



Policy Task Force Collaborative Members

RE: Update on **Marin County Pandemic & Latinos Policy Task Force**

October 26, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

The present letter is to provide you with an update on the work of the Policy Task Force. As we mentioned in our last update, we have scheduled weekly meetings for the **Pandemic Policy Task Force Team**, comprised of the three of us, Assistant City Manager Christine Alilovich; Assistant County Administrator Angela Nicholson; Supervisor Rodoni; and staffers Catherine Quffa and Lorenzo Cordova. Other participants have included Leelee Thomas, Community Development Planning Manager at Marin County; and Ethan Guy, Principal Analyst at City of San Rafael, Community Development Department. In addition to our weekly meetings, there have been several other process-driven meetings to move ahead the work. We are pleased to report that there continues to be strong support and leadership among city and county officials. They have taken a very active role in operationalizing the work and decision-making that needs to take place at the city & county agency and executive levels.

As we mentioned before, we are structuring the efforts for immediate outcomes as well as short, middle, and long-term planning for housing & economic stability, as well as a broader capacity building for resiliency. We were able to narrow our list to these five goals for immediate and short-term work:

1. Right of first refusal for nonprofits to purchase properties
2. Property protections against outside investors dominating the market
3. Rent & eviction freezes
4. Rental debt loan programs
5. Mortgage loan program for homeowners and rental property owners

Of these, it was decided, for various reasons, that we would focus on property protections and rent help/eviction freezes as starting points. Our city & county partners have been moving quickly to develop, from their side, a work plan, timeline, and benchmarks for these goals. One immediate next step that was decided is the creation and passing of a **resolution**, to be adopted by the Board of Supervisors and City Council, expressing the urgency of the situation, their commitment to work quickly to address this situation with innovations in existing efforts, and declaring a commitment to specific actions; not just a statement of support, but an action-driven resolution. A draft is being developed and we will share it with you all as soon as we can. We also wanted to mention that on our side, we are working with organizations in the region who are leaders in some of these efforts, including MEDA (Mission Economic Development Agency) regarding small business loans, Mission Asset Fund about a rental debt relief program, and others with adoptable models and leads to resources we may be able to access. These models, together with the political will being developed by our city and county partners, offer very promising opportunities to achieve these important goals.

If you are interested to know more about any of these efforts, please reach out to us. We will continue to provide you with regular updates.

Sincerely,

Omar Carrera
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ED Legal Aid of Marin

Chandra Alexandre
CEO Community Action Marin