

Bay Area Housing Equity Alliance

Tagline:

Building accountable, lasting solutions for affordable housing.

Mission

We work to expand and protect access to affordable housing in the Bay Area by advancing sound policies, strengthening accountability in development, and ensuring that homes are built to last. Our efforts focus on creating opportunities for working families, educators, and essential community members to secure housing that is both attainable and sustainable.

Vision

We envision a Bay Area where affordable housing is a reliable part of every community—well-constructed, preserved over time, and accessible to people across income levels. By setting practical standards and fostering regional collaboration, we aim to establish a model of housing stability that other cities can adopt and build upon.

Our Core Values

- **Accountability** – Ensuring that public commitments to affordable housing are carried out with transparency and measurable results.
- **Durability** – Advocating for housing that is built to last, reducing long-term costs for residents and communities.
- **Equity** – Promoting fair access to housing opportunities for people of all backgrounds and income levels.
- **Collaboration** – Working with cities, nonprofits, and community members to create sustainable solutions.
- **Practical Leadership** – Setting realistic, evidence-based standards that other communities can adopt and adapt.

Bylaws of Bay Area Housing Equity Alliance

(A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation)

Article I – Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be **Bay Area Housing Equity Alliance** (“the Organization”).

Section 2. Purpose

The Organization is a nonprofit public benefit corporation organized under the laws of the State of California. Its purpose is to expand and protect access to affordable housing in the Bay Area by advancing sound policies, strengthening accountability in development, and ensuring that homes are built to last. The Organization shall operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Article II – Board of Directors

Section 1. Powers

The Board of Directors (“the Board”) is the governing body of the Organization and has authority over its policies, finances, and overall direction.

Section 2. Number and Qualifications

The Board shall consist of no fewer than **five (5)** and no more than **fifteen (15)** directors. Directors shall be individuals committed to the Organization’s mission and values.

Section 3. Terms

Directors shall serve terms of up to **three (3) years** and may be re-elected. Terms may be staggered to ensure continuity of governance.

Section 4. Removal and Resignation

A director may resign at any time by written notice to the Board. Any director may be removed with or without cause by a two-thirds vote of the Board at a meeting where quorum is present.

Section 5. Vacancies

Any vacancy on the Board may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining directors.

Article III – Officers

Section 1. Officers

The officers of the Organization shall consist of a President (or Chair), Vice President (or Vice Chair), Secretary, and Treasurer. Additional officers may be established by the Board as needed.

Section 2. Duties

- **President/Chair** – Presides at Board meetings, represents the Organization, and ensures effective governance.
- **Vice President/Vice Chair** – Acts in the absence of the President/Chair and supports Board leadership.
- **Secretary** – Maintains records of meetings, bylaws, and organizational documents.
- **Treasurer** – Oversees financial records, ensures proper accounting, and reports on financial status.

Section 3. Terms

Officers shall be elected by the Board for one-year terms and may serve successive terms.

Article IV – Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

The Board shall meet at least **quarterly**, at a time and place determined by the Board.

Section 2. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President/Chair, any two directors, or by a majority of the Board.

Section 3. Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a **majority of the directors then in office**.

Section 4. Voting

Decisions shall be made by majority vote of directors present unless otherwise required by these bylaws. Each director shall have one vote.

Section 5. Community Access and Input

All regular Board meetings shall be open to the community, except when the Board enters into a closed session to discuss confidential matters such as personnel, litigation, or other sensitive issues.

- A portion of each regular meeting shall be reserved for community members to share questions, concerns, and recommendations related to the Organization's mission and activities.
 - The Board may establish reasonable time limits and procedures to ensure orderly participation.
 - Community comments shall be considered advisory and non-binding, but will be formally noted in the meeting record.
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Article V – Membership

The Organization shall not have members as defined by the California Nonprofit Corporation Law. All powers shall reside in the Board of Directors.

Article VI – Conflict of Interest

Directors and officers shall disclose any potential conflicts of interest and abstain from voting on matters where a conflict exists. The Board shall adopt and enforce a written conflict of interest policy in accordance with applicable laws.

Article VII – Indemnification

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Organization shall indemnify its directors, officers, employees, and agents against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts incurred in connection with any proceeding, provided the individual acted in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the Organization.

Article VIII – Amendments

These bylaws may be amended or repealed by a **two-thirds vote** of the Board of Directors at any meeting where a quorum is present, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment has been given to all directors at least seven (7) days in advance.

Article IX – Dissolution

Upon dissolution of the Organization, its assets shall be distributed exclusively for charitable or educational purposes to one or more nonprofit organizations recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, in alignment with the mission of advancing housing equity.