



IN YOUR CORNER

February 12, 2024

Kate Hartley, Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA) Director
BAHFA Oversight Committee
ABAG Housing Committee
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Urgent Actions Needed On February 14th: November 2024 Ballot Measure for General Obligation Bond for Affordable Housing

Dear Chair Pedroza, Vice Chair Josefowitz, Chair Romero, Vice Chair Fligor, Committee Members, and Director Hartley,

We write this letter to express our wholehearted support for the proposed November 2024 ballot measure for general obligation bond for affordable housing (i.e the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA) bond measure). We are urging you to review and, at your February 14, 2024 meeting, approve the BAHFA business plan and regional expenditure plan and affirmatively recommend the ABAG Executive Board and BAHFA Board vote to place the BAHFA measure on the November 2024 ballot.

Community Action Marin is a proud member of the Bay Area Housing for All Coalition. As the largest human services provider in Marin County, our agency provides multiple safety net services related to housing, including rental assistance, utility assistance, housing case management, and homeless outreach. We also serve children and families across the county through early childhood education programs and we partner with individuals to achieve their dreams through workforce and economic opportunity programs.

Across all of the programs we operate, serving over 20,000 people each year, housing is the greatest need that community members are facing. We know from our first-hand experience the local realities of poverty and how the cost of housing places a particular burden on particular households throughout the Bay Area. We see, and the data shows, that people of color and people of low-income are experiencing the greatest hardships and the greatest disparities with regard to housing.

Given this, moving the bond process forward is critical, and we ask that you do so without delay. The idea of a regional housing entity was born out of the deep challenges of housing affordability and homelessness facing our region, and these issues have continued to weigh heavily on our communities. Far too many of our neighbors are still

Children & Family Services

Early Childhood Education
Home Visiting Program
Family Childcare Network
Learning Gardens

Safety Net

Rent & Utility Assistance
Emergency Family Needs
Homeless Outreach
Food Security
Tax Help

Economic Justice

Financial & Credit Coaching
Careers & Workforce Training
Resource Connections

Food Justice

Commercial Kitchen
Healthy Meals
Production Farm
Apprentice Program

Equity Initiatives

Mental Health & Well-being
Housing Justice

left without a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home. Our communities across the Bay Area are in desperate need of affordable housing and the BAHFA bond will be a game changer.

Your support for the process, including specifically moving the business plan and regional expenditure plan forward, as well as recommending the ABAG Executive Board and BAHFA Board place the measure on the ballot, on February 14 is **key** to making this happen. Together we can make a historic impact throughout the Bay Area. Thank you for your consideration, time, and commitment to our community's well-being.

We're very excited about the positive changes the BAFHA bond can bring, and we appreciate your ongoing dedication to serving residents. We stand in support, ready to rally the community to the cause - please reach out with any questions or if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Chandra Alexandre
Chief Executive Officer