



March 20, 2023

Assemblymember Buffy Wicks
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for AB 1319: Modifications to the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority

Dear Assemblymember Wicks,

We, the undersigned Bay Area organizations and elected officials as part of the Bay Area Housing for All Coalition, would like to express our support for the set of focused modifications to the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority put forward in AB 1319. We stand in partnership with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) in support of this important bill to maximize the benefits that BAHFA can deliver for the needs of Bay Area residents facing rising housing costs, instability, and homelessness.

Since AB 1487 was passed in 2019, BAHFA has hired its first six staff members as well as engaged a team of expert consultants to work on the BAHFA Business Plan and Equity Framework. By analyzing in greater detail the next steps for BAHFA's work and preparing for a future regional affordable housing bond, the BAHFA team has identified a number of clarifications and modifications that are necessary for the success of BAHFA in meeting the housing needs of the region. In addition, affordable housing partners across the state are exploring statewide measures that may interact with future BAHFA ballot measures, and BAHFA has identified key changes that will allow BAHFA to benefit from any potential changes passed by voters in the future. This new context has informed AB 1319.

Our organizations were involved in the passage of AB 1487, including as co-sponsors, in partnership with MTC, ABAG, and the bill author, former Assemblymember David Chiu. Working closely with both our local elected officials in the Bay Area and our partners in the Senate and Assembly, we witnessed first-hand the considerable negotiation and consensus-building that went into passing this ground-breaking bill. We believe that AB 1319 puts forward narrowly focused clarifications and modifications that will make BAHFA as high functioning as possible with a future ballot measure, while staying true to our shared vision for BAHFA crafted in 2019.

Thank you for your leadership in this effort.

Sincerely,

All Home
Alta Housing
Burbank Housing
City of San Jose
Community Land Trust Association of West Marin (CLAM)
Destination: Home
East Bay Housing Organizations
Enterprise Community Partners
EPACANDO
Generation Housing
Greenbelt Alliance
Housing Choices
Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County
Housing Trust Silicon Valley
LISC Bay Area
Mayor of Half Moon Bay Deborah Penrose
Menlo Together
MidPen Housing
Monument Impact
Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California
Public Advocates
Resources for Community Development
Sacred Heart Community Service
Save The Bay
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
SPUR
SV@Home
The John Stewart Company
The San Francisco Foundation
TransForm
Urban Habitat