

project) of sites identified in the Site Inventory to maintain sufficient sites at appropriate densities to accommodate RHNA for lower income households. If an approval of a development results in a reduction of site capacity below the residential capacity needed to accommodate the remaining RHNA, including for lower income households, the Town will identify and zone sufficient adequate sites at appropriate densities to accommodate the remaining RHNA.

Responsible Department/Review Authority

Community Development Department

Timeframe

Ongoing tracking as developments are approved

Funding Source

None required

Quantified Objective

Maintain RHNA capacity

Performance Metric(s)

Number of units and affordability level applied for; number of units and affordability level entitled; number of units and affordability level permitted; number of units and affordability level completed

D Additional Housing Capacity <u>for the</u> North Forty Specific Plan

Amend the North Forty Specific Plan to allow for a density from 30 increase the maximum allowable density from 20 dwelling units per acre to 40 dwelling units per acre and increase the total number of dwelling units allowed in the Specific Plan.

Sites identified in the North Forty Specific Plan Area are reuse sites and must permit owner-occupied and rental multi-family uses by-right for developments in which 20 percent or more of the units are affordable to lower-income households. See Implementation Program ARAQ and ASAR.

Amend the North Forty Specific Plan to remove the housing unit capinclude a policy specifying that additional units as a result of the State density bonus law, SB 330, and other applicable state laws will not count toward the unit cap. This policyamendment will allow developments to reach the maximum allowable density plus the additional units due to density bonus and other applicable regulations. Annually monitor the impact of implementing the cap on housing production. If by the end of 2027 the cap is found to be constraining to housing production, amend the Specific Plan to modify the cap.

Implementation Policies

HE-1.1 Adequate Sites HE-3.3 Efficient Development Processing

Responsible Department/Review Authority

Community Development Department

Timeframe

January 2024

Funding Source

None required

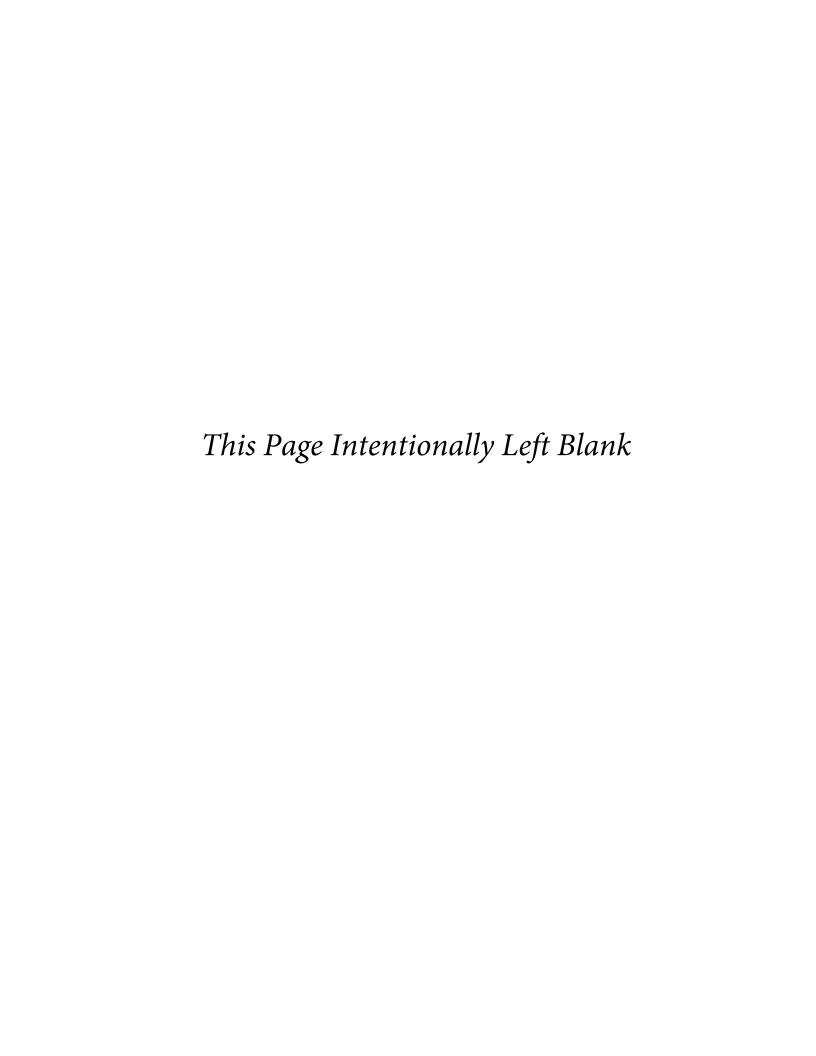
Quantified Objective

Facilitate the construction of 45 45 new homes for lower-income households.

Performance Metric(s)

Number of affordable homeownership units entitled and the number of units entitled for lower-income Households

Pro	grams	
	Amend the North 40 Specific Plan to remove guest parking requirements and modify development standards to facilitate achieving maximum densities.	
E	Affordable Development on Town Owned Property Pursue opportunities to work with an affordable housing developer or enter into a public-private partnership to develop to construct affordable housing targeting lower-income households on Town owned property.	Implementation Policies
		HE-1.1 Adequate Sites HE-2.9 Public/Private Partnerships
		Responsible Department/Review Authority
		Town Manager
		Timeframe
		Ongoing effort
		Funding Source
		None required
		Quantified Objective
		The number of Town owneds two properties that could be suitable for affordable housing up to 20 units.
		Performance Metric(s)
		The number of Planning applications submitted for new affordable housing
F	Update the existing permit software system to better monitor average processing times for ministerial and discretionary development permits. Use data to set baselines timelines to drive improvements. Update the Town planning and zoning regulations and remove permit processing constraints as appropriate.	Implementation Policies
		HE-3.3 Efficient Development Processing
		Responsible Department/Review Authority
		Community Development Department
		Timeframe
		Review and update regulations as appropriate at biannual years
		Funding Source
		None required
		Quantified Objective
		Reduce processing time by five percent
		Performance Metric(s)
		Improve current permit processing time
G_	Report Annually on Housing Availability	Implementation Policies
	Update the existing permit software system to better monitor average processing times for ministerial and discretionary development permits. Use data to set baselines timelines to drive improvements. Update the Town planning	HE-1.1 Adequate Sites HE-1.5 Variety of Housing Choices HE-3.3 Efficient Development Processing
		Responsible Department/Review Authority
		Community Development Department
		Timeframe



Drogra		
Progra	ms	
		Performance Metric(s)
		Delivery of Housing Element
Ϊ Λ	Provide financial assistance for health, safety, emergency and accessibility home repairs to low-income seniors and low-income mobile homeowners through the Below Market Price Program funds, subject to availability of Program funds. Provide regularly updated senior housing resource materials at the Adult Recreation Center, Library, and Farmers' Market.	Implementation Policies
		HE-1.6 Universal Design HE-2.7 Senior Housing HE-2.8 Equal Housing and Special Needs HE-6.1 Fair Housing HE-6.2 Financial Assistance HE-6.3 Housing for Persons with Special Needs HE-6.4 Affordable Housing Awareness Responsible Department/Review Authority Responsible Department/Review Authority Community Development Department and the
		Town Council
		Timeframe
		Ongoing and annual effort
		Update materials annually
		Funding Source
		Town Affordable Housing Funds
		Quantified Objective
		Maintain the existing housing stock by funding three home repairs to lower income seniors annually
		Performance Metric(s)
		Measure the number of units assisted versus the need
<u>J</u> Κ	Small Multi-Unit Housing, "Missing Middle" The Housing Element supports the land use goal of providing opportunities for housing that can accommodate the needs, preferences, and financial capabilities of current and future residents	Implementation Policies
		HE-1.5 Variety of Housing Choices HE-2.4 Rental Housing HE-3.3 Efficient Development Processing
		Responsible Department/Review Authority
		Community Development Department
	in terms of different housing types,	Timeframe
	tenures, density, sizes, and costs. Specifically, the Town aims to create	December 2024
	mixed residential neighborhoods through	Funding Source
	new and innovative housing types that meet the changing needs of Los Gatos	None required
	households and expand housing in a variety of neighborhoodsall neighborhoods. These housing types include, but are not limited to, single dwelling units, multifamily dwelling units, accessory dwelling units, small and micro units, use of pre-fabricated homes, and	Quantified Objective
		Increase the number of housing units, including the combination of small multi-unit housinglew-rise multi-family developments, religious institutions, Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit (JADU), and SB 10 by five50150 units from the previous yearover eight years with the goal of achieving 100% of the units



clustered housing/cottage housing. The Town will also promote small multi-unit housing that increases density while remaining consistent with the building scale and character present in existing neighborhoods. This includes multi-family units or clustered residential buildings that provide relatively smaller, less expensive units within existing neighborhoods.

Update the Zoning Code to facilitate low rise multi-family structures small multi-unit housing in the low to mMedium Residential Density designations.

Modify the Zoning Code to facilitate small multi-unit housing in certain low and medium density designations. This includes creating mixed residential neighborhoods through new and innovative housing types that meet the changing needs of Los Gatos households and expand housing choices in a variety of neighborhoods. Housing types include, but are not limited to single dwelling units, multifamily dwelling units, accessory dwelling units, small and micro units, use of prefabricated homes, and clustered/cottage housing. This zoning will occur in a variety of areas throughout the Town but NOT in areas which are in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, historic districts, adjacent to home in our historic inventory (currently pre-1941) homes, in hillside residential zones, within 500 feet of an evacuation route and within a half mile of a transit stop. The modification of the Zoning Code to facilitate small multi-unit housing will occur in a variety of areas throughout the Town, but in no event in any of the following areas or locations, Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, historic districts, adjacent to homes in our historic inventory (currently pre-1941 homes), hillside residential zones, within 500 feet of an evacuation route, or farther than one half mile of a transit stop.

Small multi-unit housing is defined as multiple units on a single parcel (whether attached or detached) that are compatible in scale and form with detached single-family homes. Common housing types include duplexes; triplexes; fourplexes; courtyard apartments; cottage courts;

in low to medium density designations and high median income areas.

Performance Metric(s)

Complete Zoning Code amendment by December 2024 and track the number of entitled Planning applications received per year

townhomes; triplex stacked (vertical); and live-work spaces.

Promote this program through publication, to include the following information: Low rise multi-family dwelling units ranging from two to 10 units can help meet the needs of families, seniors and students. Permit processing times tend to be shorter than larger multi-family buildings due to the low-rise nature of the structures.

Specifically, update the Zoning to allow for all housing types considered for the provision of Small Multi-Unit Housing types as part of Low Density High Density Residential designations.

Research existing regulatory impediments to the creation of new housing types that have the potential to fulfill unmet housing needs (e.g., tiny homes, co-housing developments) and if necessary, amend applicable ordinances and development standards to facilitate and to-allow for their development at the maximum density.

Pursue establishment of a maximum average unit size as a tool to moderate unit sizes for developments over a certain size but to allow flexibility for a range of unit sizes.

L Rental Housing for Large Families

Encourage development of multi-family rental housing that is greater than two bedrooms to encourage the provision of adequate rental housing for families.

Implementation Policies

HE-1.5 Variety of Housing Choices

HE-2.4 Rental Housing

Responsible Department/Review Authority

Community Development Department

Timeframe

Ongoing and annual effort

Funding Source

None required

Quantified Objective

Four family friendly multi-family rental housing units are entitled a year

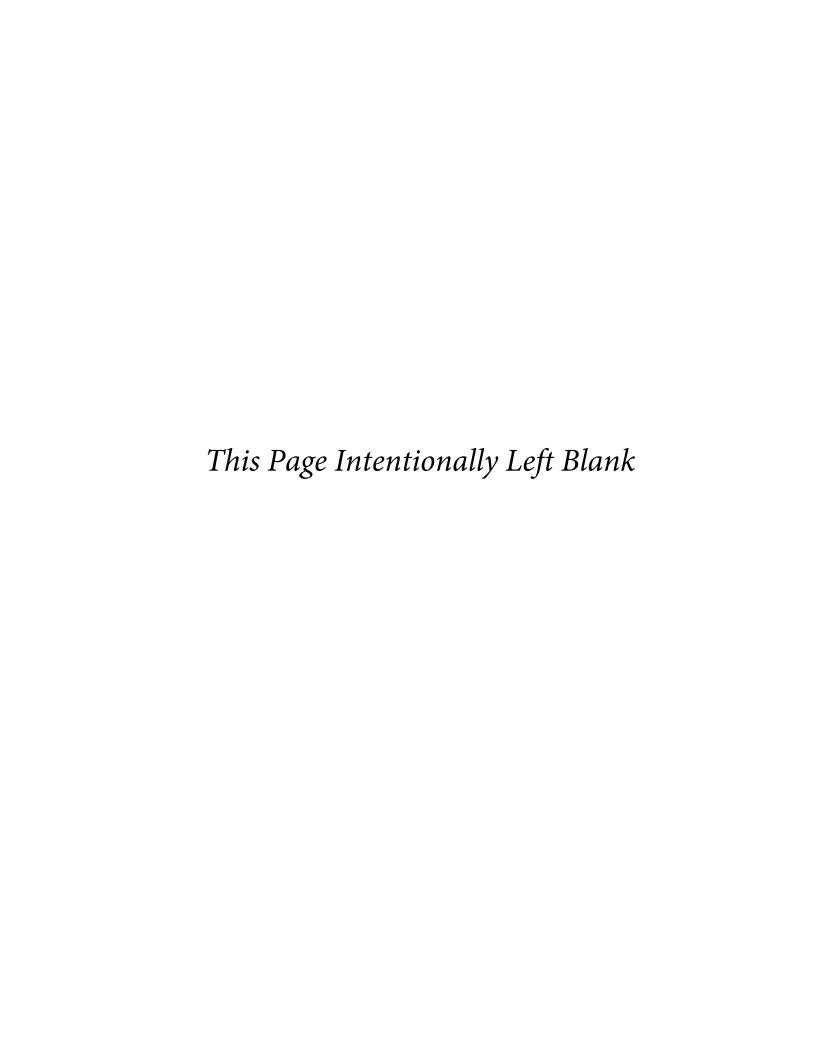
Performance Metric(s)

Number of two-, three-, and four-bedroom units entitled and number of family friendly designated units

M<u>K</u>

Lot Consolidation

Implementation Policies



Programs Facilitate annual outreach to developers. Annually identify development and housing opportunities Reduce development impact fees and permit processing fees for affordable housing projects for extremely low and very low units by 10 percent Performance Metric(s) Number of affordable homeownership units entitled and number of units entitled for moderate, low, and very-low income households. PŦ **Purchase Affordability Covenants in** Implementation Policies **Existing Apartments** HE-2.1 Financial Resources Create a program for the Town to Responsible Department/Review Authority purchase affordability covenants with Community Development Department, Town BMP funding to increase the supply of Council affordable housing or "buy-down" existing affordability covenants to have deeper Timeframe affordable units in existing rental January 2028-2026 properties. This program is analogous to purchasing covenants in new Funding Source developments in conjunction with the Below Market Price Housing In-lieu Fees BMP program, but for existing apartments. Quantified Objective Affordability covenants for three housing units with In existing and new rental developments. BMP funding to increase the supply of affordable the Town could provide a rehabilitation housing per year loan or another form of subsidy to a rental Performance Metric(s) property owner in exchange for securing affordability covenants on a percentage of units and the owner's agreement to restrict rents on these units to levels that Number of affordability covenants would be affordable to very low- and lowincome households. UQ **Accessory Dwelling Units** Implementation Policies HE-1.7 Infill Opportunities in Single-Family Facilitate ADU/JADU production with the Neighborhoods following efforts: HE-2.4 Rental Housing HE-2.5 Pre-Approved Accessory Dwelling Units Waive building fees when an ADU is HE-2.6 Promote Accessory Dwelling Unit deed restricted for very low-and lowincome pursuant to Town Code Construction (Section 29.10.320(a). HE-2.7 Senior Housing HE-3.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Initiate a marketing program for Housing homeowners on the benefits of ADUs HE-3.3 Efficient Development Processing and the availability of resources HE-3.5 Development Impact and Permit Fees (templates, cost calculators, technical Responsible Department/Review Authority support) to support development. Promote the use of Housing Choice **Community Development Department** Vouchers (HCVs) and homesharing (once established) to make the units Timeframe



available to lower income households.

- Collaborate with countywide efforts to develop pre-approved ADU plans suitable for Los Gatos, including designs that are ADA accessible.
- —Streamline the review and permitting of ADU's by publishing pre-approved plans including plans that are ADAcompliant, which shall be posted on the Town's website.
- Promote California Housing Finance
 Agency (CHFA) ADU grants of
 \$40,000 available to qualified
 homeowners for pre-development
 costs.
- Proactively promote information made available through the Santa Clara County Planning Collaborative, a joint initiative of all 16 jurisdictions in the county on the Town's website with resources for interested property owners.
- Actively apply for grant programs, as funds are made available to assist property owners in the construction of ADU's/JADU's. Monitor funding availability annually.
- Develop and adopt objective standards to allow more than one (at minimum two) JADUs.

The Town's ADU Ordinance goes beyond the requirements of State law by allowing a 10 percent increase in the floor area ratio standards.

Annually monitor number of ADU's produced, affordability levels. By July 2027, if the production of ADU/JADU is falling short of the projected trend, and make adjustmentsthe Town will initiate developing strategies (additional incentives, flexible development standards, and/or identify additional sites for housing development) to accommodate a potential shortfall if determined necessary (i.e. adopt additional incentives or other strategies).and assess whether additional strategies and adjustments are necessary to increase ADU production, including searching for innovative funding sources and revisiting the ADU marketing program

- Initiate marketing program and coordinate efforts on pre-approved ADU plans (2023) and other resources and services (December 2025)
- Select at least three plans and conduct media campaign to promote (December 2024)
- Monitor Annually monitor the production and affordability of ADUs
- Amend the ADU Ordinance (January 2024)
- Monitor ADU/JADU production against projection by July 2027 and develop strategies to address any potential shortfall in meeting RHNA by the end of 2027 annually and adjust, if necessary, within six months

Funding Source

Below Market Price Housing In-lieu Fees for Waiving Building Fees and General Fund

Quantified Objective

- Facilitate cConstruction of at least 200 ADUs or JADUs with a goal to facilitate construction of up to 200-350 ADUs or JADUs throughout the Planning period with a goal of 5% of these units being affordable to lower-income households and 50% in single-family, high median income neighborhoods
- Publish pre-approved ADU plans and templates, including designs that address ADA and senior housing needs
- Post pre-approved plans on Town website
- Use the Town's social media, website, local press, and community events to distribute information
- Adopt objective standards to allow more than one JADU per property by July 2025
- Facilitate construction of at least 10 JADUs in low density neighborhoods
- Through a homesharing program, assist at least 50 homeowners in renting out available ADUs and JADUs, especially in high/higher resource areas throughout the Planning period

Performance Metric(s)

Number of Building Permits issued; number of ADU/JADUs rented at a rental rate affordable for very low-and low-income households

for property owners, shortfall by the end of 2027.

Amend the ADU Ordinance to comply with State law.

Work with a nonprofit organization to administer a homesharing program that will expand beyond roommate matching, <u>by assisting homeowners in renting out</u> ADUs and JADUs, further serving residents in the region with outreach for potential tenants.

VR Density Bonus

Conduct a study to evaluate the existing Density Bonus Ordinance and recommend changes to increase the number of units constructed. The study will include an evaluation of the implementation of the ordinance to date and actual construction of affordable housing units that utilized the Density Bonus. Additional density and height incentives beyond what the State requires will be considered (i.e., fee reductions, add free density of BMP units). The study shall recommend improvements to the Ordinance based on the outcome of the evaluation.

comply with State law.

Amend the Density Bonus Ordinance to

W Affordable Housing Overlay Zone (AHOZ)

Continue to encourage development of housing affordable to all income levels on property within this Town Overlay Zone. The Overlay property on Knowles Avenue is a key site for a mixed income affordable housing project.

Implementation Policies

HE-3.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing

HE-2.3 Mixed-Use Development

HE-2.8 Equal Housing and Special Needs

Responsible Department/Review Authority

Community Development Department

Timeframe

- Amend the Density Bonus Ordinance (December 2024)
- Complete study by June 2026 and implement recommended actions by December 2029

Funding Source

None required

Quantified Objective

Increase affordable housing units generated by an amended Density Bonus Ordinance

Performance Metric(s)

Measure the number of affordable units that received entitlements

Implementation Policies

HE-3.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing

HE-2.7 Senior Housing

HE-2.8 Equal Housing and Special Needs

HE-2.9 Public/Private Partnerships

HE-2.11 Smart Growth

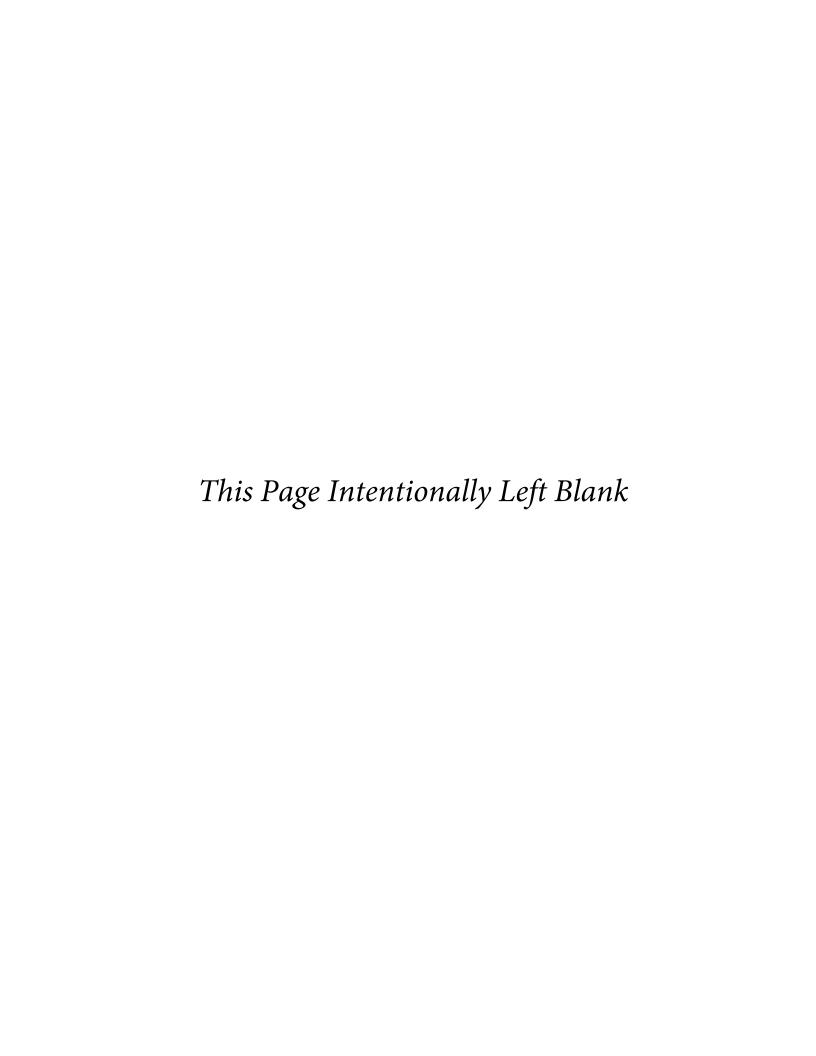
Responsible Department/Review Authority

Community Development Department

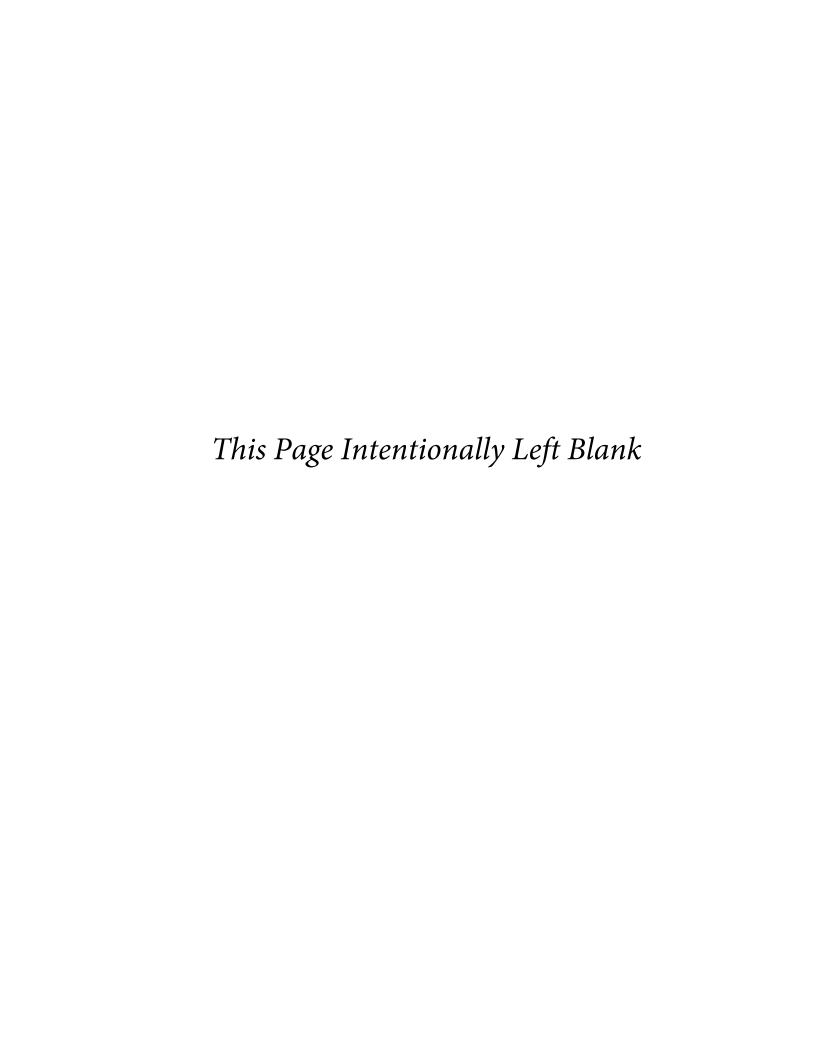
Timeframe

Complete by 2025

Funding Source



Program	19	
- rogran	Study and implement recommendations with regard to the Town's Rental Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Ordinance 2128 to help further stabilize rents for long-term residents.	HE-2.4 Rental Housing HE-6.6 Rental Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Ordinance
		Responsible Department/Review Authority
		Community Development Department
		Timeframe
		Complete study by January 2025 and implement Municipal Code changes by June 2025
		Funding Source
		Below Market Price Housing In-lieu Fees
		Quantified Objective
		Implement improvement opportunities for the Rental Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Ordinanc
		Performance Metric(s)
		Measure the number of disputes resolved versus unresolved
Al <u>AA</u>	Reduce Parking Standards	Implementation
	Initiate a study and outreach, including developers to determine and to make specific updates that would result amendments to for the Municipal Code, as follows to address the following:	HE-2.7 Senior Housing HE-2.8 Equal Housing and Special Needs HE-3.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing
		Responsible Department/Review Authority
	 Align parking requirements with the preparation of Objective Design Standards. 	Community Development Department
		Timeframe
	Reduce parking requirements near transit.	Complete study by January 2025 and implement Town Code changes by June 2025
	 Remove guest parking requirements for all residential and mixed-use projects in all zones. Allow parking to be unbundled from residential units. 	Funding Source
		None required
		Quantified Objective
		Zoning Code amendment to reduce parking standards
		Performance Metric(s)
		Zoning Code amendment
AJ <u>AB</u>	Allow for 100 Percent Affordable	Implementation
	Residential Development in Mixed-Use General Plan Designations Amend the General Plan and the Municipal Code to allow for 100 percent affordable residential development without the requirement of commercial uses.	HE-3.1 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing
		Responsible Department/Review Authority
		Community Development Department
		Timeframe
		Implement General Plan and Municipal Code changes by June 2024
		Funding Source





Programs	
	Establish a list by December 31, 2024, to post online.
	Funding Source
	General fund (staff time)
	Quantified Objective
	Annually update the list or upon request from a local union.
	Performance Metric(s)
	N/A
AY Housing Mobility	Implementation
Housing mobility strategies consist of	Policy HE-1.5 Variety of Housing Choices
removing barriers to housing in areas of	Policy HE-1.7 Infill Opportunities in Single-Family
opportunity and strategically enhancing	Neighborhoods
access (Los Gatos is entirely highest resource in terms of access to opportunity	Responsible Department/Review Authority
and a concentrated area of affluence). To	Community Development Department
improve housing mobility and promote more housing choices and affordability	Timeframe
townwide, including in lower density	Annually review overall progress and effectiveness
neighborhoods, the Town will employ a suite of actions to expand housing	in April and include information in annual report to
opportunities affordable to extremely low.	HCD. If the Town is not on track to meet its 160 affordable housing unit goal for the 8-year RHNA
very low-, low-, and moderate-income	cycle by 2027 (i.e., 80 affordable units built or in
households. Actions and strategies include:	process by 2027), the Town will consider alternative land use strategies and make necessary
■ SB 9 – Monitor the Town's SB 9	amendments to zoning or other land use
standards and amend standards to	documents to facilitate a variety of housing choices,
facilitate SB 9 applications (e.g., duplexes in single-family zones) if the	including but not limited to, strategies that encourage missing middle zoning (small-scale
Town is not on track to meet its SB 9	multi-unit projects), adaptive reuse, and allowing
application goals during the planning period. See Program AV.	additional ADUs and/or JADUs, within six months, if sufficient progress toward this quantified objective
Rezoning for Small Multi-Unit	is not being met.
Housing, "Missing Middle" - Modify	Funding Source
the Zoning Code to facilitate small multi-unit housing in certain the low	General fund (staff time)
and to medium density designations.	Quantified Objective
This includes creating mixed	
residential neighborhoods through new and innovative housing types	Provide 160 housing opportunities affordable to lower income households by January 2031.
that meet the changing needs of Los	Performance Metric(s)
Gatos households and expand housing choices in a variety of	
neighborhoods. Housing types	Townwide, but especially lower-density neighborhoods.
include, but are not limited to single	
dwelling units, multifamily dwelling units, accessory dwelling units, small	
and micro units, use of prefabricated	
homes, and clustered/cottage housing. This zoning will occur in	

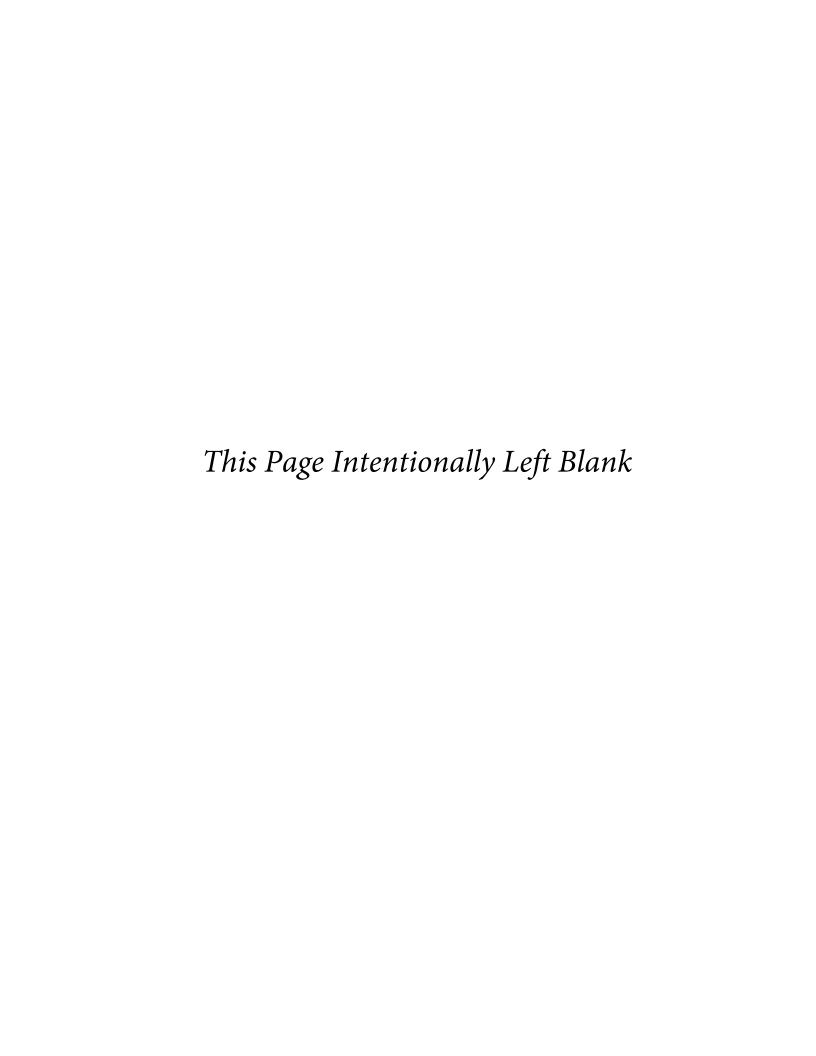
Programs avariety of areas throughout the Town

but NOT in areas which are in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, historic districts, adjacent to home in our historic inventory (currently pre-1941) homes, in hillside residential zones, within 500 feet of an evacuation route and within a half mile of a transit stop. The modification of the Zoning Code to facilitate small multi-unit housing will occur in a variety of areas throughout the Town, but in no event in any of the following areas or locations, Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, historic districts, adjacent to homes in our historic inventory (currently pre-1941 homes), hillside residential zones, within 500 feet of an evacuation route, or farther than one half mile of a transit stop. See

- Housing on Town Sites Enter into a public-private partnership to develop housing, targeting low-income households, on Town owned properties. See Program E.
- Enhanced Inclusionary Housing –
 Assess and amend the Town's
 inclusionary housing requirements to
 better produce low-income units and
 units for special needs groups
 townwide. See Program L.
- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) –
 Encourage and streamline ADUs in single-family neighborhoods by preparing standardized ADU plans with a variety of unit sizes and by affirmatively marketing and outreach to increase awareness and the diversity of individuals residing in Los Gatos. See Program Q.
- Junior ADUs Develop and adopt objective standards to allow more than one (at minimum two) Junior ADU per structure by July 2025. The objective is to achieve at least 10 JADUs in lower-density neighborhoods by January 2031. See Program Q.
- Religious Institutional Sites Expand housing opportunities on all religious institutional sites within the Town. See Program S. Conduct outreach to



Programs owners and operators of religious institutions to raise awareness and encourage housing proposals. Increase affordable housing on religious institution/faith-based site(s) during the 2023-2031 planning period by 25 units. If no application for housing on a religious institution/faithbased site is received by December 2025, the Town will expand outreach efforts to be conducted annually. This may include direct mailings to faith-based sites highlighting successful affordable housing units on other faith-based sites, as well as available Town resources and programs to support such projects (e.g., Programs N, P, T, Al, AJ – Assist in securing funding for affordable housing projects). Homesharing – Research and pursue a homesharing program, including coordination with non-profits and others to assist at least 50 homeowners in renting out available <u>ADUs and JADUs with with matching</u> tenants with existing homeowners. <u>The Town will publicize and take</u> other actions as necessary (e.g., facilitate presentations at the Los Gatos Adult Recreation Center, etc.) at least annually with the goal of five opportunities per year. See Program





- Past priorities for single-family residential land uses through planning and zoning efforts as well as historical restrictive covenants have contributed to the prevalence of RCAAs in the Town.
 - The Town will use "Affirmative Marketing" strategies, as described in Implementation Program AT BI, to work with affordable and market rate housing developers to ensure that affordable housing is affirmatively marketed to households with disproportionate housing needs, including Hispanic and Black households who work in and live outside of Los Gatos (e.g., materials in Spanish and English, distributed through employers). The Town will also amend its Zoning Ordinance in order to increase the development of affordable housing.
 - The adoption of the North Forty Specific Plan by the Town Council in 2015 provided diversity in the housing stock for the Town. As described in Implementation Program D, the Town will amend the North Forty Specific Plan to allow for an increase in the density from 30 dwelling units per acre to 40 dwelling units per acre and will remove the housing unit cap.
- Opportunities, including employment, environmental, economic, and housing may not be accessible to all
 residents, especially those in vulnerable populations.
 - In addition to Program AT described above, Los Gatos will implement programs to facilitate the development of affordable housing, including special needs housing, to increase housing opportunities in the Town (Programs D, E, L, N, O, W). The Town will also serve vulnerable populations through Senior Housing Resources (Program I), Housing Opportunities for the Homeless (Program U), Assistance for Persons with Developmental Challenges (Program V), and Supportive Services for the Homeless (Program Y). The Town also aims to increase transportation opportunities for new households through Program AF, Transit Oriented Development.
 - In addition to actions to facilitate new affordable housing opportunities described previously, the Town has outlined place-based strategies for neighborhood improvement with the following metrics to develop better access to opportunities (environmental, housing, etc.). Specifically, the Town will complete three minor home repairs or accessibility improvements for lower income households annually, provide rehabilitation to five low-income homeowner units annually, and complete three projects related to public facilities and transportation infrastructure.

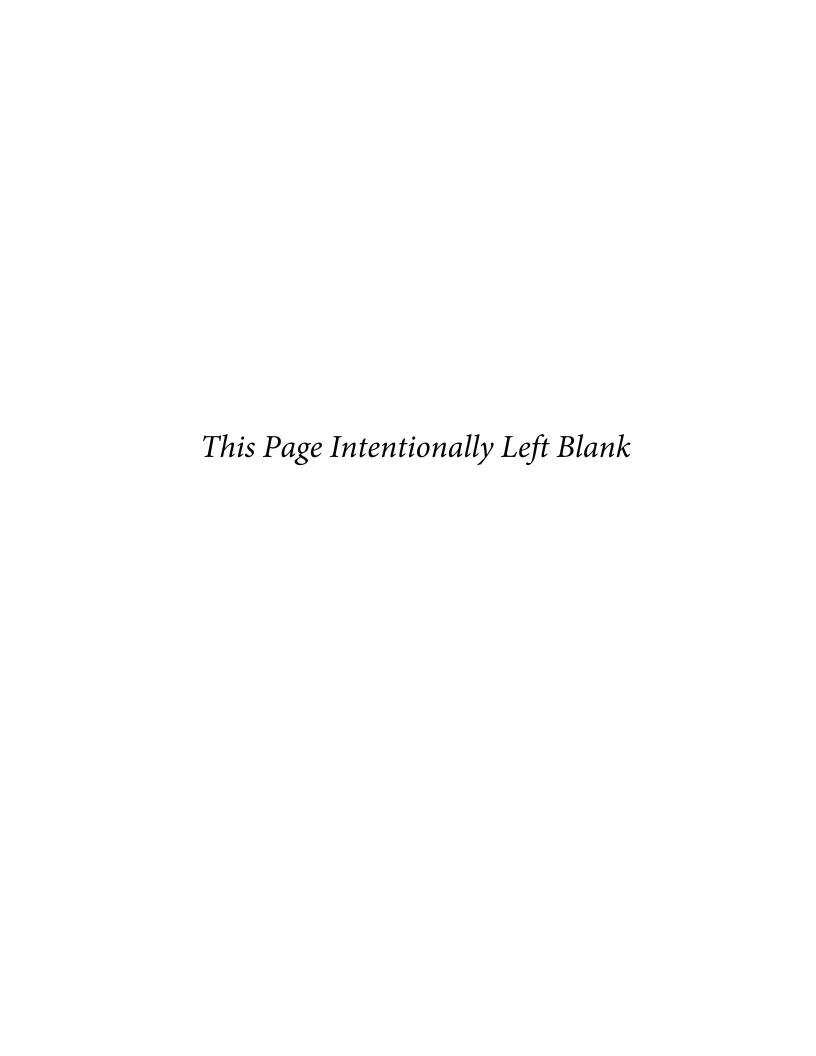
Fair Housing Issue

Los Gatos feeds to high performing schools, yet, except for Asian students, students of color cannot take advantage of these learning opportunities because they cannot afford to live in Los Gatos.

Priority Level: LowHigh

Contributing factors:

- Lack of affordable housing overall due to high land costs, high construction costs, limited availability of land, limited availability of financing, duration of permitting process, cost of permitting process, and lack of incentives.
 - The Town will address this issue by allocating a percentage of the Town's Affordable Housing (Below Market Program) Fund to subsidize housing for extremely low-income households and by including housing development sites on the Sites Inventory in all areas of Town. The Town aims to increase BMP units by five units annually in addition to other actions to facilitate affordable housing development outlined in this Housing Element.



Appendix C. Governmental and Non-Governmental Constraints



- Town's Consulting Traffic Consultant
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- County of Santa Clara Health Department
- 4. Story Poles and Public Hearing Notices: Once a project is deemed complete the story poles and netting and project sign shall be installed prior to the neighborhood notification process and shall remain in place until the project has been acted upon and the appeal period has ended. Public notices will not be mailed and/or application(s) shall not be advertised until a Story Pole Plan has been approved by the project planner, the story poles and netting have been installed, and photographs have been submitted to the project planner. A licensed surveyor or civil engineer shall submit written verification that the height and position of the poles and netting accurately represents the height and location of the proposed structure(s) or addition.

Public hearing notices will be sent out once the story poles process is complete. Public notices are sent out to property owners and tenants within 500 feet of the subject property for hillside zoned properties and 300 feet for non-hillside zoned properties.

5. Public Hearings: If a discretionary application is determined to require a public hearing, Division 7 of Chapter 29 of the Town Code assigns which hearing body has the authority to issue decisions for development applications. There are three types of public hearing bodies in the Town: Development Review Committee (DRC); Planning Commission (PC); and Town Council (TC).

Development Review Committee

The DRC consists of the following departments: Community Development (Planning and Building Divisions), Parks and Public Works, and Santa Clara County Fire. The Santa Clara County Environmental Health Department is also part of the DRC when certain matters require its input. The DRC has the authority to approve certain applications pursuant to Town Code and/or standards, that require no change in the General Plan or Zoning Code, meet the Zoning Code regulations, and meet the Residential Design Guidelines and/or Hillside Development Standard and Guidelines.

DRC meetings are held every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Town Council Chambers, located in the lower level of Town Hall. Applicants are sent a copy of the DRC agenda. The applicant and/or representative is required to be present, and members of the public are welcome to attend and participate.

If any applicant or an interested person as defined by the Town Code, wishes to appeal an action or decision of the DRC, such appeal must be made in writing with the required fee, to the Community Development Department within 10 calendar days of the DRC's action or decision. The matter will then be set for hearing on the next available Planning Commission agenda.

Planning Commission

The PC consists of seven residents of the Town of Los Gatos, appointed to serve a four-year term. Upon appointment, Planning Commissioners -must demonstrate knowledge of the Town Code and its land use and planning policies. The PC has the authority to approve certain applications pursuant to Town Code and/or standards.

The PC performs duties and exercises power and authority with regard to planning, subdivisions, zoning, zoning administration, and other land use regulatory controls as prescribed by ordinance and Sstate law. The PC reviews projects that require variances or exceptions from Town Code, projects that request exceptions from the Town Design standards, projects requiring Conditional Use Permits, hillside development applications depending on the scope of work, and appeals from the DRC. The Planning Commission is the deciding body for all types of projects which propose multi-family residential or mixed-use-project.