, and showcase the skills of local marine workers.

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2015-2023 Objectives: *Support liveboard and other affordable housing options, which address the housing needs of local marine workers and allow them to live in the*

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community in which they work. Establish procedures for implementation of low and moderate income occupancy requirements, and beginning in 2015, require marinas to submit an annual report to City as a means of monitoring liveaboard usage.

28. Homeless Continuum of Care

(Policy 5.6 Homeless Housing and Services)

Support Countywide programs and the Marin Continuum of Care in the provision of resources to address the needs of the homeless and persons at risk of homelessness, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, supportive housing and permanent housing. Provide flyers and information on the City's website about the emergency 211 toll-free call system for information and referral.

2015-2023 Objectives: Support implementation of the Homeless Countywide Continuum of Care and publicize the emergency 211 call system.

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For the Housing Element Subcommittee Meeting of March 19, 2014

Goal 6.0: Implementing Environmental Sustainability

29. Local Green Building Regulations

(Policy 6.1 Green Building, Policy 6.2 Sustainable Construction, Policy 6.4 Transportation Alternatives)

Green building is also known as green construction or sustainable building, and refers to using environmentally responsible and resource-efficient processes throughout the life cycle of a building, from its conceptual phases to deconstruction. Local Green Building regulations (e.g., Marin County “Green Building, Energy Retrofit, & Solar Transformation” or BERST) aim to reduce the overall impact of the built environment on human health, the environment, and resources.

Community Development Department staff will be tasked with the development of local Green Building regulations consistent with the State Green Building Code, to require and encourage residents and the development sector to build green.

Examples of green regulations include:

- Incorporating sustainable materials in new construction or remodels;
- Creating healthy indoor environments with minimal pollutants; and
- Landscaping that utilizes native plants to reduce water usage.

The City will include community participation by residents and the construction sector in the preparation of the Green Building regulations, and market the information upon completion.

2015-2023 Objectives: Adopt local Green Building regulations, including appropriate policies and programs, in 2014. The preparation process will include community input from City residents and the construction sector. The completed documents will be provided to residents, developers, and architects who wish to build in Sausalito.

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30. Climate Action Plan

(Policy 6.3 Alternative Energy, Policy 6.5 Jobs/Housing Balance)

As the State of California continues to develop environmental laws (such as Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 375) and increased mandatory reporting requirements of greenhouse gas emissions, the City would benefit from integrating greenhouse gas reduction measures into its General Plan and City infrastructure. The City Council adopted Resolution No. 4935 in 2008, to join ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) as a full member, and participation in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign. As a participant, the City pledged to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change.

The City has completed a municipal Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, and aims to complete a baseline Community-wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory. These inventories give an

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accounting of greenhouse gases emitted by residents and businesses, as well as the City's municipal operations. It also establishes a baseline for tracking the community's emission trends.

The Climate Action Plan will encourage and require, to the extent required by State law, the City, its residents, and businesses, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in many sectors and aspects of their daily activities. The Plan would identify emission reduction targets and strategies to accomplish those targets. These areas include building energy use, transportation, land use, green purchasing, waste and water use. Energy use, in particular, may be significantly reduced in the community by defining emissions reduction strategies related to building construction and operation. The mandatory and encouraged measures would include the local Green Building regulations, to achieve a wider net reduction in emissions.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Complete the Community-wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, and adopt and implement the Climate Action Plan by [date TBD]. Provide community outreach and education to residents and the development sector to include their input on sustainability in new and existing building structures.*

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Goal 7.0: Promoting Community Involvement

31. Ongoing Community Education and Outreach

(Policy 7.1 Community Participation, Policy 7.2 Public Review of Development)

In late 2009, the City Council appointed the Housing Element Task Force, comprised of City Council and Planning Commission representatives, as well as City residents. The Task Force has held over 45 public meetings, including three publicly noticed Community Workshops to engage residents and property owners in the decision-making process.

In addition to the City's direct efforts, Sausalito residents have also formed grassroots organizations to forward their concerns with regards to the potential impacts of specific strategies proposed in the draft Housing Element.

After the adoption of the Housing Element, several programs would begin implementation through City staff work and initiatives by various agencies. The public meetings held by the Planning Commission and City Council would continue to serve as platforms for residents to comment and provide input on specific items discussed for implementation, and the annual progress report would be presented at City Council meetings as well where public comment may be given.

As part of an effective implementation program, City staff members will post information and assistance programs on affordable housing on the City's website to provide resources for homeowners, renters, and property owners.

2015-2023 Objectives: Continue to include residents and community organizations in the implementation of this Housing Element and the development of the next Housing Element, by publicizing public meetings through the local newspapers, City website, and email lists, and taking public comment and feedback at such meetings. When the Housing Element is adopted, various programs and efforts will be publicized in the community through online information and the direct distribution of educational handouts to relevant parties.

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32. Housing Element Monitoring/Annual Report

(Policy 7.3 Housing Element Implementation)

The Community Development Department is be responsible for establishing the regular monitoring of the Housing Element, and preparing an Annual Progress Report for review by the public, City decision-makers and submittal to State HCD, by April 1 of each year.

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The reports need to show:

- A report of Sausalito's annual building activity, including moderate, low, and very low-income units and mixed-income multi-family projects;

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- A report summary for above moderate income units;
- Progress on the Regional Housing Needs Allocation; and
- The implementation status of various programs.

2015-2023 Objectives: *The Community Development Department will review the Housing Element annually and provide opportunities for public participation, in conjunction with the submission of the City's Annual Progress Report to the State Department of Housing and Community Development by April 1st of each year.*

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33. Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Housing Needs Process (Policy 7.3 Housing Element Implementation)

Actively monitor and participate in ABAG's future Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) planning process, and provide ongoing reporting to Council.

The City Council has appointed an ABAG delegate, and has participated at the ABAG RHNA planning meetings for the next housing planning cycle to bring perspective and actual data from Sausalito for ABAG's consideration, and will continue to provide reports to the City Council on the projected and confirmed RHNA numbers, until the end of the planning cycle.

2015-2023 Objectives: *The City Council's ABAG delegate will continue to monitor, participate and provide reports to the City Council on the preparation and confirmation of the RHNA for the next Housing Element planning cycle.*

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34. Staff Affordable Housing Training and Education (Policy 7.3 Housing Element Implementation)

In order to effectively administer available housing programs to residents, designated City staff needs to be responsible for providing information, responding to questions, and making referrals to appropriate programs. A budget should also be set aside for the designated staff to receive training. Training could include attendance at relevant sessions held by public agencies, or meetings with local organizations such *Marin Housing*, to gain familiarity with the implementation of existing and new offered programs.

2015-2023 Objectives: *Designated City staff members shall attend training sessions and provide on-going assistance to homeowners, renters, and developers by posting information on the City's website and taking public queries.*

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DRAFT REDLINE COPY OF THE Housing Element Update 2009 – 2014
Chapter II – Housing Plan

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Adopted October 9, 2012 (**REDLINED ON 3/13/14**)

The Working Group is specifically evaluating the following ADU incentives, and is scheduled to finalize their recommendations in early July and forward to the Planning Commission and City Council:

Flexible development standards including relaxed height limits (under consideration is an increase from 15 feet to 18 feet) for ADUs in detached structures and exemption of ADUs from floor area standards;

Discounted building permit fees; and

Reduced or waived parking standards on sites with demonstrated parking constraints; allowances for tandem parking; and allowances for parking in setback areas.

The City will work with architects and residents to prepare stock ADU building plans appropriate for local neighborhoods, and will develop a brochure to provide information on the City's ADU standards, and promote their development. Public education on ADUs will also be provided via the ADU amnesty program, described in Program 10b.

Develop a brochure and make information available to the public on the City's website, at the City Hall public counter, and through other community resource

. To achieve this goal, the City will implement an ADU amnesty program to allow property owners with ADUs not currently recognized as "units" in the U.S. Census the opportunity to register these units with the City without facing fines for non-permitted construction. As an incentive to property owners to apply for an amnesty permit, the City will offer certain modified standards to accommodate existing buildings; property owners will not be penalized for ADUs which do not meet certain amnesty requirements, with the exception of basic defined health and safety requirements. In addition to the standards for new ADUs defined in Program 10a above, the following incentives to legalize existing non-permitted ADUs are being explored by the ADU Working Group:

Waiver of parking requirements;

Exemption of ADUs from floor area limits;

Significant discounts in building permit and utility hook-up fees;

Elimination of the ADU permit application fee; and

Rehabilitation assistance to correct for health and safety code violations.

To receive an ADU amnesty permit, all health and safety code violations must be corrected based on City building inspections of the unit. For purposes of crediting the ADU towards the RHNA, property owners will need to demonstrate that the unit did not have an individual address as of the 2000 census and did not have a building permit of record; City planning staff will determine if any building permits exist for the ADU and will assist applicants in providing the appropriate records.

Marin County and Mill Valley have had highly successful ADU amnesty programs, which the City and its ADU advisory body will build upon in establishing its program. Both of these jurisdictions received a 50% reduction in water connection fees from the Marin Municipal Water District during the ADU amnesty period; the City will contact the Water District to establish a similar fee reduction.

Monitor progress in conjunction with the Annual Housing Element Report and report to HCD in 2013. To the extent there is a shortfall in the number and affordability of legalized ADUs to address the RHNA, the City will amend the Housing Element to identify additional strategies.

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Policy decision to the Council whether or not to extend the Amnesty ADU period. If extended, include this policy and modify.

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Karen

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If it is determined by the City that a CUP is still required, the City Council will adopt a resolution to recognize these liveboards