

October 4, 2021

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
County of San Mateo
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: Adopt Resolution to Endorse the Regional Action Plan

Dear President Canepa and Honorable Members of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors:

MidPen Housing writes to ask for your support in endorsing All Home's Regional Action Plan (RAP) to reduce unsheltered homelessness by 75% by 2024.

MidPen Housing is headquartered in Foster City and is one of the nation's leading nonprofit developers, owners and managers of high-quality affordable housing and onsite resident services. Since MidPen was founded in 1970, we have developed over 120 communities and 8,000 homes for low-income families, seniors, including homeless families and individuals and those with supportive housing needs throughout Northern California.

Our whole community does better when everyone has a safe, decent place to live—it's time we use our resources more strategically to bring our neighbors indoors and make homelessness a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience. In 2019, according to the HUD Point in Time Count, 1,512 people experience homelessness in San Mateo County. The California Housing Partnership Affordable Housing Needs Report 2021 estimates that 72% of extremely low-income households in San Mateo County spend more than half of their income on housing costs. As a result, these households are at extreme risk of becoming homeless. Although no formal Point in Time Count has been made since 2019, it is clear that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the situation.

MidPen Housing helped develop the RAP as a member of the Regional Impact Council (RIC), a group of more than 85 cross-sector leaders from around the region, many from San Mateo County. I serve on the Steering Committee along with Ariane Hogan at Genentech, Redwood City Councilmember Diana Reddy, Rosanne Foust of SAMCEDA, and President Canepa. There is also a Technical Committee that Aubrey Merriman of LifeMoves, Ken Cole of the County HSA, Nevada Merriman, MidPen's Policy Director, and many other community stakeholders have shaped and supported.

The RAP recommends using a "1-2-4 Framework" to reduce unsheltered homelessness by 75% with simultaneous investments in interim housing, permanent/supportive housing and homelessness prevention. Each county can determine exactly how best to align their services and priorities with the RAP, and All Home and the RIC stand ready to support those efforts.

The RIC's ongoing work is designed to advance system-level changes to address the homelessness crisis by getting at the root causes: poverty, housing insecurity, and racial inequity.



Building Communities. Changing Lives.

We urge the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors to endorse the Regional Action Plan and follow its recommendations to make transformational improvements in our county and reduce homelessness once and for all.

We thank you for your dedicated service to San Mateo County. We stand ready to work with the county in achieving the goals set forth by the RAP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew O. Franklin".

Matthew O. Franklin
President & CEO, MidPen Housing Corporation

cc:
Nevada V. Merriman, Director of Policy, MidPen Housing