Exploring Affordable Housing Alternatives

Community Workshop March 25, 2025

<u>WELCOME!</u>

HousekeepingItems

- Introductions
 - o AHA Team
 - o City Staff
 - o City Officials

Your Role Today and Tomorrow - Stay Involved!

- Today's meeting
 - o Update on Village tailored strategies
 - Recap and progress
 - o Questions and answers
 - Worksheets and feedback
- After today
 - o Drafting amendment
 - o Public hearings



BACKGROUND

Why Are We Here?

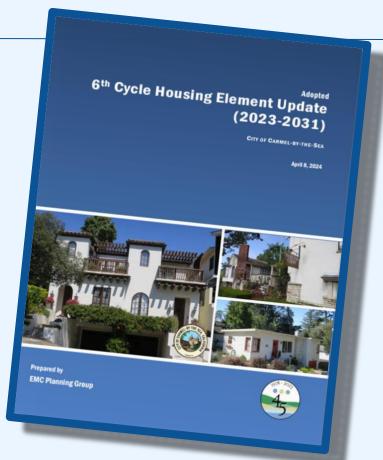
Where Are We Going?

Why Are We Here?

- Housing Element adopted April 8, 2024
- Sunset Center & Vista Lobos 149 affordable units
 - O Meet **State deadline**
- Community pushback & Council response
 - Issues with developing City sites
- Council Resolution to amend Housing Element
 - Work with AHA Resident Group
 - Replace City sites with better options
 - Urgency = 2025 RFP deadline
- Need to find replacement sites/units
- State will need to re-certify our Housing Element
- Get creative to disperse affordable units

Overview of a Housing Element

- What is a Housing Element?
 - Planning Document
 - Projected vs. Constructed Units
- Sites Inventory list
 - Potential for development
- Programs
 - o Incentivize development
- Process to adopt and amend
 - City Council
 - State Housing Department (HCD)



Amendment Overview

- AHA/City/consultant team have been meeting more than weekly since early 2024!
 - Preserve scarce public land
 - o **Distribute** housing through village, at human **scale**, following **traditional** land use patterns
 - **Replace** shrinking population to bring back **locals**: teachers, nurses, firefighters, service pros
 - Learned along the way, for example income distribution became key to solution
- Positive HCD feedback
 - o Holding **bi-weekly meetings** to go sequentially through our strategies
 - Turning constraints into opportunities
 - Partnering for Carmel solution leveraging State flexibility not Sacramento solution
- We are optimistic about achieving our initial goal (149 units) and more
 - o Beating the looming **deadlines** of HE6, like RFP
 - Creating a **multi-cycle** approach tailored for Carmel, addressing other issues when possible
 - Overall better plan for **integrated** homes and neighbors.

proposed PROGRAMS

ADUs

Hotels

Downtown Sites

Church Sites

Accessory Dwelling Units - Updating our Numbers

- Original Housing Element's ADU #'s understated five-year trends -HCD updated from 4.5 to new 8.4/year
- Result: increased projection from 34 ADUs to 60 ADUs for the amendment; up to 75 units possible <u>with</u> expanded programs & incentives
- Momentum underway with new ADU State Laws, permits issued with 54% of ADU permits were conversions of existing structures, plus City staff is revising our local ADU Ordinance

ADU - Adding <u>Proposed</u> Programs & Incentives

 Multi-Year Property Deed Restriction - receive recommend priority water credits, reduced permit fees (more in first 2 years)



2. <u>Renter Match Services</u> - to partner with Carmel Foundation, Identify qualified low-income applicants and support



3. <u>Amnesty</u> for unpermitted units (new legislation) plus pre-sales inspections (common in most jurisdictions)



4. <u>Stakeholder Education, Awareness & Tools</u> - home owners, realtors, architects, and all-in-one "Considering ADU's Guide"



Accessory Dwelling Units - Questions

Responses and Feedback Requested

- 1) What critical programs, tools or incentives are needed to considering a new ADU on your residential property?
- 2) What are the challenges to considering converting your studio, cottage, garage or externally accessible room to an ADU?
- 3) If you are a Village Second Home Owner, is it valuable to have a responsible renter in the ADU on your property?
- 4) Will priority access to ADU water credits with a multi-year affordable Deed restriction be a motivation?
- 5) If appropriate for your property, what are the barriers to considering renting an existing or future ADU?



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Hotel Program - Recap

- Program 1.3.B, in the Housing Element, is enhanced:
 - Focus on conversion of older and underperforming overnight visitor accommodations (hotels) into mixed income affordable housing
 - Incentivize transfer of development rights (hotel rooms) to other
 Village sites new locations or add to existing, aligned with existing zoning
 - Community feedback requested scattered small sites protecting
 Village Character

Hotel Program - Progress

Feedback

- Hotel owners, affordable housing & hotel developers positive support with strong interest
- HCD supports this unique approach, methodology for underperforming hotels, and criteria for amount of affordable housing

Accomplishments

- o Includes hotel properties on less than 0.5 acres
- o Financial model of a sample 15 room hotel produced high return on investment
- o Identified 379 underperforming hotel rooms across 15 hotels potential
- Targeted production of affordable units from 130 to 160

Enhancements

- o Privately funded no public subsidy or tax credits needed
- Partnership with the Carmel Foundation (applicants & support)
- Hotel Residential Suite option
- o Water priority, swift permitting, and reduced development fees

Hotel Program - Questions

- 1. What are your thoughts on the proposed conversion of older hotels into <u>mixed-income</u> affordable housing?
- 2. How do you feel about the program details provided today?
- 3. Has this program adequately addressed community concerns?
- 4. If a conversion is in your neighborhood, what do you care most about?
- 5. Do you have additional ideas to help make this program a success?

proposed PROGRAMS

ADUs

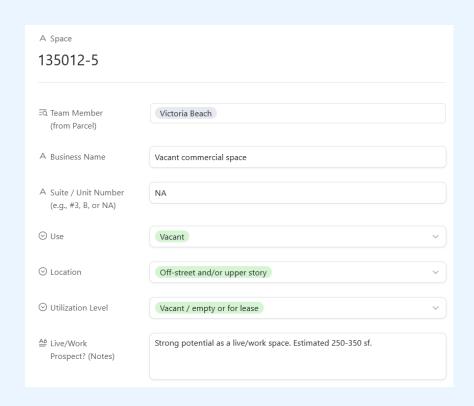
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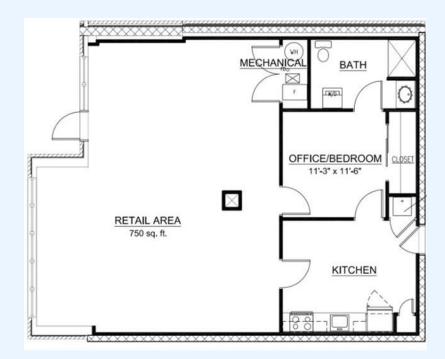
Downtown data mapping + "Safaris" = our secret sauce

- We created a database and an iPhone app
- Resident volunteers have comprehensively mapped every commercial parcel and leasable space in the downtown
 - Hundreds of volunteer hours
- Discoveries
 - O Live/work concept
 - O 8,000 sf lots à la Trevett Court



Live/work

- Proposal: Create a new "live/work" housing type downtown
 - O **Hybrid** use category: commercial storefront with residential space in rear
 - O **Requirement:** live/work space would be deed-restricted affordable
 - O Eligible spaces:
 - Off-street space
 - Upper story space
 - Incentives: water + higher rent



Live/work

• A win-win: for landlords, tenants, and the community

- Progress
 - "New" program: created after the last community meeting
 - Positive meeting with HCD
 - Expected production:
 - Mostly studios and 1 BRs
 - Mostly moderate and low income; some very low income

Mixed-Income Housing Downtown

- Proposal: Offer incentives to owners to create mixed-income housing
 - O **Mixed-income:** ~75% market rate, ~25% affordable
 - O Incentives:
 - Higher density: Currently, a 100% affordable project qualifies for 88 du/ac; the proposal here is to offer the same for mixed-income projects building height and FAR restrictions still apply
 - Water: Offer water for deed-restricted affordable units and for the market rate units needed to make the investment viable
 - O **Applications:** conversion, addition, or redevelopment
 - Small, Carmel-scale buildings
 - Pushing HCD to drop the min site size from 21,780 sf ② 8,000 sf
 - Higher bedroom counts = more families

Redevelopment

Trevvett Court	
Year Built	2010
Lot Size	8,000 sf
Total Units	14 units
Density	76 du/ac
FAR	1.09
Ownership	Owned and managed by the Carmel Foundation
Funding	No public funding



Redevelopment

Trevvett Court	
Year Built	2010
Lot Size	8,000 sf
Total Units	14 units
Density	76 du/ac
FAR	1.09
Ownership	Owned and managed by the Carmel Foundation
Funding	No public funding



Downtown

Progress

- "New" program: created after the last community meeting
 - Created a comprehensive database of every commercial property in Carmel
 - Met with local brokers and local construction firm
 - Built initial financial models
 - Expected production: ~75% market rate, ~25% affordable; studios to 3-bedroom units
 - Met with HCD earlier today
 - What's next: revise the "Sites Inventory" (Table C-3)

Downtown - Questions

- What is your overall reaction to the live/work proposal?
- How do you feel about adding units downtown through conversion and/or redevelopment?
- Initial financial models show that 75% of the units would need to be market rate to make the development of the affordable units financially viable. What are your thoughts on that?



proposed PROGRAMS

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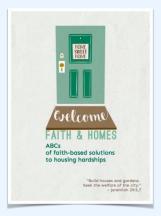
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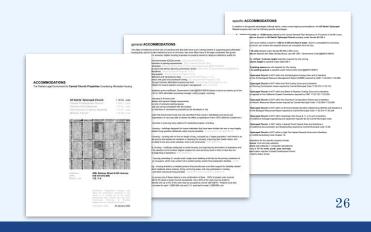
Downtown Sites

Church Sites

Churches - update

- 2024 HE6: just one church site with single family concept (9 units)
- 21 Aug 2024: Community Meeting
 - o State legally encourages church housing
 - o CBTS = 15.6 acres (2.5%) / 5 church sites
 - General community support
- 11 Nov 2024: Faith & Homes Summit: ABCs of faith-based solutions
 - o Dr. Penny Nixon on benefits, Laura Davis Esq. on legalities, Sibley Simon on funding
 - o ~30 attendees: architects, builders, city, volunteers, pro speakers
 - o 100% church attendance
 - Most churches set housing as highest priority
- 27 Nov 2024: Resource Toolkit distributed
- 27 Jan 2025: 5 legal "Accommodations" studies
 - o Alphabet soup of laws in support: SB4, AB1851, AB1287, GC65915-18, GC65589.5, etc.
- **28 Jan 2025:** HCD meeting on Churches
 - O Discussion involved potential of 81-121 units
 - 60 units is more realistic





Churches - next steps / questions

- **Spring-Summer 2025:** ongoing actions
 - o Individual meetings with churches for legal and program support
 - Possible follow-up church summit about financial resources
 - o Explore charitable trust for tax-exempt donation support
 - Coordination with The Carmel Foundation for possible management support
 - Volunteer architect match-ups and sketch exercises for feasibility support
 - o Physical feasibility homework for HCD
- Today: questions
 - o Any overall questions on how faith-based housing works?
 - O Any general feedback on how churches / city should approach this strategy?
 - o Any church connections that could help?
 - O Any ideas for making a charitable trust successful?



Conclusion

- AHA/City collaboration successful
- We are confident in achieving our initial goal (total 149)
 - o Positive HCD feedback
 - Turning constraints into opportunities Customized for Carmel
- Outcome = Overall better housing solution
 - Learned along the way
 - Distribute housing more appropriately
 - Replace shrinking population
- Next steps
 - o Draft Language
 - o Public Hearings
 - Adoption
- None of us are experts need community feedback...



ADU

- What critical programs, tools or incentives are needed to consider a new ADU on your residential property?
- What are the challenges to considering converting your studio, cottage, garage or externally accessible room to an ADU? If you are a Village Second Home Owner, is it valuable to have a responsible renter in the ADU on your property?
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HOTEL

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- How do you feel about the program details provided today?
- Has this program adequately addressed community concerns? If a conversion is in your neighborhood, what do you care most about?
- Do you have additional ideas to help make this program a success?

DOWNTOWN

- What is your overall reaction to the Live/Work program?
- What are your thoughts about adding units downtown through conversion and/or redevelopment?
- What are your thoughts on encouraging market rate units (perhaps ~75%) to make affordable units financially viable?

CHURCH

- Any overall questions on how faith-based housing works?
- Any general feedback on how churches / city should approach this strategy?
- Any church connections that could help?
- Any ideas for making a charitable trust successful?