



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## AGENDA

### **CUPERTINO CEP - STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**This will be a teleconference meeting without a physical location  
Friday, September 16, 2022  
1:00 PM**

**Special Meeting - Community Engagement Plan (CEP) - Strategic Advisory Committee**

### **TELECONFERENCE / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INFORMATION TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

**In accordance with Government Code 54953(e), this will be a teleconference meeting without a physical location to help stop the spread of COVID-19.**

**Members of the public wishing comment on an item on the agenda may do so in the following ways:**

- 1) E-mail comments by 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 16 to the Committee at [planning@cupertino.org](mailto:planning@cupertino.org). These e-mail comments will be received by the Committee members before the meeting and posted to the City's website after the meeting.**
- 2) E-mail comments during the times for public comment during the meeting to the Committee at [planning@cupertino.org](mailto:planning@cupertino.org). The staff liaison will read the emails into the record, and display any attachments on the screen, for up to 3 minutes (subject to the Chair's discretion to shorten time for public comments). Members of the public that wish to share a document must email [planning@cupertino.org](mailto:planning@cupertino.org) prior to speaking.**

#### **3) Teleconferencing Instructions**

**Members of the public may observe the teleconference meeting or provide oral public comments as follows:**

**Oral public comments will be accepted during the teleconference meeting. Comments may be made during "oral communications" for matters not on the agenda, and during the public comment period for each agenda item.**

**To address the Committee, click on the link below to register in advance and access the meeting:**

### Online

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

[https://cityofcupertino.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_1xvkMLfqQZi4dbrhn3dWjA](https://cityofcupertino.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1xvkMLfqQZi4dbrhn3dWjA)

### Phone

Dial: (669) 900 6833 and enter Webinar ID: 945 1162 4176 (Type \*9 to raise hand to speak)

Unregistered participants will be called on by the last four digits of their phone number.

Or an H.323/SIP room system:

H.323:

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

Meeting ID: 945 1162 4176

SIP: 94511624176@zoomcrc.com

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please read the following instructions carefully:

1. You can directly download the teleconference software or connect to the meeting in your internet browser. If you are using your browser, make sure you are using a current and up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain functionality may be disabled in older browsers, including Internet Explorer.
2. You will be asked to enter an email address and a name, followed by an email with instructions on how to connect to the meeting. Your email address will not be disclosed to the public. If you wish to make an oral public comment but do not wish to provide your name, you may enter "Cupertino Resident" or similar designation.
3. When the Chair calls for the item on which you wish to speak, click on "raise hand." Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak.
4. When called, please limit your remarks to the time allotted and the specific agenda topic.

### NOTICE AND CALL FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CUPERTINO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN - STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the Cupertino Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee is hereby called for Friday, September 16, 2022 commencing at 1:00 p.m. In accordance with Government Code 54953(e), this will be a teleconference meeting without a physical location to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

**Said special meeting shall be for the purpose of conducting business on the subject matters listed below under the heading, "Special Meeting."**

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

#### **ROLL CALL**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Subject: Approve the July 25 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes  
Recommended Action: Approve the July 25 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes  
[1 - Draft Minutes](#)
2. Subject: Approve the June 6 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes (continued from July 25, 2022)  
Recommended Action: Approve the June 6 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes  
[1 - Draft Minutes \(Version 2\)](#)  
[2 - Draft Minutes \(Version 1 from July 25 CEP Meeting\)](#)

#### **POSTPONEMENTS**

#### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on the agenda. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes. In most cases, State law will prohibit the Commission from making any decisions with respect to a matter not on the agenda.*

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

3. Subject: Report from staff and EMC Planning Group regarding: 1) The upcoming September 26, 2022 Community Meeting; 2) Results of the online Housing Survey; 3) Summaries of the May 23 and July 25, 2022 Community meetings.  
Recommended Action: Receive reports and provide input to staff regarding the September 26, 2022 Community Meeting and future community engagement opportunities.  
[1 - Presentation of Survey Results](#)  
[2 - Summary of the May 23, 2022 Community Meeting](#)  
[3 - Summary of the July 20, 2022 Community Meeting](#)

## STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

## FUTURE AGENDA SETTING

## ADJOURNMENT

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), anyone who is planning to attend this meeting who is visually or hearing impaired or has any disability that needs special assistance should call the City Clerk's Office at 408-777-3223, at least 6 hours in advance of the meeting to arrange for assistance. In addition, upon request, in advance, by a person with a disability, meeting agendas and writings distributed for the meeting that are public records will be made available in the appropriate alternative format.*

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members after publication of the agenda will be made available for public inspection. Please contact the City Clerk's Office in City Hall located at 10300 Torre Avenue, Cupertino, California 95014, during normal business hours.*

*IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please be advised that pursuant to Cupertino Municipal Code section 2.08.100 written communications sent to the Cupertino City Council, Commissioners or City staff concerning a matter on the agenda are included as supplemental material to the agenda item. These written communications are accessible to the public through the City's website and kept in packet archives. Do not include any personal or private information in written communications to the City that you do not wish to make public, as written communications are considered public records and will be made publicly available on the City website.*

*Members of the public are entitled to address the members concerning any item that is described in the notice or agenda for this meeting, before or during consideration of that item. If you wish to address the members on any other item not on the agenda, you may do so during the public comment.*



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**22-11319**

**Agenda Date: 9/16/2022**  
**Agenda #: 1.**

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**Subject:** Approve the July 25 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

Approve the July 25 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

City of Cupertino  
10300 Torre Avenue  
Cupertino, CA 95014  
(408) 777-3308

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**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN – STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON JULY 25, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Moore opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Commission Members present:     Kitty Moore, Chair and City Councilmember  
   Tessa Parish, Vice Chair and Chair, Housing Commission  
   Liang Chao, Vice Mayor  
   Steven Scharf, Chair, Planning Commission

Commissioners Members absent:     None

Staff present:                             Luke Connolly, Senior Planner  
   Piu Ghosh, Planning Manager  
   Chris Jensen, City Attorney  
   Cyrah Caburian, Administrative Assistant

Outside Panelists:                         Ande Flower, Principal Planner, EMC Planning Group  
   Kylie Clark, Public Policy Coordinator, West Valley Community  
   Services (WVCS)  
   Lee Robinson, Be The Diversity

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Subject: Approve the June 6 Community Engagement Plan – Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

Recommended Action: Approve the June 6 Community Engagement Plan – Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

Parish moved and Chao seconded to amend minutes with amendment to wording regarding website feedback and meeting in the box from previous meeting (Chao). Motion was withdrawn.

Discussion that minutes be brought back to include more detail, and Chair asked Committee to have edits prepared before discussion of item.

Motion by Scharf and second by Chao to table item until next meeting with edits suggested by Chao.

AYES:                     Moore, Parish, Chao, Scharf

NOES:                    None

ABSTAIN:                None

ABSENT:                 None

VOTE:                    4-0-0-0

## **POSTPONEMENTS**

None

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Jenny Griffin spoke about potential upzoning and rezoning in surrounding Cities and the County for their respective Housing Element cycles.

Lisa Warren spoke about potential rezoning in surrounding Cities and commented on item #1 motion for approval of minutes.

## **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

None

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

2. Subject: Approval of Previous Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Minutes (continued from May 16, 2022 Special Meeting)

Recommended Action: Approve Minutes from the March 30, April 7, and April 25 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meetings

Chao will not provide edits to draft items already provided and will not support item.

Discussion by Committee and City Attorney Jensen about policy of summary minutes adopted by City Council. For legislative bodies, action minutes are encouraged if automatic transcripts from recorded broadcasts are made available as supplemental information to members of the public.

Moore requested for summary minutes to be drafted moving forward for this Committee. Suggestion by staff to approve minutes as is with inclusion of transcripts.

Motion by Moore and second by Scharf to approve minutes as is with inclusion of transcripts.

Modified motion by Moore and second by Scharf to approve minutes as is and include Chao's suggestion to only include instructions on how one can download the transcript from YouTube.

AYES: Moore, Parish, Chao, Scharf

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

VOTE: 4-0-0-0

## NEW BUSINESS

3. Subject: Report from staff and EMC Planning Group regarding: 1) the July 20 Community Meeting focusing on students and older adults; 2) the Draft Housing Element Survey; 3) Remaining Community Engagement Plan events, including receiving input from the Advisory Committee on the focus of the third Community Meeting; 4) and update and changes to the [engagecupertino.org](http://engagecupertino.org) website and Balancing Act.

Recommended Action: Receive report and provide input to staff on plans for additional community engagement and for engagement consistent with compliance with State Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) requirements.

Mr. Connolly briefly reported out about activity since the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, namely that the Planning and Housing Commissions' joint meetings were held and approved recommendations to City Council on the Housing Element Update site selection inventory; the second Community meeting (virtual) that was held on July 20<sup>th</sup>; and the balancing act tool now live on [EngageCupertino.org](http://EngageCupertino.org).

Mr. Flower led discussion on the recently held Community virtual meeting addressing student and senior housing needs, along with Ms. Clark and Mr. Robinson. Emphasis was on breakout room discussions from the meeting focusing on how to attendees can better support neighbors. The recorded meeting is currently being edited by staff and will be made available following the meeting.

Next steps that may be brought forth to the Housing Commission at a future meeting are the report from both Community meetings, sharing the results from the Housing Surveys and whether an additional survey shall be conducted, a review of prior Housing Element programs, the AFFH report prepared by Root Policy, and creation of a tool for policy suggestions.

Discussion was held on Housing Survey #2, which implemented questions from other Cities in the state and fill needs of questions proposed by Committee.

Member of public, Jennifer Griffin, suggested two separate surveys be conducted for residents and for non-resident participants.

Mr. Flower clarified that HCD guidelines take into consideration those who not only live in City but also those who would like to live in Cupertino; questions posed in survey may help differentiate between the two groups and gain demographic insight.

A PDF of the draft survey questions (with exclusion of question #24 that was kept on erroneously and not removed prior to meeting) was forwarded to the Committee during the meeting and will be included in written communications for this item.

Feedback from Committee was to launch survey as early as tomorrow and incorporate results that will inform Housing Commissions' policy discussion. Committee members who wish to address concerns from survey may contact staff offline.

Motion by Scharf and second by Chao to launch survey immediately, with a deadline for end of August, and include survey results to the Housing Commission to help in policy discussion.



AYES: Moore, Parish, Chao, Scharf  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None  
VOTE: 4-0-0-0

Discussion was then held regarding the planned third Community meeting, tentatively set for Tuesday, September 20 (virtual; to be rescheduled as it falls on the same evening as the City Council meeting) with will focus on outreach to faith-based communities, including conducting individual interviews and videos, client recruitment and leadership, and client involvement and feedback. Guideline from the Committee was to also focus on employees and house-rich residents, and is seeking additional participants, panelists and ideas for this meeting.

A quick recap was held regarding panelists for the first two Community meetings held. The first meeting, held May 23<sup>rd</sup>, included panelists from WVCS representing disabilities, neurodivergence, homelessness, affordable housing and discrimination. The previous meeting panelists respresented disabilities and discrimination concerns that students and senior residents may face.

Public comment period was opened by Moore to discuss Community meetings and feedback.

Member of the public, Jennifer Griffin, expressed concern faith-based communities are being included in outreach without proper representation.

Member of the public, Lisa Warren, asked for clarification on what “employees” would be considered at the upcoming Community meeting and concern on the term “house-rich”.

Member of the public, Susan Moore, wondered where first responders, teachers, and medical personnel would be considered in future Community meetings.

Chao suggested Project Sentinel as a potential panelist, and suggestion of including service employees, developmentally and intellectually disabled residents in discussions, and requested a list of the panelists from the previous two meetings. Staff addressed that panelists from the second meeting addressed that specific need and not necessarily needed to be specifically addressed at the next meeting.

Moore requested clarification of the term “house-rich”. Staff clarified that the group was meant to capture residents who are not necessarily low-income, but also do not have disposable income (and can be used in conjunction with “house-poor”).

Scharf wondered if outreach can be made to other cities outside of the school districts regarding housing insecurities of their students and faculty.

Parish suggested Project Sentinel as a potential panelist. Also requested were the figures of other outreach and community meetings held by other Cities to gain insight as to the factors that led to approval of their respective Housing Elements, and a mechanism by which different organizations can be tracked for outreach if that agency can aid in the approval of the City’s Housing Element.

Chao also suggested Housing Choices and other parent groups that may have been represented from the previous meetings. Ms. Clark suggested focus group of various disabilities and housing needs they may face. Would also like to see community input on what type of homes and assistance are being sought out.

Chao asked to include employee unions, and performance of current Housing Element; staff clarified while the Kit in the box concept would involve more time, the expectation was for the survey to fulfill request to push out and engage the public with as much time as possible.

Agreement was made by the Committee to include performance of the Housing Element in all Community meetings and present to the Community what has been completed.

Moore requested a QR code for the public to complete the survey, and in inclusion of free-form comment sections after several questions; staff clarified that the fliers will already include a QR code linking to the survey and that a comment section is already included at the end of the survey.

Mr. Flower continued discussion on technical updates to the website; visitors can go directly to each site in Cupertino, where they can interact with the balancing act and submit feedback for neighborhoods in the site selection and view sites by location or spacially. Also included for viewing and feedback are the approved pipeline projects and sites listed as tier 1 (recommended for site inventory), or tier 2 (sites that are not necessary recommended but can be included to meet housing number allocations). The goal is to collect as many comments before the next City Council meeting.

Member of the public, Jennifer Griffin, welcomed more public input and concerns of marginalizing residents.

Member of the public, Lisa Warren, wondered how public input regarding the website already received is being tracked and how many comments have already been received. Asked for instructions to be moved to the top of the page.

Member of the public, Susan Moore, commended website improvements.

Member of the public, Scott Connelly, asked if the August 4 Council meeting was a placeholder or was intended to be held to discuss the Housing Element, and asked about the addition of height requirements, and if and where any questions for the website can be forwarded, concern of lack of community involvement at the previous two Planning and Housing Commission joint meetings.

Regarding meeting attendance, staff noted that the Community meetings saw more turnout than the joint Commission meetings. Discussion with other cities also saw that the turnout and community involvement increase once sites were selected; therefore staff are anticipating a higher attendee and participation rate for the Council meeting. Feedback gathered from all meetings that have already taken place will be included in the Council presentation.

Chao noted questions about survey regarding selection of ethnicities and suggested inclusion of height allowances as well as clearly defining August 4 as the deadline for public comment.

Scharf suggested for the question of ethnicities to allow for participants to select all that apply, so that all ethnicities can be accounted for. Scharf also noted the City is not limited to approving housing only on those sites in their housing element, but that other housing sites counts towards the total amount of units, not including density bonus, which would mean more units will be built than was needed to meet RHNA allocations.

Parish asked for pipeline projects to be clearly defined to the public as sites already approved and are pending permit applications to build.

Mr. Flower concluded presentation with suggestion to ask this Committee to review and approve the draft Housing Element to expedite the process for HCD to review and certify if accepted. Staff suggested further discussion internally between Consultant and staff since the main focus of the Committee was to focus on solely on outreach.

#### **STAFF UPDATES AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

None

Committee Updates

None

#### **FUTURE AGENDA** *(limitation, cannot discuss)*

- Next meeting: Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m.
- Bring back June 6 minutes for consideration

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m. to the next special meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/Cyrah Caburian  
Cyrah Caburian  
Administrative Assistant



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**22-11464**

**Agenda Date: 9/16/2022**  
**Agenda #: 2.**

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**Subject:** Approve the June 6 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes (continued from July 25, 2022)

Approve the June 6 Community Engagement Plan - Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

City of Cupertino  
10300 Torre Avenue  
Cupertino, CA 95014  
(408) 777-3308

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**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN – STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON JUNE 6, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Moore opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Commission Members present:      Kitty Moore, Chair and City Councilmember  
   Tessa Parish, Vice Chair and Chair, Housing Commission  
   Liang Chao, Vice Mayor  
   Steven Scharf, Chair, Planning Commission

Commissioners Members absent:      None

Staff present:                              Luke Connolly, Senior Planner  
   Piu Ghosh, Planning Manager  
   Chris Jensen, City Attorney  
   Cyrah Caburian, Administrative Assistant

Outside Panelists:                        Ande Flower, Principal Planner, EMC Planning Group  
   Kylie Clark, Public Policy Coordinator, West Valley Community  
   Services

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Subject: Approve the May 16 Community Engagement Plan – Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

Recommended Action: Approve the May 16 Community Engagement Plan – Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

Comment by Chao to include request to add the performance of the previous 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element and show the five sites approved for building from previous Housing Element Update cycles.

Chao moved and Scharf seconded to amend 4<sup>th</sup> bullet point in draft minutes under “Committee provided the following feedback” to include “presentation at the Community Meetings to include timeline and information for existing Housing Element performance”.

AYES:                      Moore, Parish, Chao, Scharf  
NOES:                    None  
ABSTAIN:                None  
ABSENT:                None  
VOTE:                    4-0-0-0

**POSTPONEMENTS**

None

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

None

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Subject: Report from staff and EMC Planning Group regarding the proposed community engagement and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) plans for the Housing Element update process.

Recommended Action: Receive report and provide guidance to staff on plans for additional community engagement and for engagement consistent with compliance with State Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) requirements.

Staff member Connolly provided brief staff report and introduced Mr. Flower and Ms. Clark to lead discussion of feedback from the Community Meeting held May 23, 2022. Ms. Clark reported out that peaks of 71 total attendees who participated via Zoom, as well as 20 in-person attendees at Community Hall. All feedback received from during the meeting and exit polls will inform (but not dictate) future Community meetings, outreach to groups most impacted by housing needs, and policy.

The Committee was also informed of inclusive outreach efforts conducted by staff, including an upcoming discussion with Project Sentinel's executive director regarding that organizations work on fair housing issues in Santa Clara County. Contact has also been made with Parents helping Parents and also anticipate a meeting to be scheduled for early to mid-June.

Written Communications for this item were emails from Liang Chao that were received by the Committee before the meeting.

Upcoming Community Meetings:

- Meeting 2: Focus on De Anza students and older adults, mid-July (weeks of July 12 or July 19)
- Meeting 3: Current residents who may be "house-wealthy" and otherwise low-income and at risk of possible displacement, and additional ideas brought forth by Committee. Suggestions:
  - Employees who work in the Service Industry and who would like to live in Cupertino
  - Faith Community outreach (coordination with WVCS and EMC)

Next steps of Consultant's engagement plan includes providing qualitative individual interviews and videos and receiving qualitative feedback to be incorporated into the EngageCupertino.org webpage, as well as individual and group participation recruitment, and an open house (intended to be an informal discussion in an open public space).

Outreach suggestions from the Committee included producing and distributing flyers at key City locations, placing banners at prominent public locations throughout the City, having staff attend local events such as farmers' markets and weekend festivals, and utilizing City staff from other departments to maximize community engagement efforts. Staff have utilized social media platforms and are looking into the "meeting in a box" concept to include any member of the public who wishes to be an ambassador to the Community engagement process.

Mr. Flower concluded presentation requesting Committee feedback for the upcoming third Community meeting and identifying which individuals, groups, or representatives would they like to see be included.

The following members of the public spoke:

Lisa Warren – supported outreach to house-wealthy groups and suggestion to include Habitat for Humanity in future outreach efforts

Shivani Kavuluru – asked how to access previous meetings and expressed concern on the timeline for the site inventory.

Govind Tatachari (representing self) – request more timeline visibility and milestone schedule, the status of progress made on sites inventory in terms of outreach and implement a method in which participants can see how their participation helps inform the process.

Kalisha Webber, Housing Choices – thanked Consultant for engagement work and provided feedback from the May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting and advocated for housing experiences and stories to be included on the EngageCupertino.org webpage.

Chao provided the following feedback:

- Calendar timeline by the month be included on the EngageCupertino webpage
- Utilization of other organizations outside WVCS for outreach
- Question of whether outreach was made for those who participated in the 2021 Housing survey
- Commended consultants for presentation
- Include outreach efforts at the third Community meeting to Service Industry employees, labor unions and other public agencies, caretakers of seniors and young children
- Two versions of outreach survey, one for general housing and one for fair housing
- Request to include table from the March 8 City Council meeting listing all protected classes and characteristics under Federal and California Law

Mr. Flower responded that the meeting in the box is something that can be implemented and brought back to the Committee. The survey in draft form will also be brought forth to the Committee before

being finalized and go live to the public to ensure unbiased questions will be posed and proper collaboration is maintained between the Consultant, staff and the Committee. Mr. Flower and staff requested for links to surveys held by other Cities (Mountain View, San Mateo, to provide guidance on what questions can be used in Cupertino's survey. Regarding the 2021 Housing Survey, staff responded that confirmation will be made whether the about 800 responses received are included in the current outreach efforts.

Staff noted that outreach will be done with other clients aside from WVCS, stating again that staff will be meeting with Project Sentinel, Parents Helping Parents, and the third Community meeting focusing on housing needs for students and senior adults. Additional outreach may include first responders and service workers.

Moore asked whether all protected classes/characteristics from the aforementioned table are being reached out to and are included in the Housing Element process. Staff responded that efforts are being made to reach out to as many of the groups in the protected class/characteristics list and can collaborate with County agencies to conduct further outreach for future meetings; it is not a guarantee that all agencies will respond to requests for participation.

Previous meetings (except for the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Community meeting which, at the time of this meeting was still being finalized by staff) are available on the EngageCupertino.org webpage and on YouTube.

Parish provided the following feedback:

- Clarification on "meeting in a box" definition
- What questions would be asked of and in different focus groups (i.e., parking concerns, and questions for above-moderate income participants, faith-based groups)
- Question of who was monitoring email lists from which responses were solicited
- Question of not inclusion from the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Community meeting of different ethnicities and how the City can prove to HCD that outreach was done for the right groups
- Feedback that videos from individuals wishing to share their stories focus on how their needs can be met

"Meeting in a box" is intended to be a toolkit of survey questions from the Committee so that each person leading Community meetings can select which questions would be incorporated for that meeting. Mr. Flower clarified that all income groups are being reached out to, as well as faith-based groups, with flyers that can be made readily available so as to increase ambassadors to join the discussion and help move site selection process along. Regarding video stories, it is the intention of the Consultants that by listening and addressing the housing needs of participants, it will be clear to HCD that sites were selected with those groups in mind, and seek to be as inclusive as possible.

Moore added that the LGBTQ community can also be reached out to.

Scharf provided the following feedback:

- Regarding slide presentation on the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Community meeting, wondered whether questions asked could be answered by both tenants and owners
- Eliminating affordable housing fees



- Clarification that height restrictions tend to increase affordability
- Need for funding for affordable housing
- Feedback that Cupertino's survey be short to encourage increased participation (cited Sacramento's AFFH 4-question survey as an example)
- Would like to see question on survey regarding parking and commuting patterns and how that correlates among different income levels
- Suggested community outreach can be done at the De Anza flea market, held every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month
- Inclusion of Housing is a Human Right in agency outreach

Staff responded that question regarding how participants believe affordable housing should be funded would be outside the scope of the Housing Element. Regarding parking, staff noted that while it is not illegal to provide insufficient parking, projects have in the past been approved with sufficient parking spaces per unit.

Chao liked the idea of outreach at the De Anza flea market and expressed concern that lack of parking spaces on approved large-scale projects would further worsen overflow parking concerns and clarified that the protected classes should be reached out to by looking at the whole picture of circumstances and not based on primarily on income. Also mention of leveraging County resources.

Question raised by Chao and Moore if De Anza would like to speak on funding allocated for student housing needs as Community Colleges were not included in HCD criteria to setting RHNA allocations; Mr. Flower clarified that while dormitory housing would not count towards RHNA numbers, higher density housing intended for students not needing parking due to the proximity to the De Anza campus can count towards RHNA numbers. Chao would like to see input gathered from the De Anza board president, employee union members, and students who are not necessarily in the 18-21 year old demographic.

Discussion concluded with the second Community meeting to focus on the student and senior adult needs as planned for, and to incorporate feedback received from the Committee to have a panelist that can initiate the conversation and encourage more responsiveness from participants.

Parish asked whether Chamber of Commerce can get the word out for businesses to participate; it was clarified that the City has a list of all businesses in Cupertino that can be provided.

Moore requested presentation and material presented at meeting to be uploaded to webpage and timeline for moving forward; the Planning Commission would like to hold a joint meeting with the Housing Commission and invited City Council to participate if they wish; no determination was made regarding participation of City Council at this meeting.

## **STAFF UPDATES AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

None

Committee Updates

None

**FUTURE AGENDA** (*limitation, cannot discuss*)

- Next meeting date: Monday, June 20, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
- Continued discussion on who will be invited to the planned third Community meeting
- Discussion of surveys that can be discussed for the meeting in a box
- Sample Surveys from other Cities (Chao)
- Runthrough of what changes have been implemented on the EngageCupertino webpage and the usefulness of the housing simulator tool

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m. to the next special meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/Cyrah Caburian  
Cyrah Caburian  
Administrative Assistant

City of Cupertino  
10300 Torre Avenue  
Cupertino, CA 95014  
(408) 777-3308

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**ACTION MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN – STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON JUNE 6, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Moore opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Commission Members present:      Kitty Moore, Chair and City Councilmember  
   Tessa Parish, Vice Chair and Chair, Housing Commission  
   Liang Chao, Vice Mayor  
   Steven Scharf, Chair, Planning Commission

Commissioners Members absent:      None

Staff present:                              Luke Connolly, Senior Planner  
   Piu Ghosh, Planning Manager  
   Chris Jensen, City Attorney  
   Cyrah Caburian, Administrative Assistant

Outside Panelists:                        Ande Flower, Principal Planner, EMC Planning Group  
   Kylie Clark, Public Policy Coordinator, West Valley Community  
   Services

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Subject: Approve the May 16 Community Engagement Plan – Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

Recommended Action: Approve the May 16 Community Engagement Plan – Strategic Advisory Committee Special Meeting minutes

Chao moved and Scharf seconded to amend 4<sup>th</sup> bullet point in draft minutes under “Committee provided the following feedback” to include “presentation at the Community Meetings to include timeline and information for existing Housing Element .

AYES:                      Moore, Parish, Chao, Scharf  
NOES:                     None  
ABSTAIN:                None  
ABSENT:                 None  
VOTE:                     4-0-0-0

**POSTPONEMENTS**

None

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

None

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Subject: Report from staff and EMC Planning Group regarding the proposed community engagement and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) plans for the Housing Element update process.  
Recommended Action: Receive report and provide guidance to staff on plans for additional community engagement and for engagement consistent with compliance with State Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) requirements.

Staff Senior Planner Connolly provided brief staff report and introduced Mr. Flower and Ms. Clark to lead discussion of feedback from the Community Meeting held May 23, 2022. Ms. Clark reported out that peaks of 71 attendees participated on Zoom, as well as 20 in-person attendees at Community Hall. The Committee was also informed of outreach efforts conducted by staff, including an upcoming discussion with Project Sentinel's executive director regarding that organizations work on fair housing issues in Santa Clara County.

Written Communications for this item were emails from Liang Chao that were received by the Committee before the meeting.

### **Upcoming Community Meetings:**

- Meeting 2: Focus on De Anza students and older adults, mid-July (weeks of July 12-15 or July 19-22)
- Meeting 3: Current residents who may be "house-wealthy" and otherwise low-income and at risk of possible displacement, and additional ideas brought forth by Committee
- Faith Community outreach

The following members of the public spoke:

Lisa Warren

Shivani Kavuluru

Govind Tatachari

Kalisha Webber, Housing Choices

The Committee provided the following feedback:

- Calendar timeline to be included
- Outreach to Project Sentinel, Parents Helping Parents, Chamber of Commerce
- Recordings of previous meetings available on EngageCupertino.org website and Legistar
- Email list Housing is a Human Right, De Anza flea market, include transportation questions into surveys, parking, including commuting patterns
- Slide deck presentation to be uploaded to EngageCupertino.org

**STAFF UPDATES AND COMMISSION REPORTS:**

None

Committee Updates

None

**FUTURE AGENDA** (*limitation, cannot discuss*)

- Next meeting date: Monday, June 20, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
- Sample Surveys from other Cities (Chao)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m. to the next special meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/Cyrah Caburian  
Cyrah Caburian  
Administrative Assistant



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**22-11322**

**Agenda Date: 9/16/2022**  
**Agenda #: 3.**

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Subject: Report from staff and EMC Planning Group regarding: 1) The upcoming September 26, 2022 Community Meeting; 2) Results of the online Housing Survey; 3) Summaries of the May 23 and July 25, 2022 Community meetings.

Receive reports and provide input to staff regarding the September 26, 2022 Community Meeting and future community engagement opportunities.

# 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element Update

Strategic Advisory Committee  
September 16, 2022



**CITY OF  
CUPERTINO**

# Housing Survey Background

- The Survey was available online for over a month.
- 205 responses were recorded.  
Narrative responses are available in full text as a separate document.

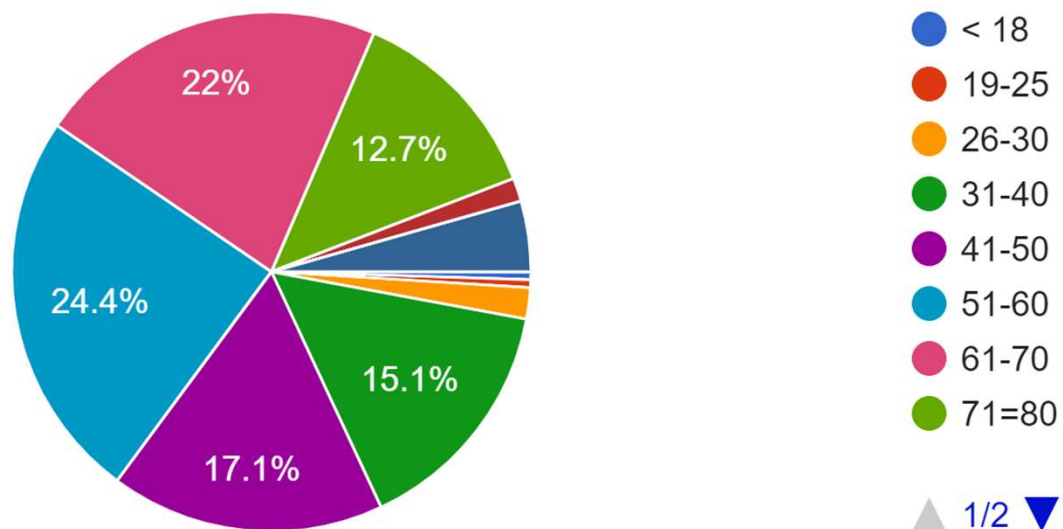


## Solutions for Housing: Problem-Solving Together



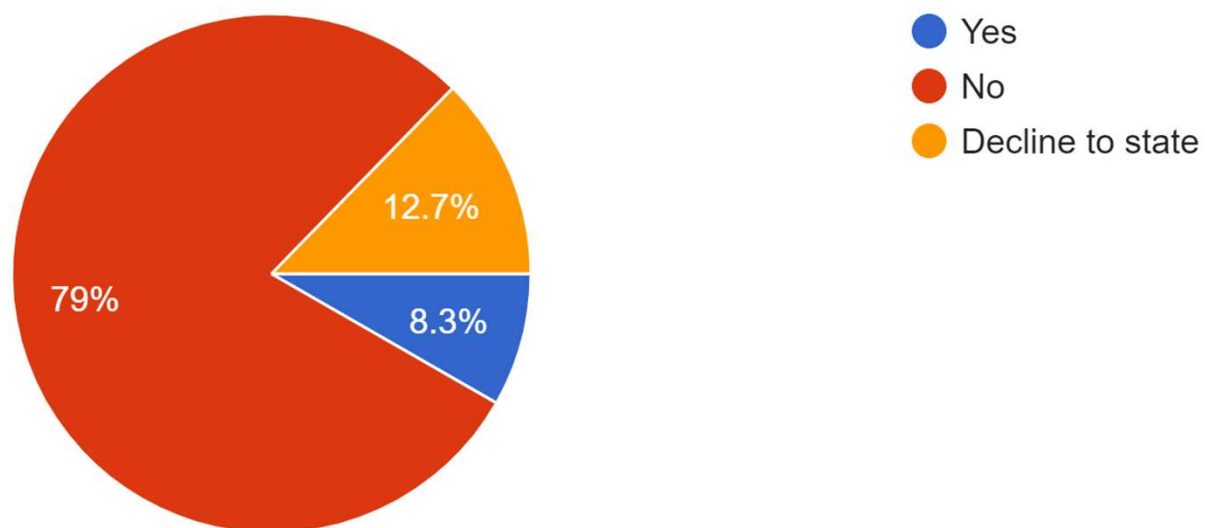
## 1. How old are you (in years)?

205 responses



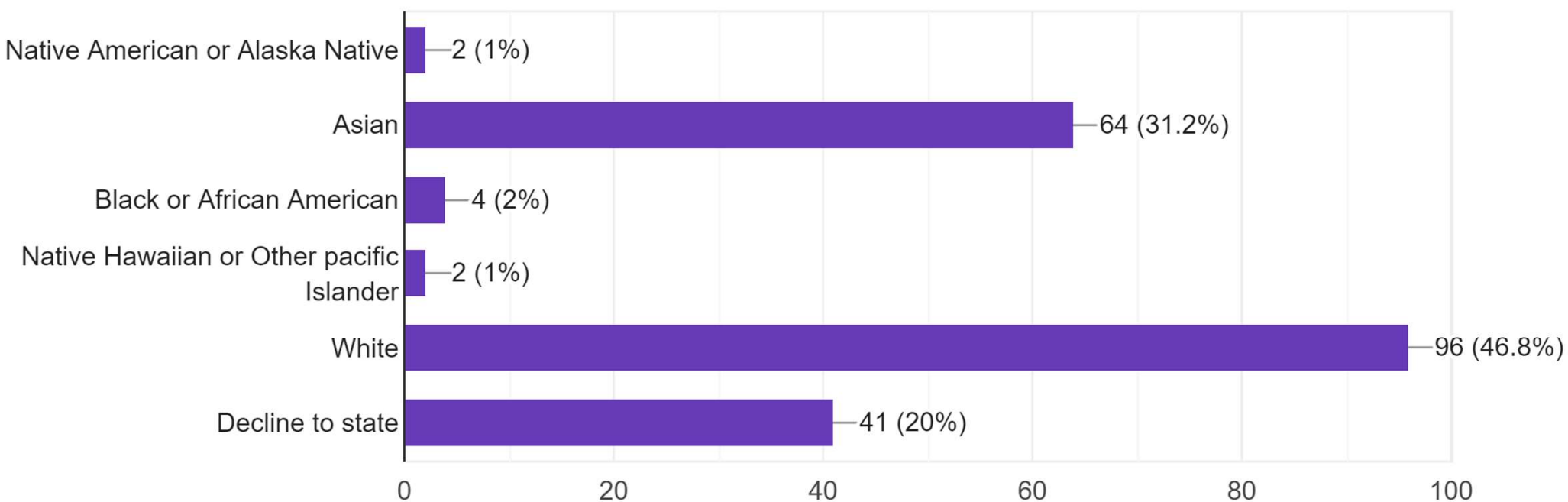
## 2. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin?

205 responses



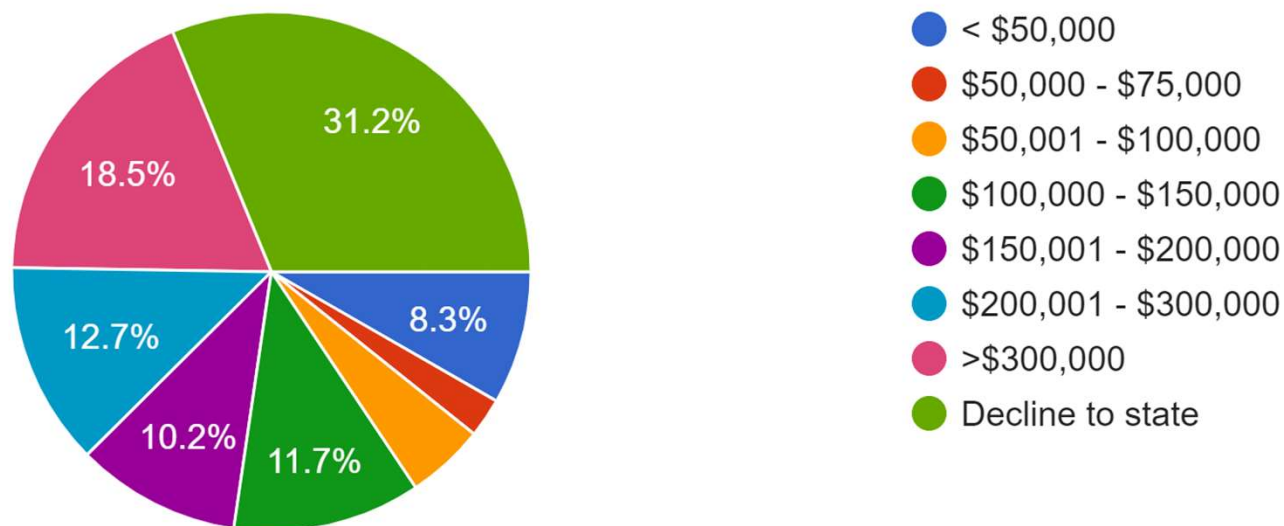
### 3. How would you describe yourself? (check all that apply)

205 responses



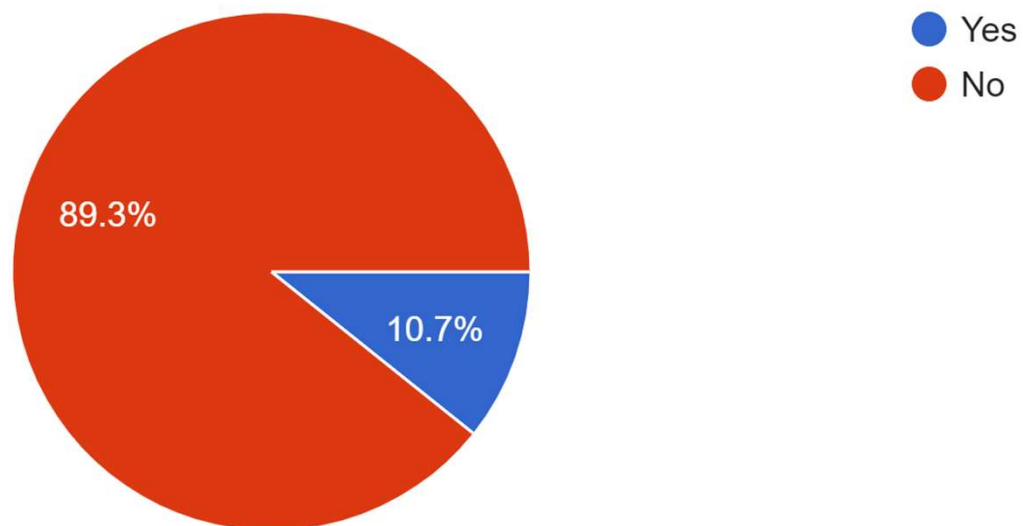
## 4. Household Income

205 responses



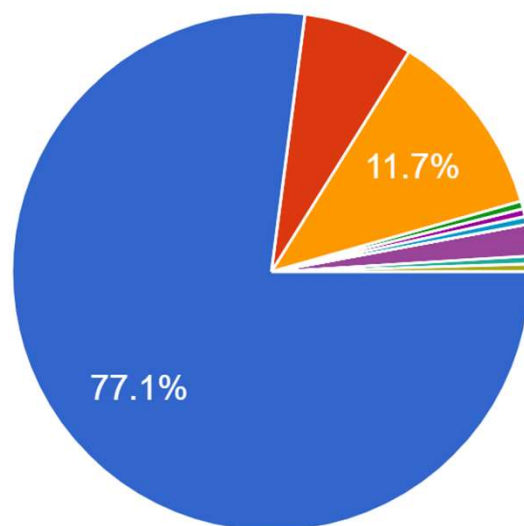
## 6. Do you consider your living situation to be too crowded?

205 responses



## 7. Select the type of housing you currently reside in:

205 responses

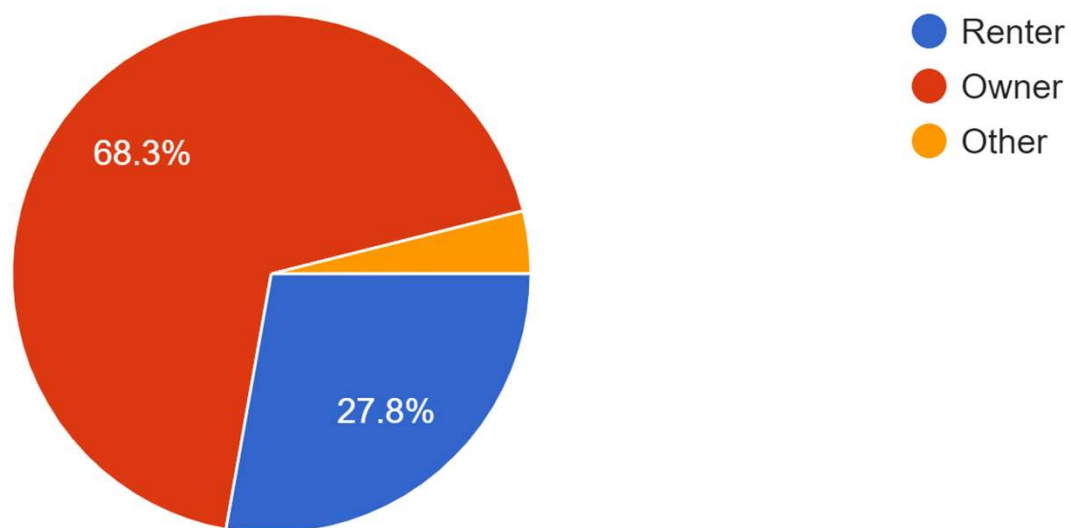


- Single Family Home
- Attached Home (Townhouse, Duplex)
- Multi Family Home (Apartment, Condo)
- Accessory Dwelling Unit (in-law unit)
- Mobile Home
- Live with parents or other relatives
- RV
- Couch surfing

▲ 1/2 ▼

## 8. Are you a renter or owner or other?

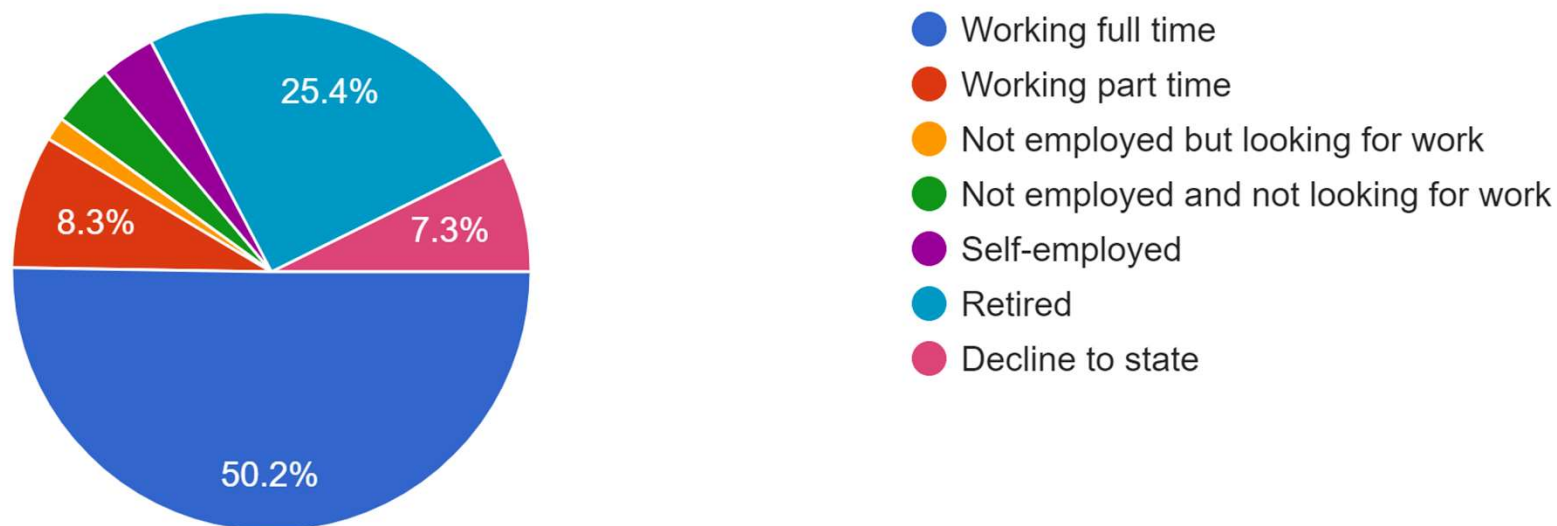
205 responses





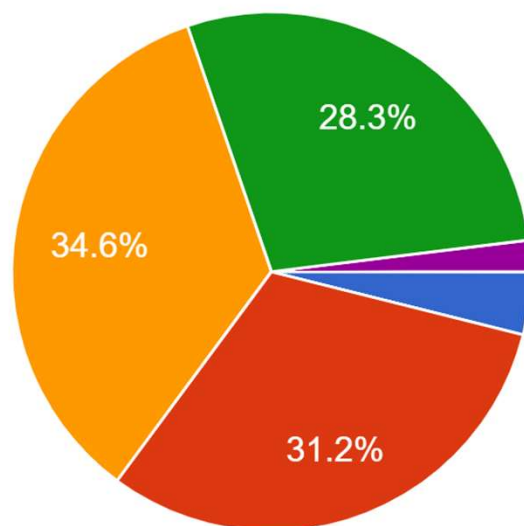
## 9. What is your employment status?

205 responses



## 10. Do you live and/or work in the City of Cupertino?

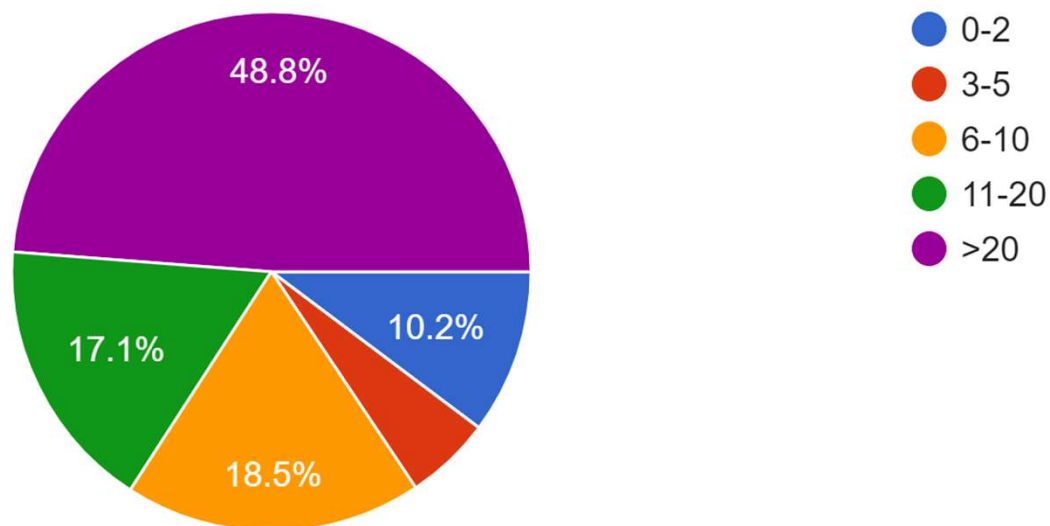
205 responses



- I work in Cupertino, but live elsewhere
- I live in Cupertino, but work elsewhere
- I both live and work in Cupertino
- I live in Cupertino and don't work
- I don't live in Cupertino and don't work in Cupertino

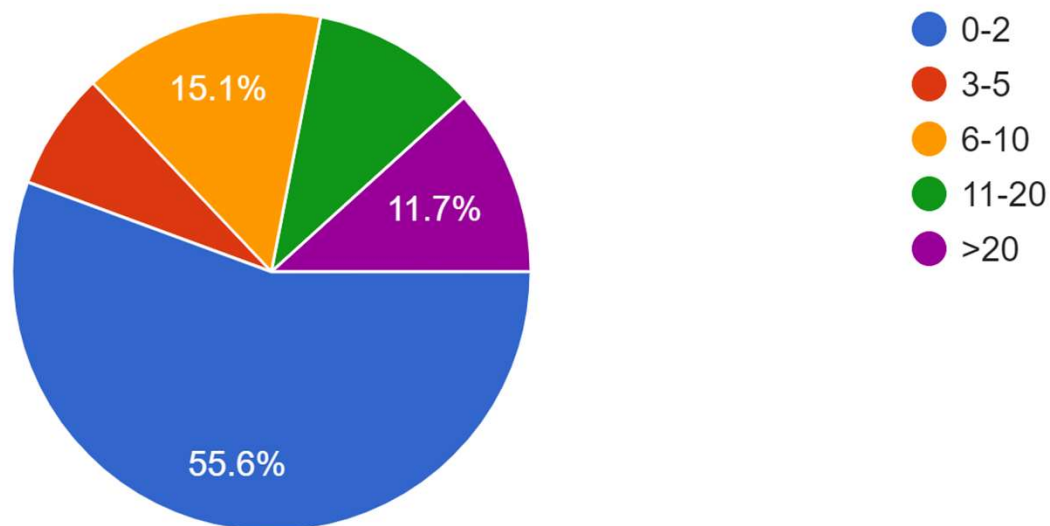
## 11. If you live in Cupertino, how many years have you lived in Cupertino?

205 responses



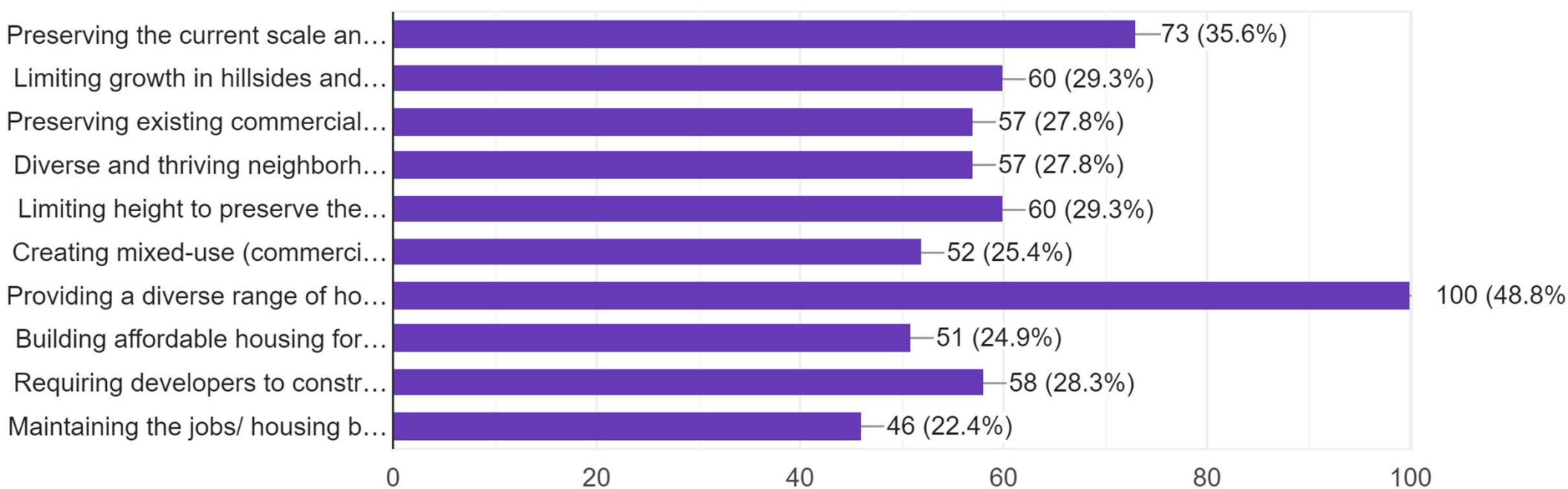
## 12. If you work in Cupertino, how many years have you worked in Cupertino

205 responses



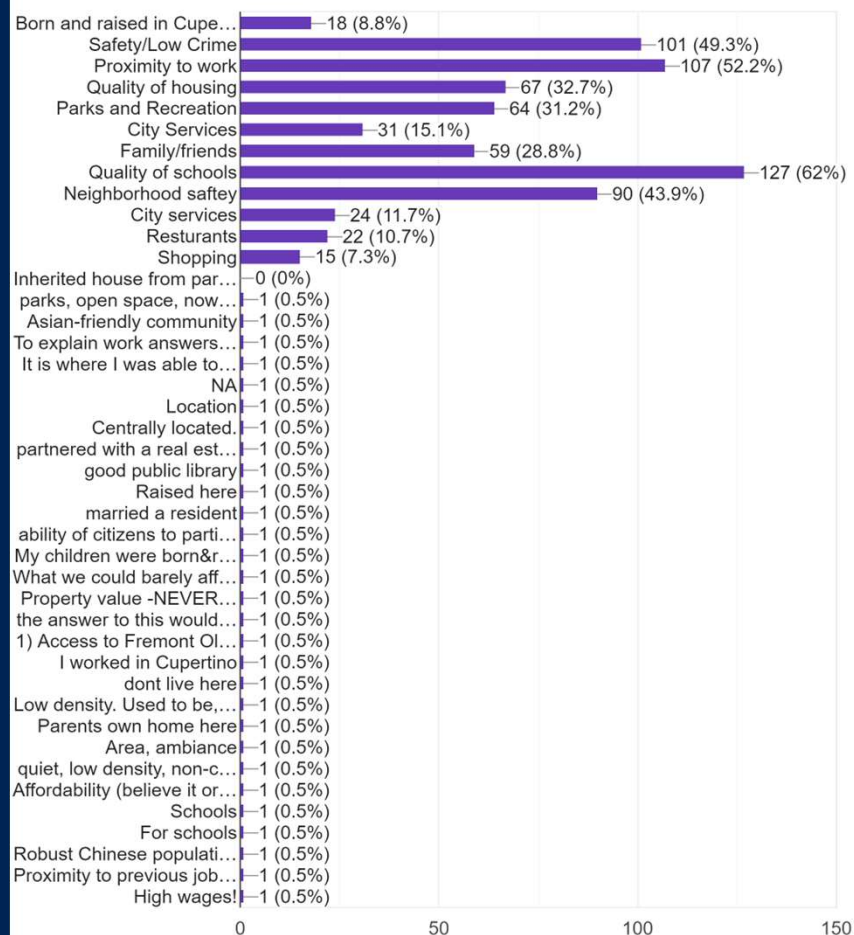
### 13. If you live Cupertino, please pick the top three goals based on importance to you and your family.

205 responses



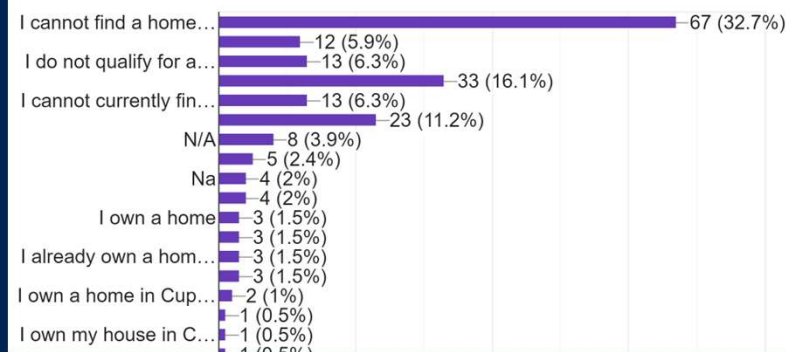
14. If you live in Cupertino, why did you choose to live here? Select all that apply.

205 responses



15. If you wish to own a home in Cupertino, but do not, what issues are preventing you at this time? Select all that apply:

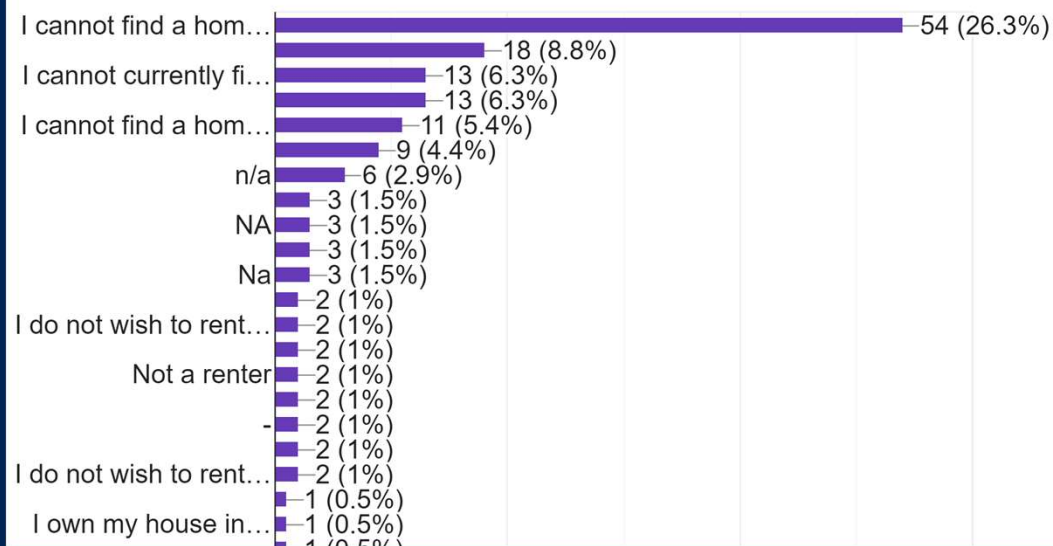
205 responses



16. If you wish to rent a home in Cupertino, but do not, what issues are preventing you at this time?

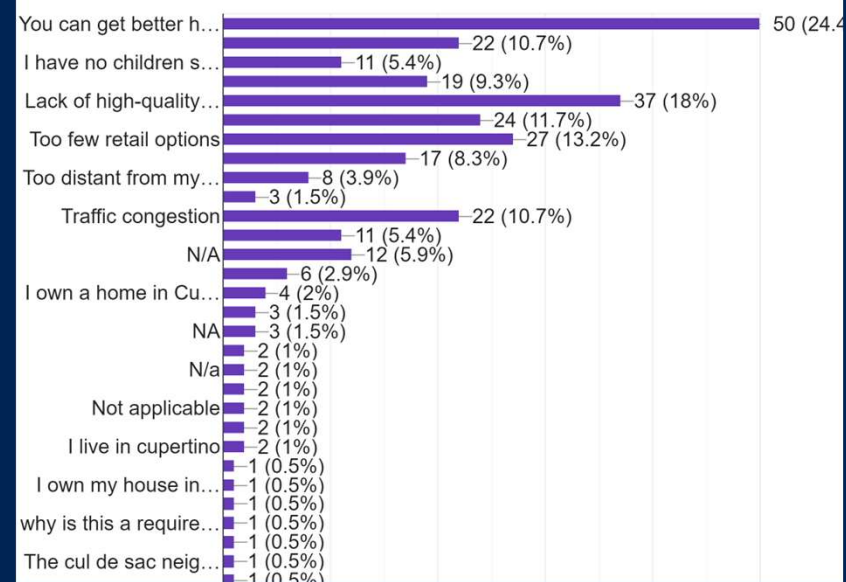
Select all that apply.

205 responses



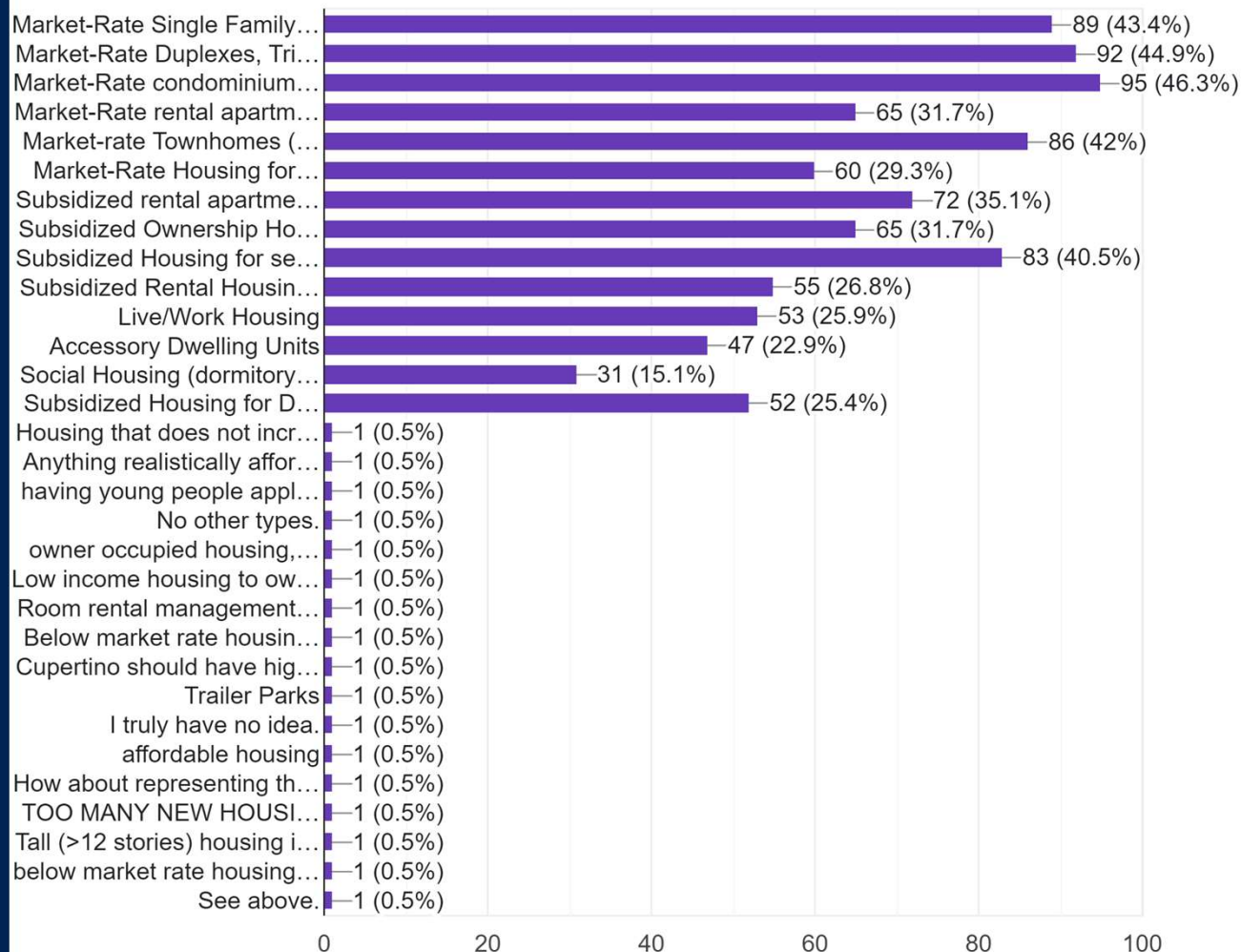
17. If you could afford to live in Cupertino, but don't want to, please share the reasons? Select all that apply.

205 responses



18. As Cupertino plans to meet the State and Regional mandate to plan for at least 4,588 new housing units, which types of additional housing would you like to see in the City of Cupertino? Select all that apply.

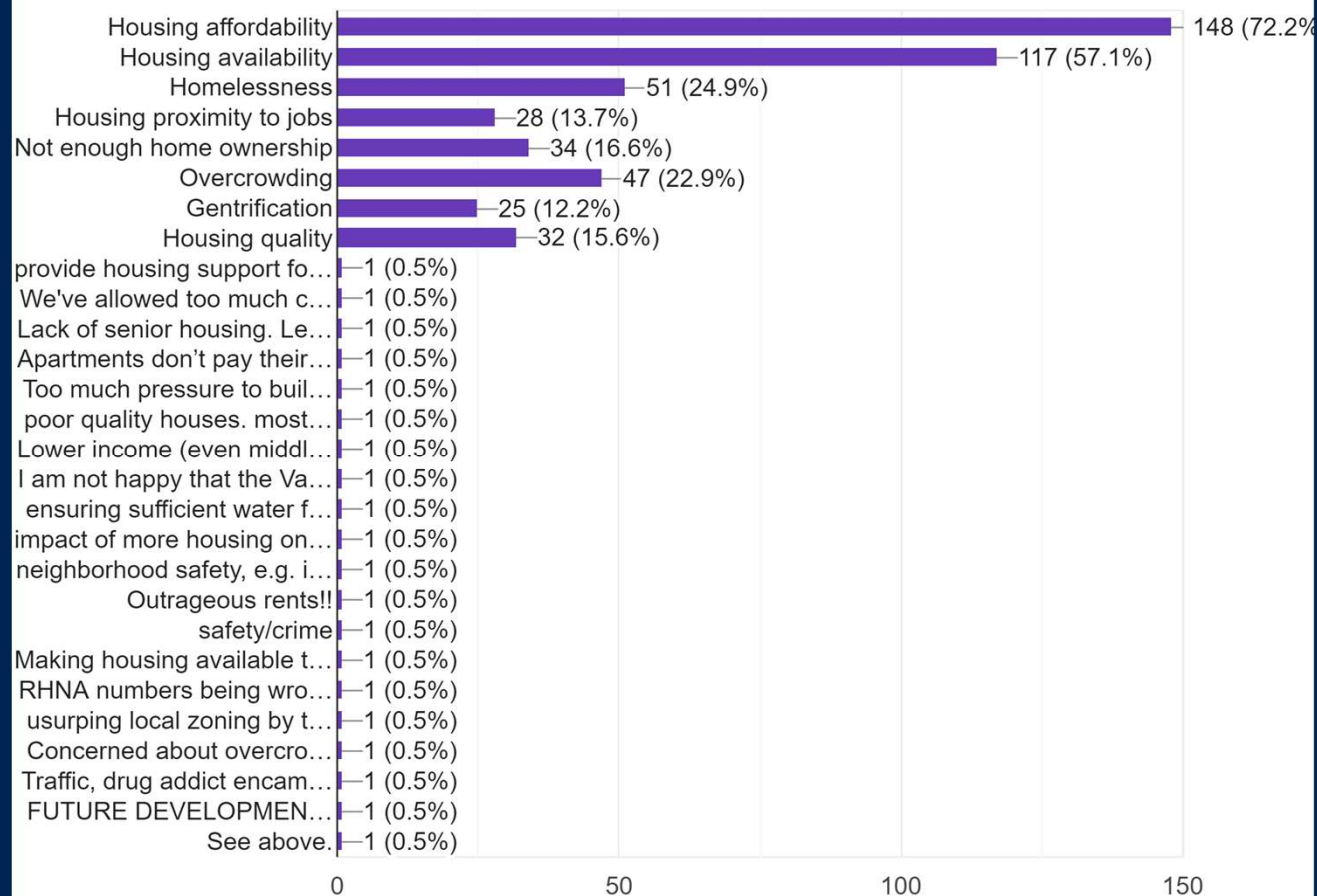
205 responses





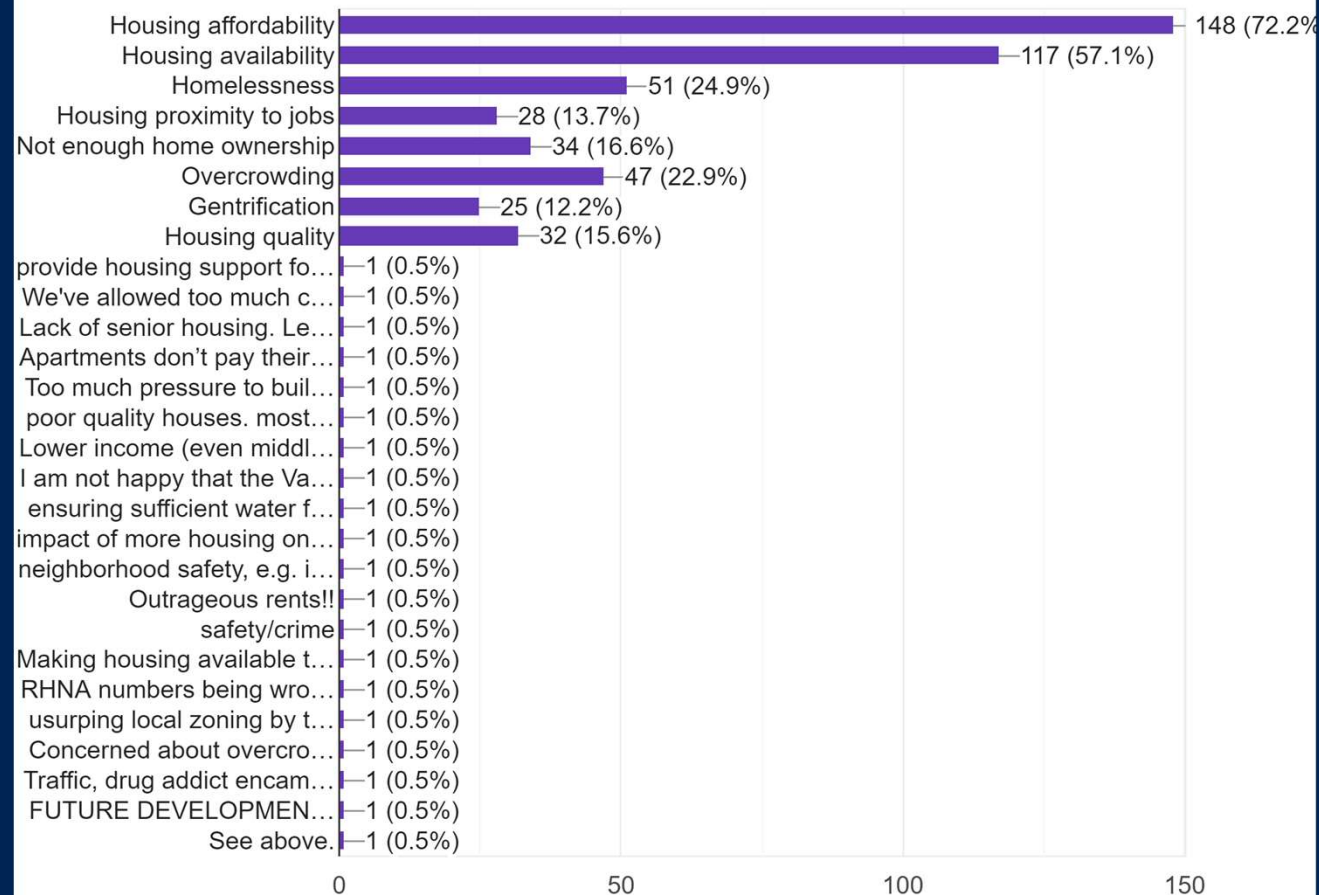
### 19. What do you believe are the most urgent housing concerns in Cupertino? (top 3)

205 responses



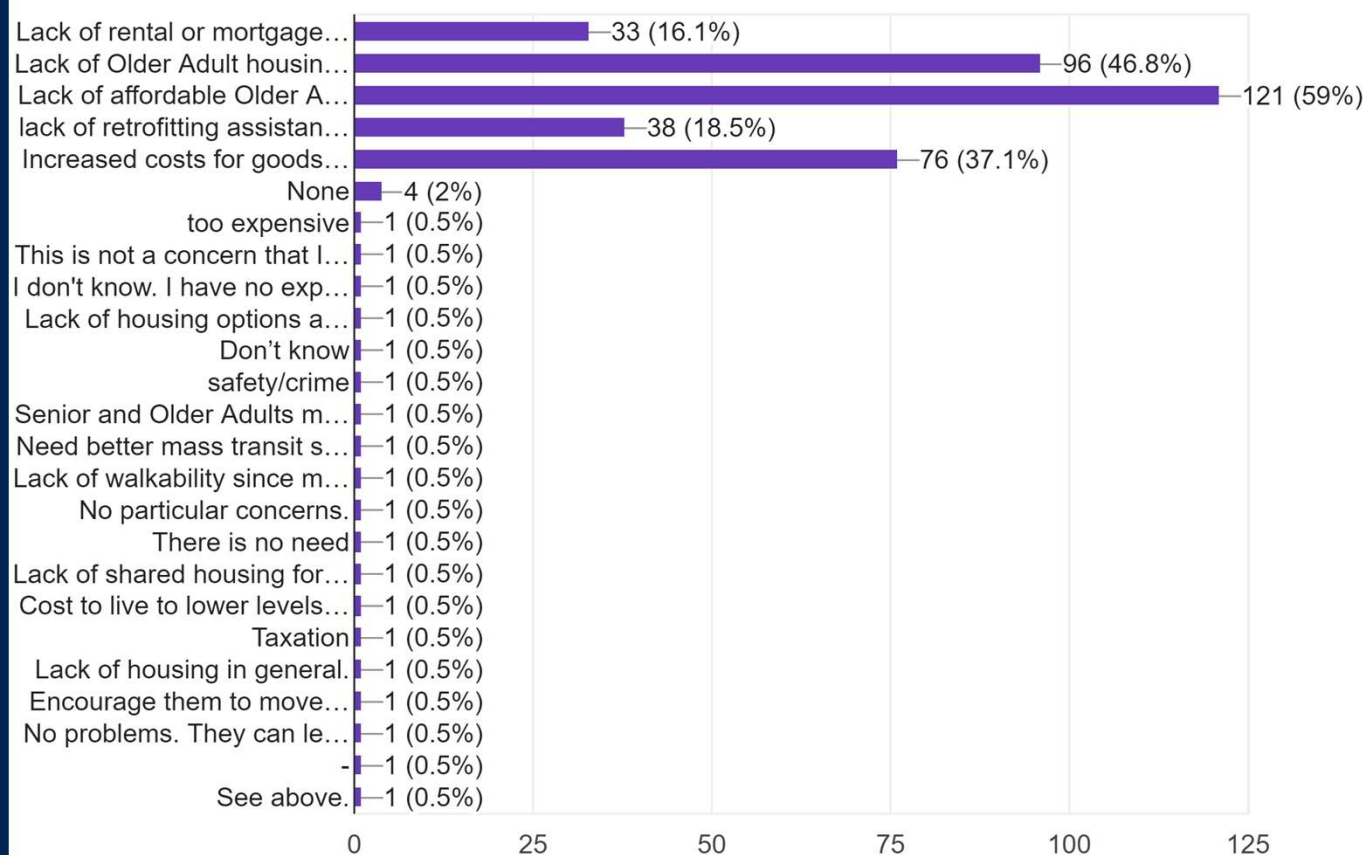
### 19. What do you believe are the most urgent housing concerns in Cupertino? (top 3)

205 responses



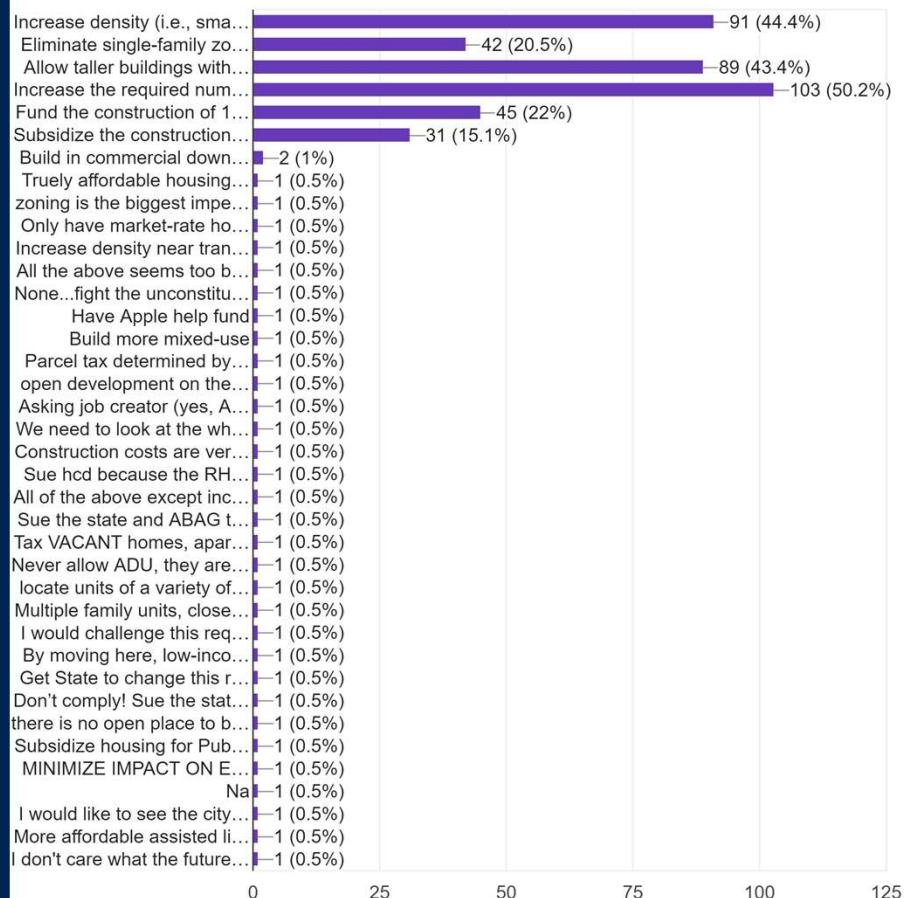
20. What do you believe is the biggest challenge for addressing the living and housing needs of lower income Older Adults (age 65+)?

205 responses



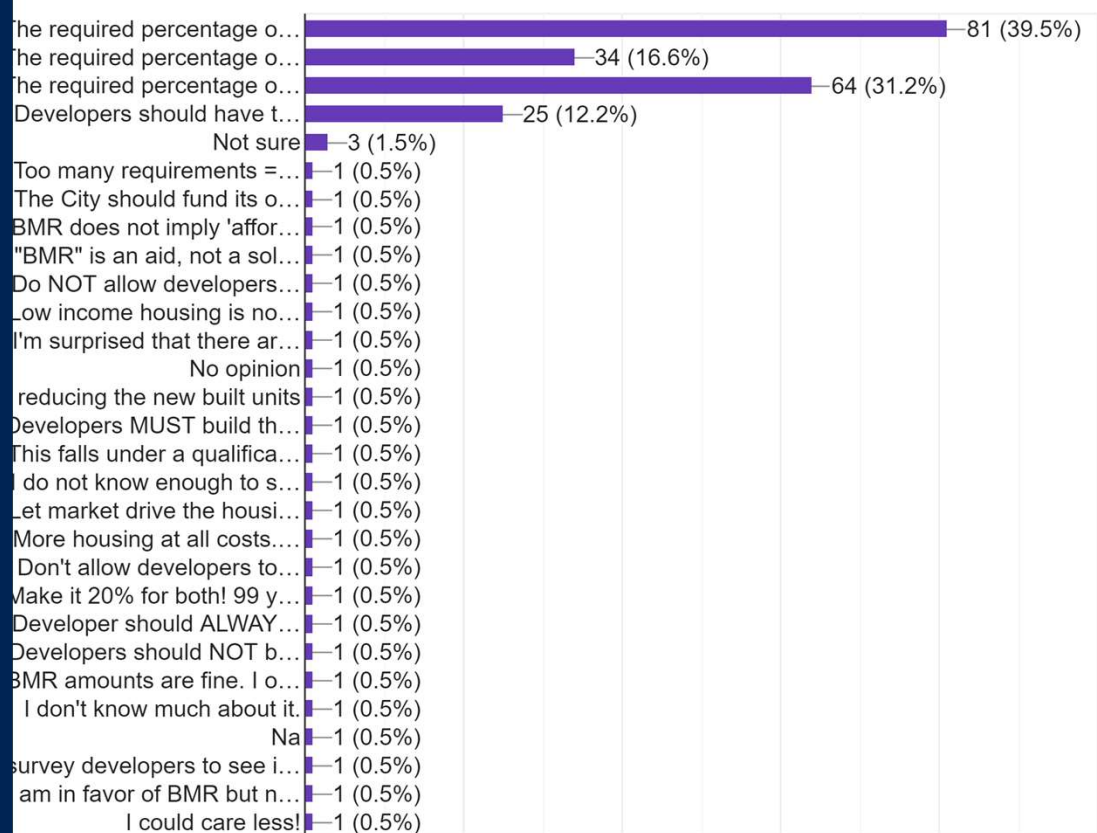
21. The City of Cupertino is required to for at least 4,588 additional housing units. What do you think are the best strategies for accommodating these units?

205 responses



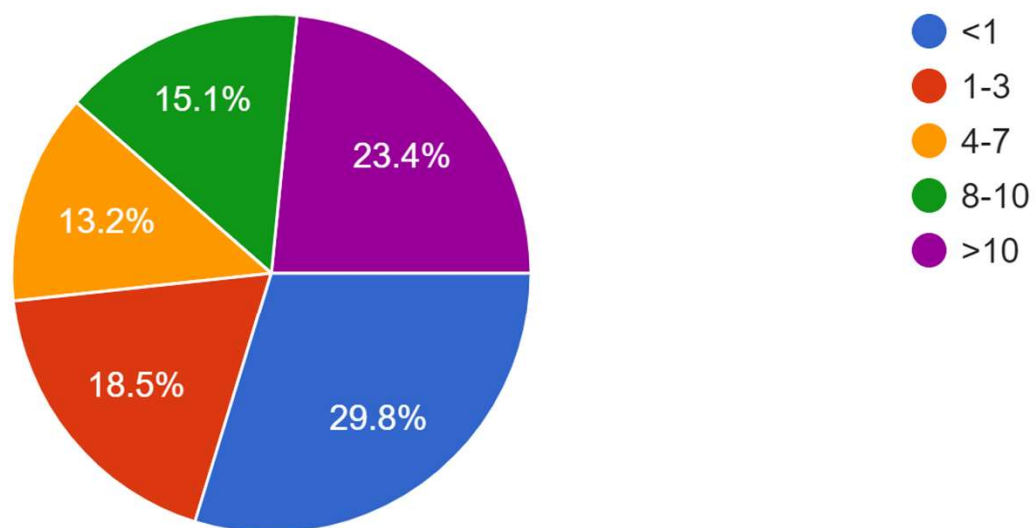


23. Below Market Rate (BMR) Housing is required as a percentage of units when more than 7 units are built. Generally, Cupertino requires that 15% (r...What are your views on this? (link to BMR manual)  
205 responses



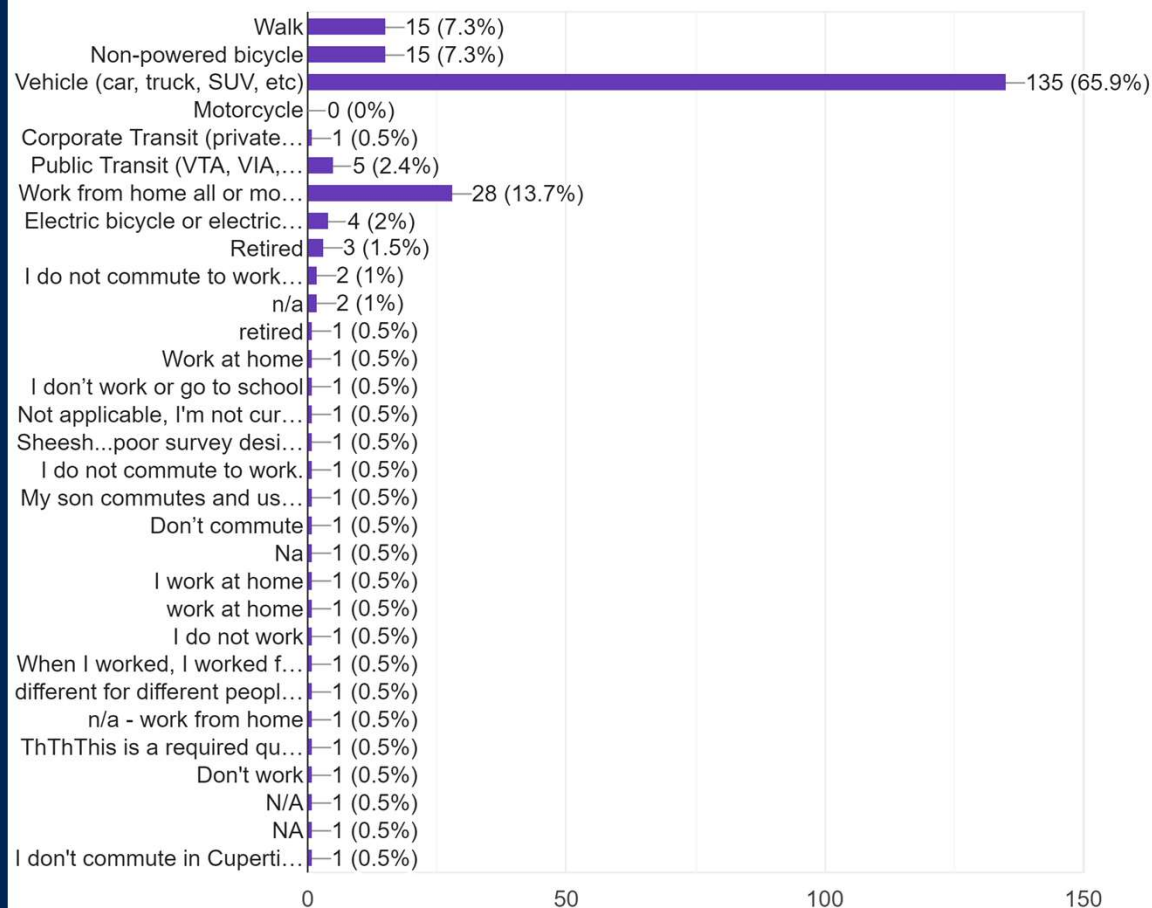
24. If you live in Cupertino, and work, how many miles do you commute, one-way, to work or school?

205 responses



## 25. How do you (most often) commute to work or school?

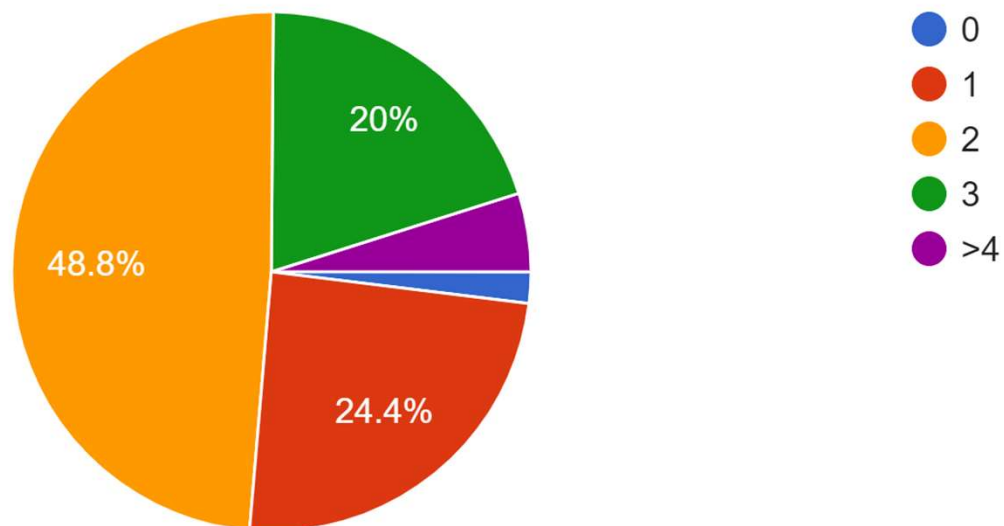
205 responses





## 26. How many vehicles does your household lease or own?

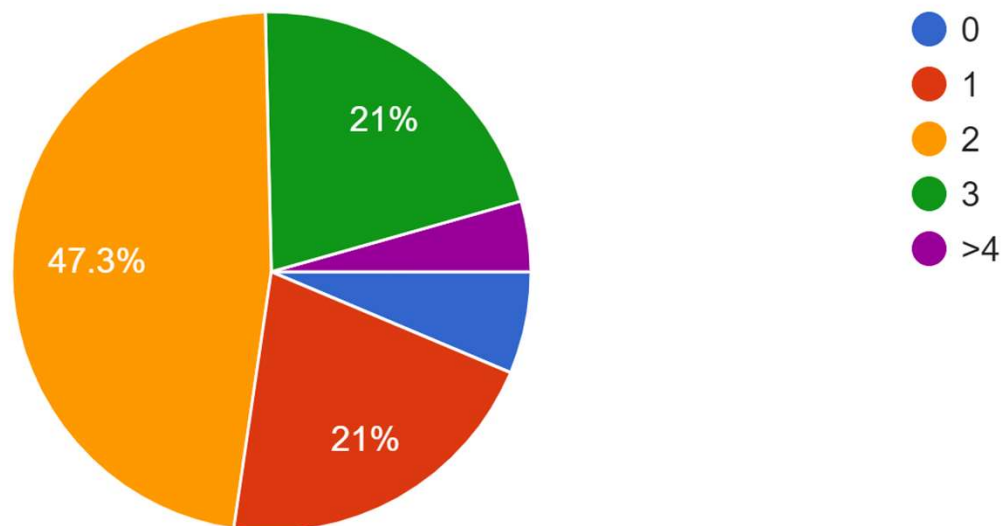
205 responses





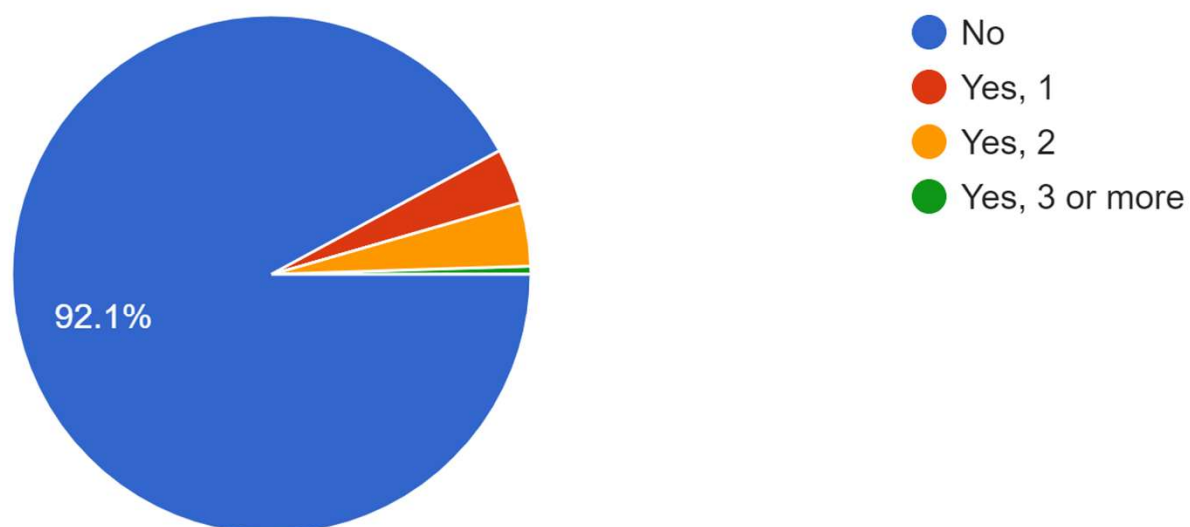
27. How many parking spaces do you need at your residence to accommodate your vehicles?

205 responses



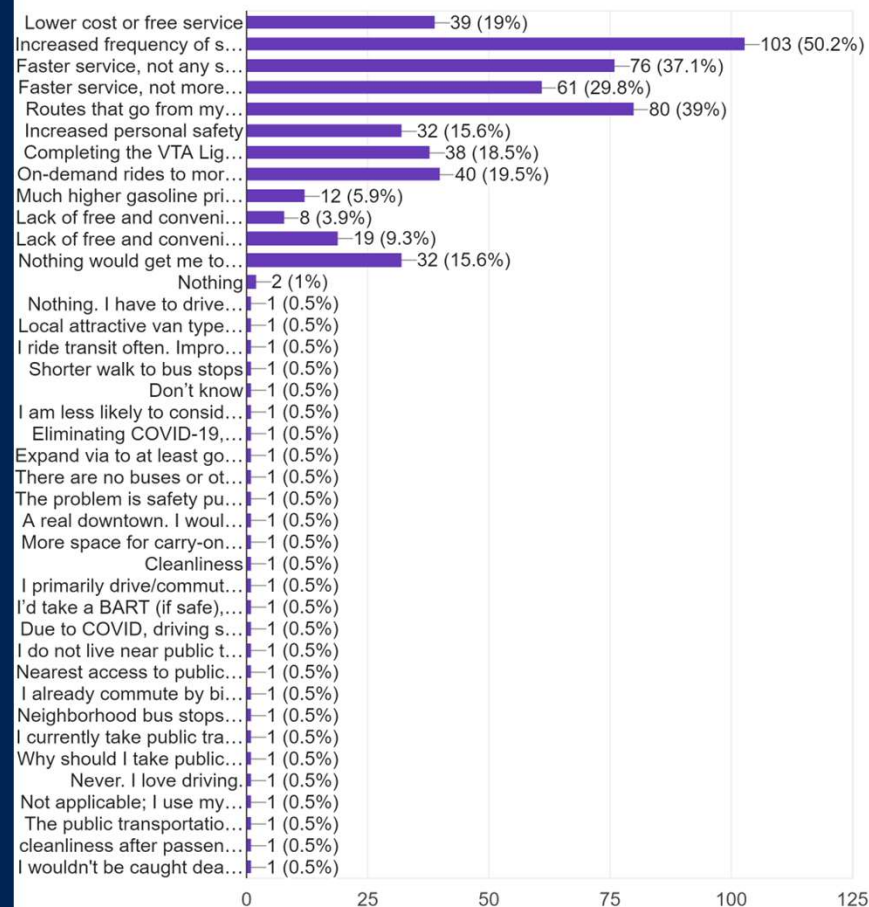
28. Do you have work vehicles (trucks, vans, etc), either you own or your company's, that you must park at your place of residence?

202 responses



29. What would encourage you to consider taking public transit instead of using a private vehicle?  
(select all that apply)

205 responses



# Questions & Feedback



**Engage Cupertino Housing Website:**  
**<https://engagecupertino.org>**

Housing Element Report  
Cupertino Community Meeting for Inclusive Housing  
May 23rd, 2022, 6:30-8 pm, hybrid (Zoom and in person)  
West Valley Community Services, City of Cupertino, and EMC Planning Group

**Overview**

On Monday, May 23rd, 2022, West Valley Community Services (WVCS) partnered with the City of Cupertino and EMC Planning Group to hold a Community Meeting for Inclusive Housing. WVCS is a nonprofit organization that has been providing safety net services to low-income and homeless individuals and families in the west valley region of Santa Clara County, including Cupertino, for more than 48 years. Because of WVCS' connection to the underserved, underrepresented, and most in-need communities of Cupertino, the organization hosted this meeting to amplify the perspectives of those facing barriers, bring community members together, and facilitate dialogue between individuals with different levels of privilege in Cupertino, as well as those who wish to live in the city but are unable to due to the high housing costs.

The Community Meeting for Inclusive Housing featured two breakout sessions during which community members joined one another for dialogue, a panel of four WVCS clients who shared their experiences with barriers and housing, and a brief presentation on the Housing Element and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH). The panelists had lived experience in areas including homelessness, affordable housing, neurodivergence, disabilities, veteran status, and discrimination.

**Agenda**

The agenda for the evening was as follows:

6:30-6:35 pm - Welcome

6:35-6:50 pm - Presentation on the Housing Element and AFFH

6:50-7:00 pm - Breakout Rooms #1

7:00-7:25 pm - Moderated Panel

7:25-7:40 pm - Panelist Questions From Audience

7:40-7:58 pm - Breakout Rooms #2, Exit Survey

7:58-8:00 pm - How to Stay Involved, Thank You, Closing Remarks & Goodnight

**Panelists**

The meeting featured four panelists, all WVCS clients. They represented a variety of experiences, and openly shared both these experiences and the connections between them and housing. Each panelist was compensated \$200.00 for their time and vulnerability.

Mair Dundon - Neurodivergence, affordable housing

Joshua Pringle - Homelessness, affordable housing, Section 8 voucher

Kim Hing - Disabilities, Section 8 voucher

Yavante' Nazareth Rose - Veteran status, homelessness, Section 8 voucher, affordable housing

All - Discrimination, poverty

## **Event Outreach**

Extensive and comprehensive outreach was done in preparation for this event, with the goal of attracting as many community members as possible to ensure the meeting was inclusive, effective, and diverse. Flyers<sup>1</sup> were displayed throughout the city, including in Cupertino City Hall, the Cupertino Library, the Cupertino Sports Center, Quinlan Community Center, and local coffee shops. An email in anticipation of the event was sent to 21 local commissions and community groups and 14 clubs and groups representing a variety of identities and interests from De Anza College, a community college in the City of Cupertino<sup>2</sup>.

As the event approached, outreach was amplified through additional emails to the city's email list of over 1,600 individuals, those subscribed to the Housing Element newsletter, and the community groups referred to above. In total, 111 individuals registered for the event.

## **Attendees**

Because the event was hybrid, it took place in two locations: On Zoom and in person at Cupertino Community Hall. On Zoom, 64 individuals attended the meeting. In person, there were about 20 attendees in total.

## **Event Content**

### **Opening Poll**

The event was facilitated by Josh Selo, the Executive Director of West Valley Community Services. Upon opening the meeting, Josh led a three-question poll for participants to answer. In person attendees answered the questions on paper. The three questions were<sup>3</sup>:

1. On a scale from 1 to 10, how strong of a sense do you think you have of other people's experiences related to housing?
2. Have you ever experienced housing-related challenges, such as housing insecurity, trouble paying rent, eviction, or homelessness?
3. How much do you know about Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)?

The responses were as follows:

1. On a scale from 1 to 10, how strong of a sense do you think you have of other people's experiences related to housing?

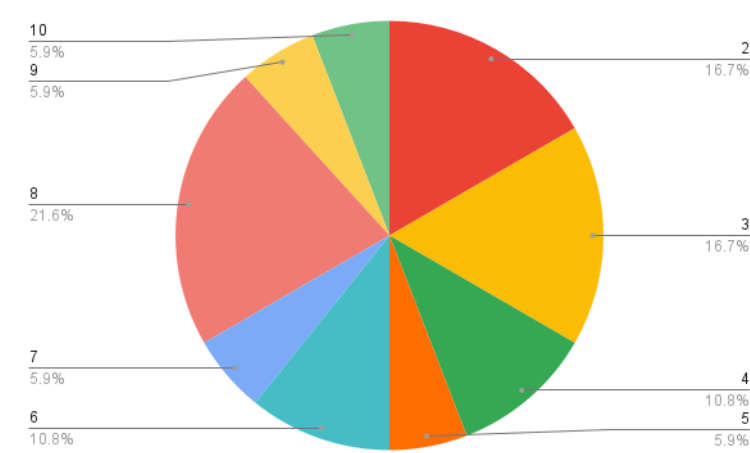
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<sup>1</sup> Appendix A: Event flyer

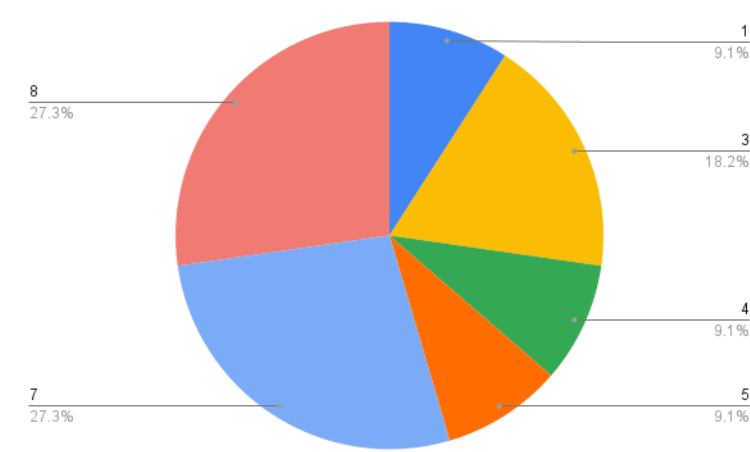
<sup>2</sup> Appendix B: List of groups outreached to

<sup>3</sup> Appendix C: List of opening poll questions including multiple choice options

Zoom

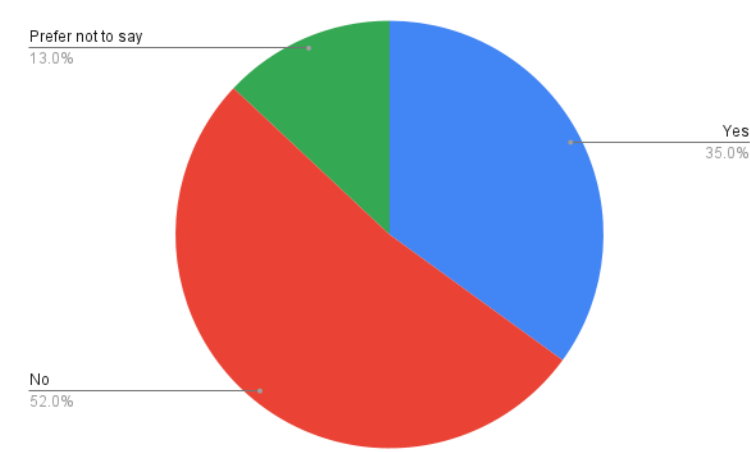


In Person

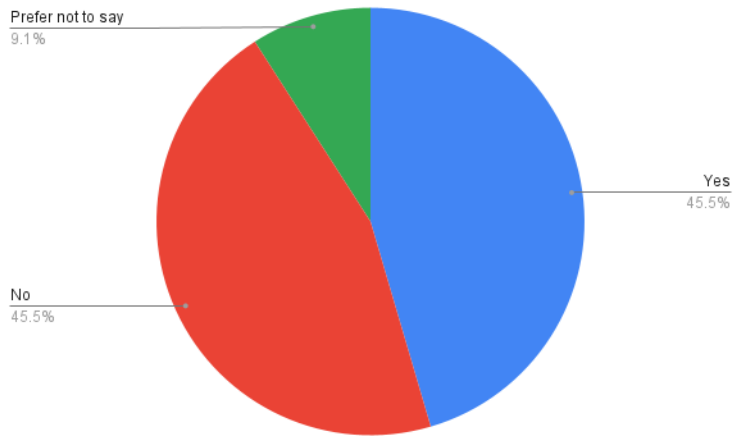


2. Have you ever experienced housing-related challenges, such as housing insecurity, trouble paying rent, eviction, or homelessness?

Zoom

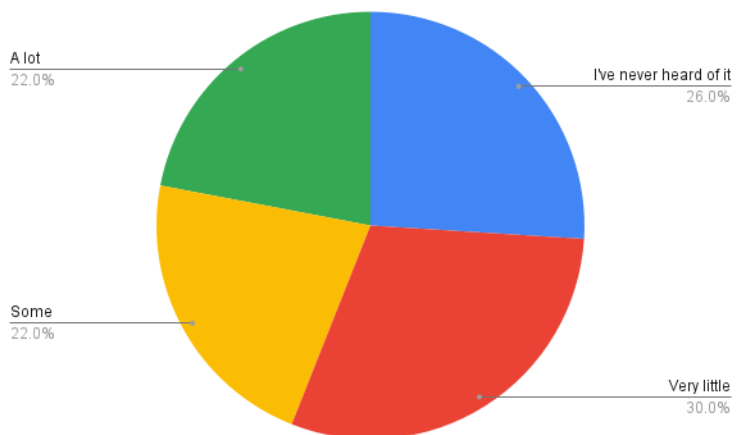


## In Person

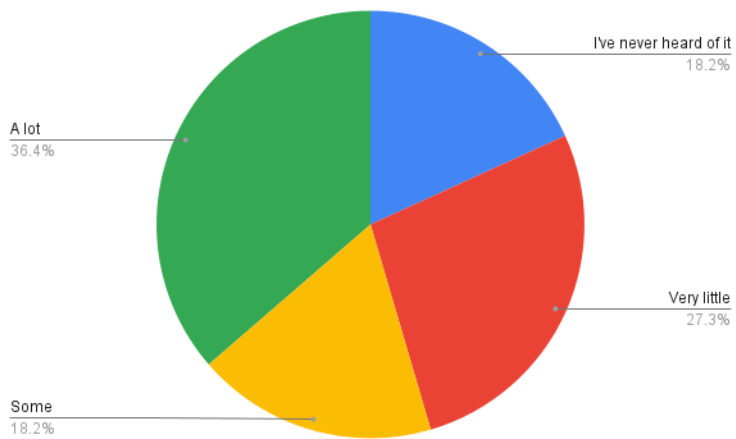


## 3. How much do you know about Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)?

### Zoom



### In Person





## **Presentation**

After the poll was complete, Ande Flower and lea robinson from the EMC Planning Group team gave a brief presentation on the Housing Element and AFFH<sup>4</sup>. The goal of this presentation was to ensure that everyone in attendance had the fundamental understanding necessary to fully participate in the meeting and to dive deeper into AFFH than in previous community meetings.

## **Breakout Session 1**

Following the presentation, attendees entered breakout sessions. On Zoom, these took the form of breakout rooms, and in person, the form of breakout tables. Each breakout group had one moderator who took notes, facilitated the conversation, and ensured everyone had the equal chance to speak. Attendees were asked to answer three questions in their breakout groups:

1. Your name and what brings you here tonight?
2. What do you think inclusive housing looks like in Cupertino? Who are some people that need to be included?
3. What questions do you want to ask the panelists?

## **Panel**

When attendees returned from the breakout session, the panel began. The panelists first responded to eleven questions that had been pre-written and sent to the panelists ahead of time:

1. **ALL:** Tell us a little about yourself, one or two things you would like the participants to know about you, and why you agreed to take part in tonight's panel.
2. **ALL:** What is one thing you want tonight's attendees to know about you going into this panel?
3. **ALL:** What are some stereotypes you think people have about poverty, affordable housing, and homelessness?
4. **Mair:** You describe yourself as “neurodivergent,” which is a term not everyone is familiar with. Can you tell us what it means to be neurodivergent, and how this relates to the term “disabilities”?
5. **Kim:** Kim, is there anything you would add from your own experience?
6. **Joshua:** What challenges did you face transitioning from being unhoused to finding affordable housing?
7. **Mair and Kim:** Now Mair and Kim, I want to ask you both, as people living with disabilities, are there any unique challenges you have faced when it comes to housing?
8. **Yavante:** Can you talk about your experience as a veteran and how it relates to housing? What was it like working to get and using a HUD-VASH voucher?
9. **ANYONE:** Can you share any experiences of housing discrimination you have faced in Cupertino? What does housing discrimination in our community look like, and how does this impact people across diverse identities, races, and abilities?
10. **ALL:** Is there one person, organization, program, or moment that was pivotal for you in your search for stable, affordable housing?
11. **ALL:** What is one thing you want tonight's attendees to take away from this panel?

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<sup>4</sup> Appendix D: Presentation slide deck

Following the pre-written questions, attendees had the opportunity to ask the panelists questions. These were submitted through the chat for Zoom attendees and by paper for in person attendees. The questions asked by the audience that were answered during the panel are:

1. After getting through your path to becoming housed, do you still feel today like your housing security is threatened, and in what ways? (Zoom) Related Que-Greatest Housing challenge you have faced and what do you think would have been helpful or supportive? (Zoom)
2. What price range is considered affordable housing in the bay area? It's hard to find any housing to purchase under \$500K in Silicon Valley (Zoom)
3. How do you define affordable housing? (this is from our breakout room but I want to make sure it gets asked) Does anyone know how much minimum wage would have to be in Cupertino in order to afford the average one bedroom apartment? (Zoom)
4. In person: How much of your current income do you spend on housing and what will define affordable housing for you? (in person)
5. Where do you think is a good place for homes relative to other parts of the community? For low income people? For neurodivergent/ disabled people? (In person)
6. As Cupertino looks to "affirmatively further fair housing" do you think it should take into account who cannot afford to live here? Or should it only focus on who already gets to live here? (In person)
7. The supply of affordable housing is already low since there is not enough funding to subsidize it. Now, some college students wish to have access to affordable housing too, since they chose to attend De Anza college rather than their own local college. The students are extremely low income too since they attend classes and study many hours a day. What do you think about that? (Zoom)
8. Could we ask the Governor to spend the billions of dollars in surplus in affordable housing? Otherwise, how do we get affordable housing? (Zoom)
9. What are some concrete examples of policies/actions that do affirmatively further Fair Housing, particularly in "High Opportunity" areas like Cupertino? (Zoom)
10. How did you maintain hope as you worked through the problem? (In person)
11. What has been the greatest housing challenge you have faced? (Zoom)
12. As Cupertino looks to "affirmatively further fair housing" do you think it should take into account who cannot afford to live here? Or should it only focus on who already gets to live here? (In person)
13. What is the amount of people per available homes? What is the breakdown of possible homes? (In person)
14. Where do you think is a good place for homes relative to other parts of the community? For low income people? For neurodivergent/ disabled people? (In person)
15. How much of your current income do you spend on housing and what will define affordable housing for you? (In person)

Each panelist participated fully, and all gave powerful, insightful, and enlightening responses. Some notable words from the panelists are below, though the full recording is the best way to understand the power of the panel.

- "People tend to look at you a little different knowing you're not in the same income bracket as them... They think of you as a little bit less" - *Joshua Pringle*
- "There's a lot of conversation about people making bad choices, and that's why they are in the place that they are. And I do often challenge that, because a lot of stuff happens to us that we have no control over. So, I do want people to stop and think about that before they make those kinds of assumptions." - *Mair Dundon*
- "People think it can't happen to them...people look at you differently, and it's like they know. Even if they don't really really know, if people even suspect that you are anywhere near being homeless, they treat you as less than a citizen... They forget that this could happen to them at any moment, and... anyone who's ever been homeless - that's something that we had to find out. This is nothing I raised my hand for and said 'yeah, I volunteer to be homeless.' This is something that

happened due to, in my case, things that were basically out of my control. That's the one thing I kind of want to get community members to see, is don't judge, because you could end up there yourself." - *Yavante Nazareth Rose*

- "We're talking about the whole process of housing - So maybe someone who is neurodivergent doesn't necessarily need the physical accommodations, but maybe they need some help within the process of filling out the forms, of going through the process of getting into the place, having the decisions, interacting with the people around things that are going on within that process. So that's why we are bringing neurodivergence into the conversation." - *Mair Dundon*
- [About process of moving from homelessness into housing] "It was really tough because before all that even happened, it was just the fact that I just needed somebody to give me a chance. It was so hard because I had no laptop, I basically lost everything that I own. So it was pretty hard for me to find where somebody could actually just help me out." - *Joshua Pringle*
- "Just to adapt to being inside a home again is kind of a struggle too, because you've been without a home for so long, it just feels weird." - *Joshua Pringle*
- "I think it's really important for people to understand that not everybody is really wealthy, but we still live in this city, and we need places to live, and it's important for people to understand that there's all different kinds of people that you may not think are actually living in this city, but we are here." - *Kim Hing*
- "I think that people have this misconception that low-income people should live someplace else, and I think there's an attitude that the area will become a ghetto if there's low-income housing. I don't understand why people think that those of us who work low-paying jobs would trash areas that we live in. I think people want us to work these low-paying jobs because the work needs to be done, but they want us to live someplace else. And I think people have an attitude that since they pay fair market rate, everyone should do that, and that includes low-income people, because they think that's only fair... I remember somebody wrote that they should put in micro housing for low-income people. And this leads me to believe that there's an attitude that low-income people don't deserve pleasant housing, like we should have these sub-standard housings just because we don't earn much money. I really think people believe we're low-income because we don't work hard and we don't want to better ourselves... There are reasons why I'm low-income. Talk to me and find out what things are going on, why I am in this category. Because I am Extremely Low Income, but there are a lot of reasons for it, and I probably don't fit in this stereotype that you may have for someone in this category." - *Kim Hing*
- "I walk with the rollator a good chunk of the time... I've literally had people back out of showing me an apartment because of that, several times... That was a pretty overt block of even being able to look at housing" - *Mair Dundon*
- "I don't know what it is about the credit score, but if your credit score is really low, most people won't even talk to you after that. You can fill out an application, but once they do your credit score, it's pretty much a wrap after that. I kind of think that's a little bit unfair, because for me, just because you have a low credit score, doesn't mean you can't afford the apartment you're applying for." - *Joshua Pringle*
- "I worked for the County of Santa Clara when my family and I were coming out of being homeless, and that credit score prevented us from getting into a lot of nice places. They didn't care how much I was making, and I was making a decent amount of money. People, when they think

about discrimination, they think about race, or gender, or something like that, but there's also financial discrimination that we have to overcome a lot of times. Also, the discrimination of 'where'd you live in the last six months?' I can't put that I lived in my truck, so trying to come up with something other than telling a lie is really hard." - *Yavante Nazareth Rose*

- [What is the greatest housing challenge you've faced?] "Finding someone to accept my HUD-VASH voucher, because when you say 'voucher,' people immediately think Section 8, and even though it's along the same lines, it's a little different. The only people who can get this voucher is veterans... you forget that I volunteered six years of my life to protect you." - *Yavante Nazareth Rose*
- "I think that one of the biggest challenges for me was not only finding the housing, because I'm a good researcher, but also the application process was very, very difficult. Often, tons of pages of materials, some of which you had things for, some of which you didn't, different rules for every place you go, nothing is replicated, so in other words, if you apply to one place, you have to go to the one place and you have to go to the next place and you have to do it all over with that 20 pages of documentation. And just getting to those places physically, mentally, and emotionally was very difficult." - *Mair Dundon*

Two questions prompted particularly powerful and poignant responses from the panelists. The questions and their answers are below.

Do you have any specific examples of policies or actions that you'd like to see the City of Cupertino implement that would Affirmatively Further Fair Housing?

- Yavante would like to see application fees disappear, especially if he's willing and able to bring his credit reports with him and give them to a potential landlord. They're charging \$100 per adult for an application fee, and if you're in a bad situation financially, this is almost impossible.
- Joshua said something needs to change about the waiting process, because when you're on a waitlist, you don't know how long it's going to be. His process only got sped up because his roommate worked in the City of Cupertino. You shouldn't need to work in the city to have higher priority
- Mair said centralization of the listings is her key thing she'd like to see us doing a better job of. There's no visibility to waitlists, but there's different rules in each place. Let's provide some transparency and provide information in a central spot, so whatever resources we do have, we actually can distribute, rather than making it a hunt.
- Kim found that there are only three affordable apartment complexes in Cupertino and 9 BMR complexes, then she hears about construction of a luxury hotel and fair market condos with a couple of affordable housing units. She thinks there should be a policy stopping all of this fair housing stuff and luxury hotels. We need to put in affordable housing. They are needed in this community to work lower wage jobs, and they need housing. Two affordable units in a fair market complex is not enough, and developers can pay to not build them. We need to make sure that these low and extremely low income units get built.

What is one thing you would like all attendees to take away from tonight's panel?

- "I would like everybody to get involved in a positive way. Be advocates for people who don't have the courage to be advocates for themselves, because a lot of times you hear people when they're complaining, but it would be really nice to hear people be loud when they're speaking up for the homeless and people who are at risk of becoming homeless. Get involved." - *Yavante 'Nazareth Rose*
- "Support people instead of just saying 'these people need to go someplace else.' People may not realize that if you want a store, to have someone working the register and stocking the shelves, if you want someone to take your order, bus your table, wash your dishes at a restaurant, if you want someone to teach and take care of your children, like I do, then you need people like me. We deserve to live in the communities that we work in, we deserve to be able to live in the places we grew up in. This is my home. I lived here for over 50 years - why should I have to leave my home because it's too expensive to live in now? That's just not right." - *Kim Hing*
- "For me, we're all human. Just because we're in different income brackets, doesn't make us any less of a human being compared to everybody else. We may not have the same income as you, but we all have aspirations and hopes to get to where we need to be in life, and it's just a level of respect. We all want the same level of respect as everybody else." - *Joshua Pringle*
- "What we're doing right now. I want us to do more of this, I want us to be able to actually have the conversations, so that you can speak with people who have differences from you, so you can start to understand that maybe the differences aren't exactly what you thought that they were, and also that we can be interconnected. I just want to emphasize, communities that are integrated... are really amazingly creative, fun, and full of life. Yes, they have problems, but so do the communities that are isolated. So we need to be able to be interconnected here, and this is a beautiful way to get started, so come on! Let's keep going." - *Mair Dundon*

## **Breakout Session 2**

When the panel concluded, attendees were sent into a second breakout session, responding to a new set of questions prompting them to reflect on the panel and what they learned. Before entering the breakout room, attendees were led in a brief exercise to reflect on the panel and ponder the questions. Moderators took notes in the breakout sessions to capture community feedback while maintaining privacy and anonymity. The questions for the second breakout session were as follows:

1. What impact did hearing from the panelists have on your thoughts around housing, the Housing Element, and representation?
2. What barriers and unmet needs did you hear from the panelists? How did this make you feel?

Some of the themes that emerged from the notes gathered by moderators *during both Breakout Sessions #1 and #2* are summarized below:

- Participants were unaware of and very concerned about challenges and barriers faced by the panelists. These barriers included credit scores, application fees, property owners raising rent, and waitlists.
- Participants felt they better understood the challenges that the panelists faced and had not previously considered the impact that the barriers they learned about have on people.
- It is very important to give everyone a chance.

- There are many additional barriers that people face which participants had never thought of, such as having to go to the library to access a computer and electricity, and having to take a bus to even get there.
- Some participants said their experiences strongly paralleled those of the panelists, as they had lived experience with housing insecurity, homelessness, disabilities, and discrimination.
- Many participants brought up the courage it took the panelists to share their stories, and greatly appreciated their vulnerability, openness, and insight.
- A developer who attended said they would like to do more, but the city does not have the resources or the will. The developer doesn't know how to help.
- The panelists' stories demonstrated that this could happen to any of us. Circumstances can change in an instant, and it's hard to get out of a spiral.
- We need more Below Market Rate and affordable housing.
- Participants wanted some sort of city program, and suggested versions such as city funding to buy land and build housing, voucher programs in which the city engages with property owners to help them support low-income tenants, and application fee waiving.
- Multiple participants would like to see the city play a part in reducing barriers to finding housing by vetting tenants so they only need to apply once and do not have to pay \$100+ fees for each application.
- We need housing for people who work in Cupertino but cannot afford to live here.
- Participants were unaware of the barriers faced by individuals with disabilities and who are neurodivergent. They wanted to see accessible housing for this demographic. One particular insight participants gained was the difficulty neurodivergent individuals faced when trying to complete the applications and paperwork. They wondered how we could simplify the process.
- Participants were proud to live in a city that is hosting community meetings like this, where people with lived experience share their stories and community members speak with one another.
- Participants wanted more housing for students at De Anza College. One person said living near school would motivate students to attend class.
- People with lived experience who related to the panelists said they felt heard, seen, and not alone. They felt energized and motivated after the event.
- Participants were frustrated at the number of people who are not being heard.
- Participants stressed the importance of listening to what people are saying and what they need before making decisions.
- We need a home for all of our community members, not just the tech employees who are able to afford it.
- A community member was very upset that we expect companies to provide housing when it should in fact be the responsibility of the community, with potential partnership with companies.
- A community should factor in and include people with many financial backgrounds and incomes so that we can build a diverse society.

Additionally, participants were asked to complete an exit survey during their breakout session. This is further discussed below.

## **Closing Poll**

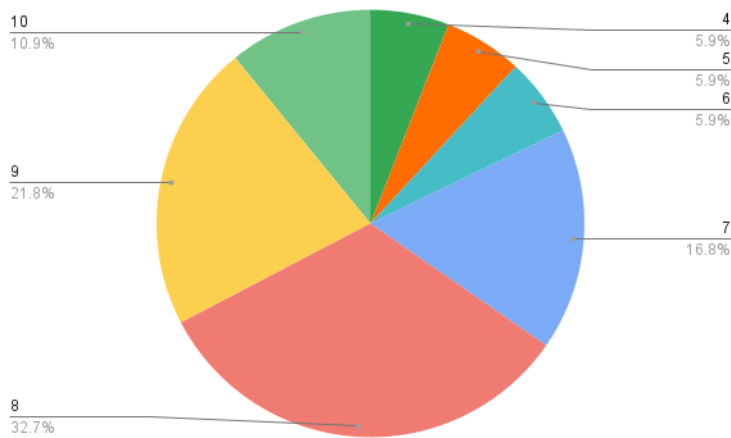
Before leaving the meeting, attendees were issued an closing poll<sup>5</sup>. During this poll, they responded to three questions:

1. On a scale from 1 to 10, how strong of a sense do you think you have of other people's experiences related to housing?
2. How much do you know about Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)?
3. What is one thing you will do to get involved with the Cupertino Housing Element?

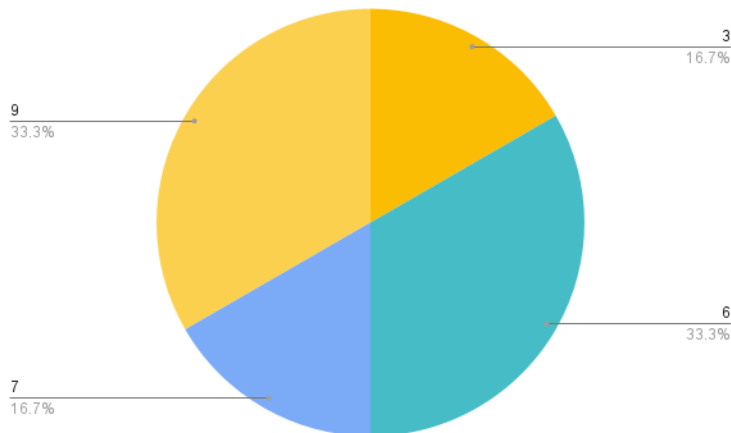
The responses were as follows:

1. On a scale from 1 to 10, how strong of a sense do you think you have of other people's experiences related to housing?

### **Zoom**



### **In Person**

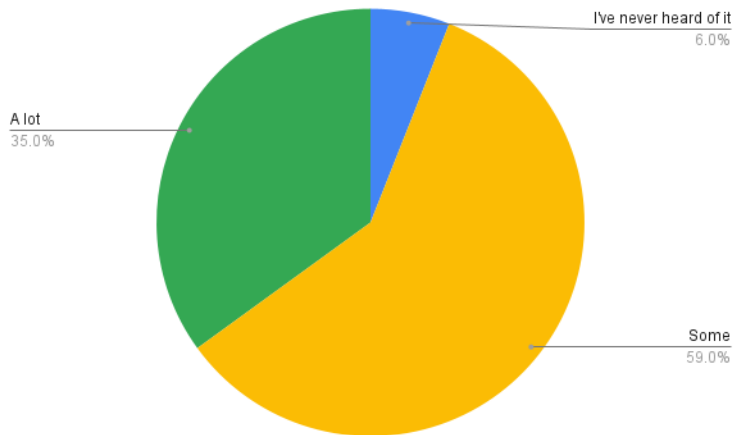


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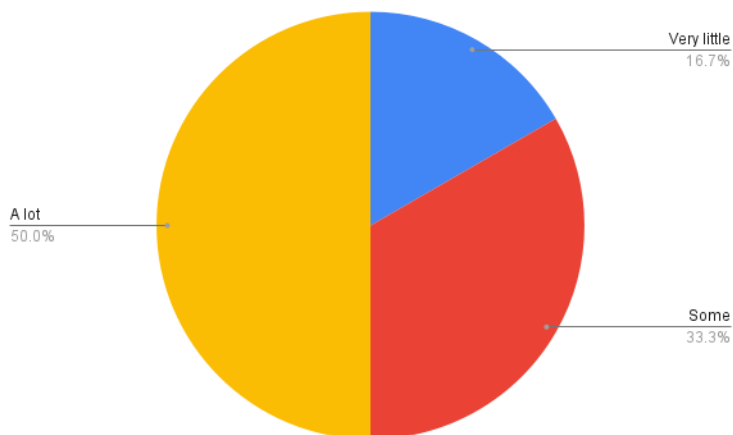
<sup>5</sup> Appendix E: List of closing poll questions including multiple choice options

## 2. How much do you know about Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)?

### Zoom



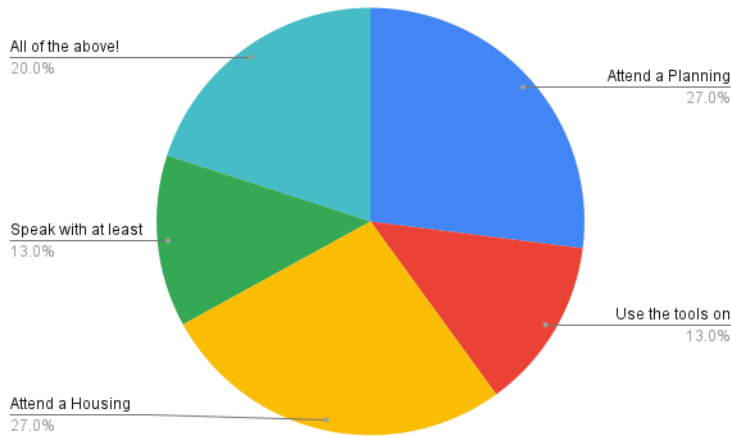
### In Person



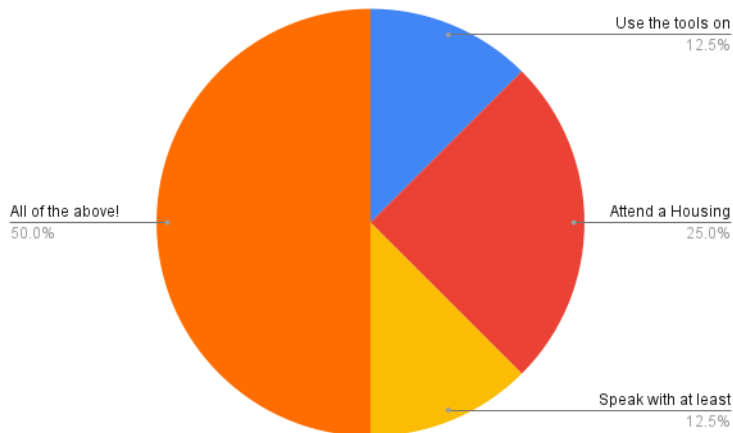
3. What is one thing you will do to get involved with the Cupertino Housing Element? (*Attend a Planning Commission or City Council meeting; Use the tools on the Housing Element website; Attend a Housing Element community meeting; Speak with at least three friends/neighbors about the Housing Element; Speak about the Housing Element at a public meeting; All of the above!*)



## Zoom



## In Person



## **Conclusion**

Following the ending poll, attendees were encouraged to stay involved and were informed about upcoming Planning Commission meetings and tools on the Housing Element website. They were wished a good night, and the event came to an end.

## **Feedback**

### **Exit Survey Results**

During their second breakout session, attendees were allotted time to complete an exit survey<sup>6</sup>. The goal of this survey was to better understand and capture what they learned from the event, how they felt following the panel and community dialogue, and what has shifted in their views toward housing and our

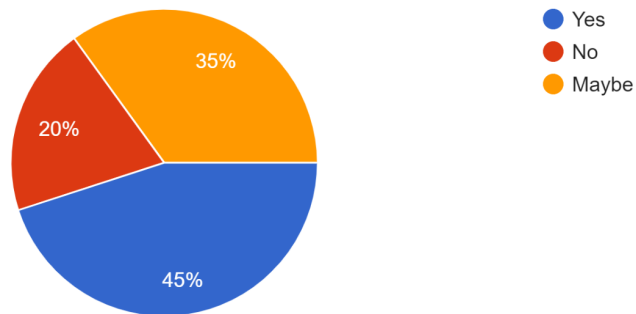
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<sup>6</sup> Appendix F: Full exit survey responses

less privileged community members. Additionally, participants were asked for ideas and strategies that they believe could be deployed to make Cupertino more inclusive, providing insight that can be turned into policies. Some of the results from this survey are summarized below:

Did this experience bring about surprising feelings for you?

20 responses

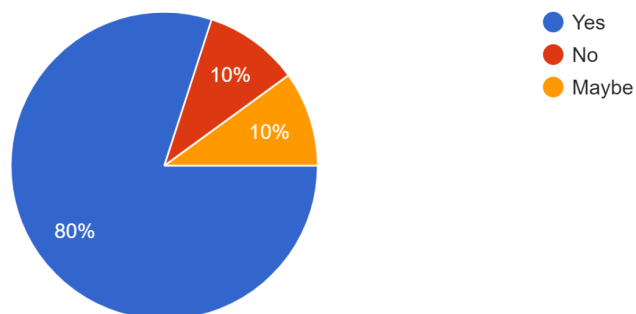


Can you share what feelings you've had during this meeting (optional)? (*Some responses below*)

- Empathy for the homeless people who shared their stories.
- I've been very quiet about local civics in the last two years, and this is definitely activating me again - I want to build an equitable and accessible community.
- I was not familiar with the experiences of the unhoused and low income seeking housing in Cupertino. While I felt that my housing situation was unideal growing up, I didn't think about the more dire situations others can face.
- I was surprised how the panelists' stories haven't really been part of the housing conversations I'm part of. We definitely need to make it easier for people of all backgrounds to share their stories, particularly BMR residents, low income residents, renters, disabled people.

Did you learn new information or learn about housing from a new perspective?

20 responses



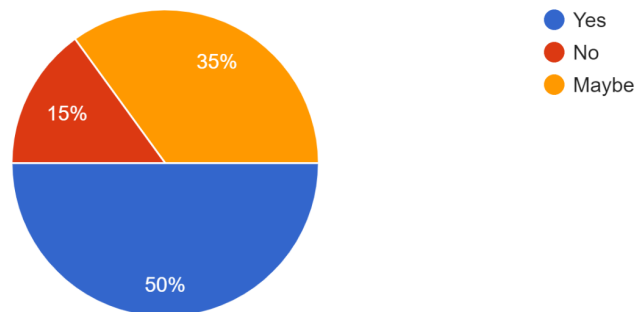
Can you share what new information or perspective you've gained during this meeting (optional)? (*Some responses below*)

- Learning about AFFH, and some of the work that WVCS does.
- the impact of a low credit score on the ability to secure housing despite having the income to pay the rent; also I hadn't considered that being neuro-divergent could impact the ability to secure housing

- Great perspectives about different aspects that I hadn't considered - credit rating, assumptions and ways to be involved
- The difficulty for unsheltered people to do basic tasks: use computer, transportation, find a safe place. From panelist and long-time West SC Valley resident Kim: Anger that development projects provide so few BMR units, or pay in-lieu fees and develop no BMR units, or provide smaller units with sub-standard materials for BMR units.
- I was interested that the panelists focused on the processes that surround affordable housing almost as much as the basic lack of affordable housing. That seems like something that could be improved.

Has something shifted or changed for you in your understanding of local impacts of the housing crisis?

20 responses



Can you share details about how this experience has changed your understanding of local impacts of the current housing crisis (optional)?

- The shortage trickles down into a thousand tiny miseries.
- I was surprised at how many folks are here and fired up about accessible housing in a city like Cupertino. I had honestly felt like Cupertino is a lost cause in ever becoming an accessible city, and it's good to see there's a spirit to change things.
- a reminder that we rely on people in our community to do low income jobs, they have just as much right to live here as those who have sufficient income
- Yes, just in the sense that the needs were dire, but the panelists drove home the point that the pains of the housing crisis are not shared equitably, and the difficulties of finding housing are regressive, in that they disproportionately impact those in lower incomes, or disadvantaged backgrounds
- We need to center the experiences and needs of those most impacted by the housing crisis.

What is one way you think you could contribute to meeting AFFH requirements, and/or to the Housing Element process in general (optional)?

- Participate in more meetings like this to ensure that the voices of all people in our community are heard and considered
- Conversations and helping people get to services
- Continue to be involved in the Housing Element process
- Getting more people who work here but can't afford to live here to participate
- Talk to my friends/neighbors about it. Meet people who have different housing situations from me.

Do you have ideas or strategies about addressing the conditions some of the panelists face or have faced (optional)?

- We need to work together on this issue
- Build more housing, especially middle housing that isn't just single-family homes! Rent ceilings, financial support for new homeowners, ending application fees and credit checks.
- Waiver of application fees by the City in BMR units; removal of parking requirements, height restrictions, and any other municipal policies affecting the unit economics that make more affordable housing projects feasible, advocacy for a rental registry and work regionally by the City in streamlining the application processes and varied assistance programs offered to lower-income individuals.
- I'd be curious if we could have more communal conversations with people with lived experience as most folks really don't have access (that they know of) to have these discussions. Central database of opportunities. Trauma-informed practices throughout the process.
- I wish we had a program to screen applicants for housing and match them with older folks who are sitting on too big of a home. Maybe renters could offer assistance to defray their rent
- Create a common housing application with fee waivers. Policy that prioritizes affordable housing over luxury housing
- Housing Commission should have a required tenant representative
- We need to make affordable housing actually scalable, which means upzoning and rezoning!

## **Summary**

This hour-and-a-half hybrid community meeting was successful for multiple reasons. First, it brought up participation in the Housing Element process in Cupertino to a significantly higher number. This meeting drew community members in and allowed them to engage in meaningful dialogue with their neighbors and other members of the community.

Second, the survey results demonstrated that this meeting will keep people engaged. 50% of Zoom and 20% of in person attendees responded that they would do “all of the above” options to get involved with Cupertino’s Housing Element. All participants committed to do at least one thing to engage with the Housing Element. This meeting generated engagement beyond the hour and a half that evening; many attendees will stay involved, and this meeting helped build momentum as the City moves through the Housing Element process. In the exit survey, participants wrote about their new desire to participate in the process and to be a part of the change happening in Cupertino.

Third, the meeting centered the voices of those with lived experience, and many attendees also had lived experience related to housing. This dialogue and listening was important because more privileged community members rarely get to hear from WVCS clients and others who have faced significant barriers to housing. Amplifying the experiences, opinions, and passions of WVCS clients changed the perspectives of the participants, shifting the way they understand affordable housing and areas such as homelessness, neurodivergence, and discrimination.

This was the first of three community meetings. The two to follow will have a similar format, with a stronger focus on breakout sessions, as participants and moderators found these to be particularly valuable. We will continue to center the voices of individuals with lived experience and to bring the community together to discuss and learn about housing in Cupertino.

## **Appendix**

Appendix A: Event flyer

Appendix B: List of groups outreached to

Appendix C: List of opening poll questions including multiple choice options

Appendix D: Presentation slide deck

Appendix E: List of closing poll questions including multiple choice options

Appendix F: Full exit survey responses

Housing Element Report  
Community Meeting on Cupertino Housing Element: Perspective of Students and Older Adults  
July 20th, 2022, 6:30-8 pm, Zoom  
West Valley Community Services, City of Cupertino, and EMC Planning Group

## **Overview**

On Wednesday, July 20th, 2022, West Valley Community Services (WVCS) partnered with the City of Cupertino and EMC Planning Group to hold a Community Meeting. WVCS is a nonprofit organization that has been providing safety net services to low-income and homeless individuals and families in the west valley region of Santa Clara County, including Cupertino, for more than 48 years. Because of WVCS' connection to the underserved, underrepresented, and most in-need communities of Cupertino, the organization hosted this meeting to amplify the perspectives of students and older adults on housing those facing barriers, bring community members together, and facilitate dialogue between individuals with different levels of privilege in Cupertino.

The Community Meeting for Inclusive Housing featured two breakout sessions during which community members joined one another for dialogue, a panel of three De Anza students and two WVCS clients who shared their experiences with barriers and housing. The panelists spoke of the unique barriers facing students and older adults in finding affordable housing, such as the issues that arise in trying to find resources in the community to help students, issues with Below Market Rate housing, and how income and employment can shape struggles in finding affordable housing.

## **Agenda**

6:30 pm - Welcome  
6:35 pm - Breakout rooms #1  
6:45 pm - Panel  
7:30 pm - Breakout rooms #2  
7:55 pm - Thank you and good night

## **Panelists**

The panel featured De Anza students and WVCS clients.  
Parisha Ranabhat - De Anza student  
Edwyn Castillo - De Anza student and intern for CYLC De Anza  
Erika Flores - Program Coordinator II, Student Success and Support Program at De Anza  
Komala Rangachari - Older adult, WVCS client, BMR resident

Leslie Butlar - Older adult, WVCS client

### Event Outreach

Extensive and comprehensive outreach was done in preparation for this event, with the goal of attracting as many community members as possible to ensure the meeting was inclusive, effective, and diverse. Work was done to ensure there was attendance from both the community at-large and those whose experiences were being discussed, namely students and older adults.

The WVCS mobile food market, known as the Park It Market, goes to De Anza College every other week to provide free food to its students. Multiple hours of outreach were conducted at the market in order to garner student interest and attendance. Additionally, emails publicizing the event were sent out by the De Anza basic needs center, various school districts, and De Anza clubs and groups. A large portion of WVCS clients are older adults, so outreach was done to WVCS clients encouraging event attendance.

Panelists were asked to reach out to their networks, and over twenty unique community groups were reached out to about the event by WVCS and the City. Additionally, the City sent out several emails to an email list of over 1,000 individuals with information about the event and registration.

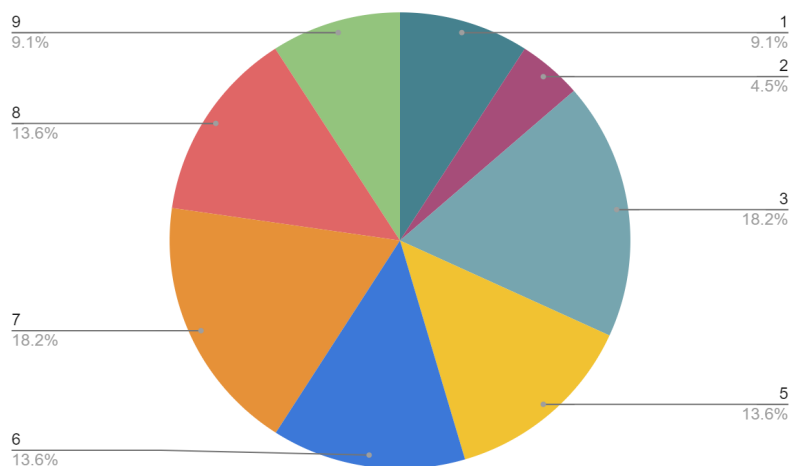
### Attendees

The event took place on Zoom, with 65 individuals attending this meeting.

### Event Content

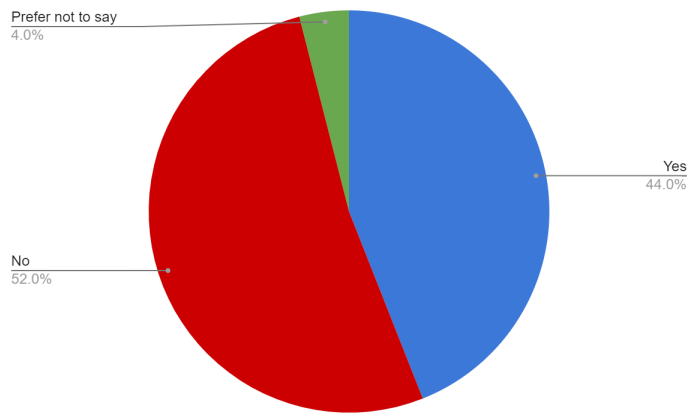
#### Beginning Poll Question #1

How often have you joined this kind of public meeting about planning policy? (22 Responses)



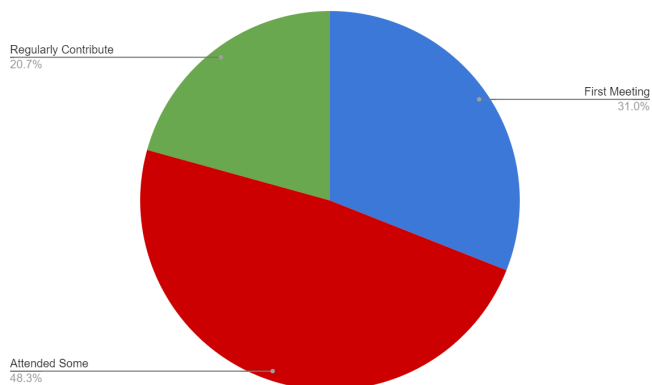
### Beginning Poll Question #2

Have you ever experienced housing-related challenges, such as housing insecurity, trouble paying rent, eviction, or homelessness? (25 Responses)



### Beginning Poll Question #3

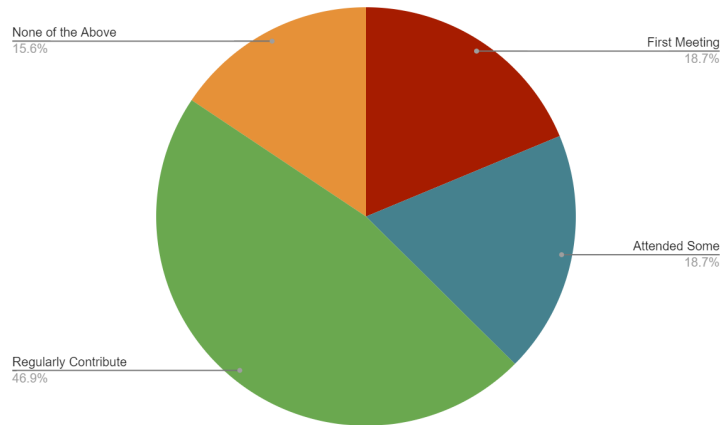
How often have you joined this kind of public meeting about planning policy? (29 Responses)



### Beginning Poll Question #4

Which, if any, of the following groups would you consider yourself to be a part of? (32 Responses)





### **Presentation**

After the poll was complete, Ande Flower from the EMC Planning Group team gave a brief presentation on the Housing Element updates and how to get involved in the housing element.

### **Breakout Session 1**

Following the presentation, attendees entered breakout sessions. On Zoom, these took the form of breakout rooms, and in person, the form of breakout tables. Each breakout group had one moderator who took notes, facilitated the conversation, and ensured everyone had the equal chance to speak. Attendees were asked to answer the following questions in their breakout groups:

What is your name and why did you choose to come to this meeting tonight?

How much do you feel like you know about affordable housing?

How would you like to be more involved in the Cupertino community?

### **Panel**

ALL: Tell us a little about yourself, one or two things you would like the participants to know about you, and why you agreed to take part in tonight's panel.

ALL: What is one thing you want tonight's attendees to know about you going into this panel?

Parisha, Edwyn, and Erika: What unique barriers do you think students and young people face when it comes to housing?

Komala and Leslie: What unique barriers do you think older adults face when it comes to housing?

Erika: Through your work supporting students, what have been some of the biggest needs you've observed?

Parisha: What has it been like navigating the job market, and how has this impacted your housing situation and options?

Komala: What has it been like to live in Below Market Rate housing in Cupertino for the past 14 years?

Komala: What problems and fears are you facing with your housing situation as retirement approaches?

Edwyn: Tell us about your experience living in an apartment complex. And how has it changed as prices have increased over the past decade or so?

Leslie: In your 15 years living in Cupertino, have you seen changes in rental pricing? How has this impacted you?

ALL: What has been your biggest takeaway from this panel? Why do you think it is important for the community to support students and older adults with their housing needs?

ALL: What is one thing you want tonight's attendees to take away from this panel?

Each panelist participated fully, giving valuable insights about the experiences people face in trying to find housing. Some notable words from the panelists are below, though the full recording is the best way to understand the power of the panel.

“Up and down the ladder you see tons of lack of resources, but I think it's particularly concentrated for younger people and students...you lose tons of privacy, safety, and security... I have to see tons of young students having to park in dangerous areas cause that's where people don't check. And they have to live with a bad roommate because rent is cheap...you have to have heavy planning and accommodations to make things work, you have to have tight budgets.”  
- Edwyn Castillo

“There are a lot of barriers that students face...the tuition fees are really expensive, we have our FAFSA, everything covered up, we have a lot of things to take care of like books...being a full time student, even if I work at a place part-time, they're not paying enough. If I work at university, they just pay the minimum. Twenty hours per week is really not enough to pay for the inflation in the market. There should be affordable student housing...if we could get a housing place or maybe some resources, that would be really beneficial so that we could focus more on our studies than taking on stress or the burden that we don't have enough.” - Parisha Ranabhat

“I think some things that became clear to me in this work is the challenge of even finding and accessing the resources that are available, and obviously there aren't enough resources available—but you know what I find with students of any age, or young people, is really issues in navigating the maze that are all of the resources, the agencies, the requirements, the guidelines, the forms, It's a really daunting task for someone who is new to this circumstance. I've had students that were nervous enough to talk to me on their campus asking for support, so when the support is outside of the campus, it's really difficult... It's a lot of teaching how to navigate these systems

which are so confusing and so detailed and so intertwined with each other, so that makes it really difficult. Other barriers might come up depending on the type of house that the student is looking for...some students need emergency shelter, and that could be completely across town making it difficult to get to school or to work so it impacts their status as a student. If they have a pet or a partner some resources aren't available to them. Sometimes there's financial grants that have really strict requirements that students just don't fit into... like credit scores or renter's history or things like that that make it really difficult..." - Erika Flores

"A lot of athletes come out of state or out of the area so when their housing falls through, it's a really difficult position that they're in. For international students it's the same thing.... A lot of the students that I've seen sometimes or that have come to me - becoming housing insecure was something that happened very suddenly. There was no time to plan or to save or to seek out resources immediately and that makes it really difficult because that kind of resources are very limited..." - Erika Flores

"The older adult faces numerous housing challenges, and each adult has their own unique scenario... We all want to feel safe, have economic security, and we want to feel comfortable within our means. But the difficulty is that they may have a social security benefit that has been predetermined that they cannot afford, even if [older adults] had an additional part-time job...I did have an accident and now I applied for the disability benefits but because I took on a part-time job at Target 3 days a week to meet my payments, insurance, car payment, my Verizon, they said "well, you're now not eligible for social security, you're not yet sixty-seven." - Leslie

"My challenge is, as we are getting older, we have to work to sustain ourselves. To get food, shelter, housing, everything else. If it comes to a stage where we are not able to work, where do we turn to? Where do we get our housing? I am almost 80 years old, and I am still working to sustain myself, because I have to provide for my housing, for my food, my clothing, my living, everything else. But I save nothing because the rents are high, even with BMR, my rent is high, inflation is so high, and so it's just making ends meet. That's all I can do. If a stage comes when I'm not able to work, and I have to retire. Where am I going? What will happen to me? That's a big question mark I have on my mind all the time. The inflation has gone so much, but the income limit for BMR has not changed. Why is it that? It has been static for so long, I have been under BMR for 14 years, and I know it has not changed. When inflation has gone up so much, everything is 30-40% higher, why isn't the income limit going up? ...the same income limit that was decided about a decade ago... I also want information on senior housing, and how we can get resources from there...how are seniors going to be helped by the city for housing and other resources?" - Komala

"Before moving to Cupertino, I was moving here exactly three years ago...I did fill out forms at different places where they said there is an open application for low income housing, but right

now if I reach out to them, they will be like “your turn is going to come in eight or seven years”...I filled out an application right now... I really need help right now...there is affordable housing in the area, people are staying there and using it, that’s really great...but we need more space...there are new people who are joining in the community.” - Parishia

“The rental market in Cupertino does not really provide for affordable housing. That would pertain to an older adult as well as to the younger students ... shared housing with three or four students living in a two or three bedroom apartment, which means they would each have to pay between \$1200 to \$1500 per student. As Parishia said, you still have to study, there is no time to go out and do something part-time. I am doing a three-day part-time job at Target, but that’s about a paycheck of \$600 to \$700 dollars every other week, and personally, that’s not enough to sustain even the additional rent you need in order to continue to have an affordable business...The hardships are real, somebody then has to downsize in a very short amount of time - taking care of their belongings, finding a place, seeing if you need help if you have a mobility challenge. Getting someone to help you pack up, and then you have the move costs, you have new utilities, the new internet, changing your business license, and then the emotional stress...it is hard times, but we have to continue on. If we have our community and we know the resources, then we can help others.” - Leslie

“In my apartment complexes...before rent got so high, it was kind of like a cultural hotspot, like a docking point. For any communities that would come in, they would have families that could also speak Spanish...when you hear someone speaking your language, there’s automatically a connection. We would have that here, but slowly our community kind of lost that where people would just have to move out from the complex...you see the interlocking aspect that rent has on immigrant issues.... If we lose these communities because of rent ...you lose a huge docking point for any other communities that want to join here... Day to day favors like daycare, general tips on which schools to register your kids in...you get it through information circulation...for immigrant communities and these hotspots, it is one of the ways which through other means, you can facilitate this type of access...this impacts job acquisition, language acquisition...saving money by [sharing] spare food... we would have things like rent parties, when rent was starting to get very high, people who couldn’t make that difference, as a community would raise money so they could pay it. I think my community is not really a Mexican community anymore as it used to be, it’s kind of indifferent neighbors, closed doors...you vaguely know each other...Mine is lost but there’s still other hotspots with people helping each other, we can keep those intact. And we know the issues that are causing it - like rent increases and inflation.” - Edwyn

“I coordinate the food pantry and one of the things that we ask is how many people are in your household. I have students coming in and saying that they are in a household of 10 or 18 people, and it’s all students. And I don’t believe it’s a five or six bedroom home. They’re sharing a two or

three bedroom home or apartment...the rental market in Cupertino is wildly underestimated. I don't think people understand how people are living in Cupertino.” - Erika

“I believe in collective resources - if you are a community member, it is very important to share the resources that you have gained with another human being... if you're at your church, you're volunteering, talk about your experience to somebody else. Because they might have a connection, and you may be able to offer something” - Leslie

“Until and unless we speak, we don't know what's happening around...once we start communicating and being in touch with people around us, then we would know exactly what they need.”

“I want people to take away from this: pay attention to your community, like why is that apartment complex no longer there, why are you [not] seeing these demographics...all of a sudden you don't see as many people anymore. So just pay attention to the changes in your community.” - Edwyn Castillo

“Community resources are very important...reach out to people.” - Komala

“There's so many different situations and scenarios that I think go unknown or unperceived. It's just a greater understanding that housing in your community, if you're living in cupertino, looks different than most people would assume. There are a lot of people that are struggling. I think the takeaway in these meetings...people that are working on solving or impacting the housing pricing market...have more of these types of sessions where people can come and really talk about what their housing situation is, what they're struggling with, in the hopes of rallying the community to solve these issues together. Sometimes the community itself could be the barrier, and maybe it's because they don't know what their neighbors are struggling with.”

## **Breakout Session 2**

When the panel concluded, attendees were sent into a second breakout session, responding to a new set of questions prompting them to reflect on the panel and what they learned. Before entering the breakout room, attendees were led in a brief exercise to reflect on the panel and ponder the questions. Moderators took notes in the breakout sessions to capture community feedback while maintaining privacy and anonymity. The questions for the second breakout session were as follows:

1. How did hearing from the panelists change your perspective on housing and student and older adult needs?

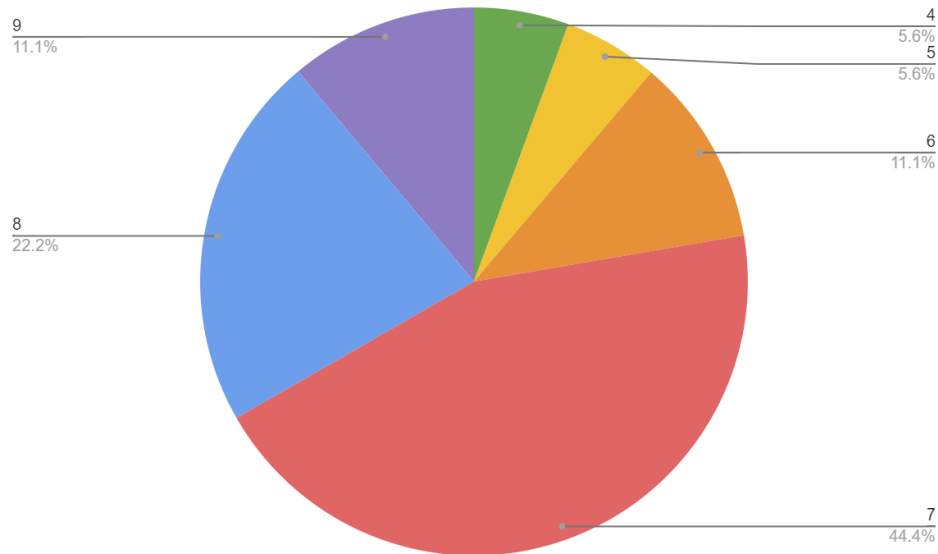
2. Why do you think it's important to hear from people with lived experience? (*Lived experience = people who have experienced the things we are talking about, such as actually being a student and actually living in affordable housing*)
3. What can we as a community do to better support our neighbors in need?

Some of the themes that emerged from the notes gathered by moderators *during both Breakout Sessions #1 and #2* are summarized below:

- Participants appreciated the opportunity to hear panelists speak about their lived experiences with housing insecurity. Hearing about the effects of housing insecurity on the panelists' work or school life and mental health allowed participants to better understand panelists' situations and strengthened their sense of urgency to act.
- Participants felt that hearing about the experiences of the panelists made them more inspired to act.
- After the panel, participants observed/felt that the system can trap people into staying within a certain income limitation in order to afford housing.
- Participants who also had lived experiences in struggling to get housing resonated with a lot of the issues panelists spoke about, especially regarding how housing insecurity happened very suddenly.
- A few community members resonated with panelists who spoke about the lack of access to resources.
- A community member who was a BMR and disability individual appreciated hearing younger folks speak about their struggles with housing.
- A community member expressed concerns about the detrimental effects of inflation and wished for a coordinated effort by the Bay Area to address this. He suggested a regional analysis to study the impact of inflation.
- A community member wanted to see more of an effort to spread awareness about the resources available and the importance of voting and volunteering to learn about rights.
- Participants expressed the need for these kinds of meetings in order to hear directly from community members rather than seeing harmful generalizations in the news.
- A few senior participants were interested in the application processes for affordable senior housing. One senior wanted to hear an update on the planning and construction of housing. Another senior wanted the income limit for BMR housing to account for inflation.
- Participants expressed a realization about the complexity of homelessness and housing insecurity after the panelists spoke. They were eager to participate in more conversations concerning how homelessness affects different groups.
- Participants felt that such conversations about housing can inspire more compassion and an understanding of the bigger picture in how access to housing shapes our community.

### Ending Poll Question #1

On a scale from 1 to 10, how strong of a sense do you think you have of students' and older adults' experiences related to housing? (18 Responses)



### Ending Poll Question #2

What is one thing you will do to get involved with the Cupertino Housing Element? (23 Responses)

