

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

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January 28, 2020

Karen Diemer, City Manager
City of Arcata
736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

Dear Karen Diemer:

RE: Arcata's 6th Cycle (2019-2027) Adopted Housing Element

Thank you for submitting Arcata's Housing Element adopted December 18, 2019 and received for review on December 23, 2019. Pursuant to Government Code section 65585, subdivision (h), the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is reporting the results of its review.

HCD is pleased to find the adopted Housing Element in full compliance with state Housing Element law (Article 10.6 of the Government Code). The adopted element was found to be substantially the same as the revised draft element that HCD's December 5, 2018 review determined met statutory requirements. HCD's finding was based on, among other reasons, the annexation of land to accommodate the Creekside Project and rezoning the Arcata Gateway Corridor.

The element includes the necessary rezone program identifying adequate sites to accommodate Arcata's regional housing need for lower-income households demonstrated by Program 20 to rezone at least 10 acres by August 31, 2022 with minimum densities of 16 units per acre. The city must monitor and report on the results of this and other programs through the annual progress report, required pursuant to Gov. Code section 65400.

For your information, some General Plan element updates are triggered by Housing Element adoption. HCD reminds the city to consider timing provisions and welcomes the opportunity to provide assistance. For information, please see the Technical Advisories issued by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research at: http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR_Appendix_C_final.pdf and http://opr.ca.gov/docs/Final_6.26.15.pdf.

Several federal, state, and regional funding programs consider Housing Element compliance as an eligibility or ranking criteria. For example, CalTrans Senate Bill (SB) 1 Sustainable Communities grants; the Strategic Growth Council and HCD's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program; the SB 2 Planning Grants as well as ongoing SB 2 funding (Permanent Local Housing Allocation) consider Housing Element compliance and/or annual reporting requirements pursuant to Gov. Code section 65400. With Housing Element compliance, Arcata meets the Housing Element requirements for these funding sources.

HCD appreciates the hard work and dedication David Loya, Community Development Department Director, and Jennifer Dart, Community Development Department Deputy Director, provided throughout the course of the Housing Element review. HCD wishes Arcata success in implementing its Housing Element and looks forward to following its progress through the General Plan annual progress reports pursuant to Gov. Code section 65400. If HCD can provide assistance in implementing the Housing Element, please contact Cassandra Paz of our staff, at (916) 263-5145.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannan West". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Shannan" being more prominent than the last name "West".

Shannan West
Land Use & Planning Manager