



The League of Women Voters of Sacramento County
1107 9th Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814
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November 3, 2008

**Rancho Cordova City Council
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670**

Subject: Proposed Amendments to Draft Housing Element Update

Mayor Budge and City Council members:

The League of Women Voters of Sacramento County supports the Rancho Cordova City Council public meetings that provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the discussion prior to adoption of the proposed Draft Housing Element Update and Affordable Housing Ordinance to be submitted to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the Mixed Income Housing Policy (MIHP).

The League has reviewed the October 23, 2008, Stakeholders Memo. Since the Housing Element is the repository for all strategies, policies, and programs, we believe that policy language such as the 10 percent affordable housing requirement should not be removed from the Housing Element.

The League supports the participation of Rancho Cordova in the Sacramento Area Council of Government (SACOG) as the Rancho Cordova community considers how it can help meet the regional housing development goals to help provide for the common good of your residents in need.

The League has been involved with the Sacramento County's Affordable Housing Ordinance and the draft Inclusionary Ordinance for nearly five years. The League asks that Rancho Cordova's efforts explore how

- to make some new housing affordable to extremely low, very low & low income households**
- to make this affordable housing available in new residential development**
- to make alternatives available to builders**
- to make accessible affordable housing available**
- to build market rate and affordable units concurrently**



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The League supports integrating the affordable units with market rate units and opposes building more complexes where only the poor live. Neighborhoods should never be stratified: homes for teachers, waiters, laborers, attorneys, builders and developers should be mixed. This can be achieved by mixing rental units with for-sale units. Mid-town Sacramento is a good example where people with very low to very high incomes live peacefully together.

The League supports the availability of housing for the low and moderate income citizens of Sacramento County and encourages local governments to explore a variety of approaches to increase the supply of housing affordable to these groups.

The League believes that while local government plays an important role in provision of affordable housing, federal and state governments must provide the major funding for these efforts.

Regards,

**Roseanna Torretto
President**