

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

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February 5, 2024

Peter Imhof, Director  
Planning and Environmental Review Department  
City of Goleta  
130 Cremona Drive, Suite B  
Goleta, CA 93117

Dear Peter Imhof:

**RE: City of Goleta's 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle (2023-2031) Adopted Housing Element**

Thank you for submitting the City of Goleta's (City) housing element that was adopted on December 5, 2023 and received for review on December 7, 2023. The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) also received various resolutions and ordinances related to rezoning sites to accommodate the regional housing need allocation (RHNA). Pursuant to Government Code section 65585, HCD is reporting the results of its review. In addition, HCD considered various communications from April Reid, pursuant to Government Code section 65585, subdivision (c).

HCD is pleased to find the adopted housing element in substantial compliance with State Housing Element Law (Gov. Code, § 65580 et. seq.) as of the date of this letter. The adopted element was found to be substantially the same as the revised draft element that HCD's October 16, 2023, review determined met statutory requirements. This finding, among other things, is based on completion of rezoning to accommodate the RHNA.

Additionally, the City must continue timely and effective implementation of all programs including but not limited to the following:

- HE 2.1: Encourage a Diverse Range of New Housing
- HE 2.3: Housing Design Principles for Multifamily and Affordable Housing
- HE 2.4: Facilitate Affordable Housing Development
- HE 2.6: Encourage Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU)
- HE 3.1: Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Opportunities
- HE 3.2: Facilitate the Provision of Housing for Persons with Special Needs
- HE 5.1: Monitor Progress toward Housing Objectives

The City must monitor and report on the results of these and other programs through the annual progress report, required pursuant to Government Code section 65400. Please be aware, Government Code section 65585, subdivision (i) grants HCD authority to review any action or failure to act by a local government that it determines is inconsistent with an adopted housing element or housing element law. This includes failure to implement program actions included in the housing element. HCD may revoke housing element compliance if the local government's actions do not comply with state law.

Several federal, state, and regional funding programs consider housing element compliance as an eligibility or ranking criteria. For example, the CalTrans Senate Bill (SB) 1 Sustainable Communities grant, the Strategic Growth Council and HCD's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, and HCD's Permanent Local Housing Allocation consider housing element compliance and/or annual reporting requirements pursuant to Government Code section 65400. With a compliant housing element, the City now meets housing element requirements for these and other funding sources.

For your information, some general plan element updates are triggered by housing element adoption. HCD reminds the City to consider timing provisions and welcomes the opportunity to provide assistance. For information, please see the Technical Advisories issued by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research at: <https://www.opr.ca.gov/planning/general-plan/guidelines.html>.

HCD appreciates the hard work and dedication of the housing element update team, especially Anne Wells and Andy Newkirk. Their responsiveness and collaboration have been instrumental throughout the update and review process. HCD wishes the City of Goleta success in implementing its housing element and looks forward to following its progress through the General Plan annual progress reports pursuant to Government Code section 65400. If HCD can provide assistance in implementing the housing element, please contact Joanna Chang, of our staff, at [Joanna.Chang@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:Joanna.Chang@hcd.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Paul McDougall  
Senior Program Manager