

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

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November 3, 2020

Tim H. Beals, Director
Department of Planning and Building
County of Sierra
PO Box 530
Downieville, CA 95936

Dear Tim H. Beals:

RE: Review of the County of Sierra's 6th Cycle (2019-2024) Draft Housing Element

Thank you for submitting the County of Sierra's (County) draft housing element update received for review on October 16, 2020, along with revisions received on October 19 and 30, 2020. Pursuant to Government Code section 65585, subdivision (b), the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is reporting the results of its review. The review was expedited to enable the jurisdiction to meet funding criteria for various programs.

The draft housing element, incorporating the revisions submitted, meets the statutory requirements of State Housing Element Law. The housing element will comply with State Housing Element Law (Article 10.6 of the Gov. Code) when it is adopted, submitted to and approved by HCD, in accordance with Government Code section 65585, subdivision (g).

Public participation in the development, adoption and implementation of the housing element is essential to effective housing planning. Throughout the housing element process, the County must continue to engage the community, including organizations that represent lower-income and special needs households, by making information regularly available while considering and incorporating comments where appropriate.

For your information, some general plan element updates are triggered by housing element adoption. For example, the safety and conservation elements of the general plan must include analysis and policies regarding fire and flood hazard management and be revised upon each housing element revision. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g).) HCD reminds the County to consider timing provisions and welcomes the opportunity to

provide assistance. For information, please see the Technical Advisories issued by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research at:

http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR_Appendix_C_final.pdf and

http://opr.ca.gov/docs/Final_6.26.15.pdf.

Several federal, state, and regional funding programs consider housing element compliance as an eligibility or ranking criteria. For example, the CalTrans Senate Bill (SB) 1 Sustainable Communities grant; the Strategic Growth Council and HCD's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities programs; 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 County will meet housing element requirements for these and other funding sources.

HCD appreciates the hard work and dedication Brandon Pangman, Assistant Director and your consultants, Rebecca Pope, and Chelsey Payne provided in preparation of the County's housing element and looks forward to receiving the County's adopted housing element. If you have any questions or need additional technical assistance, please contact Hillary Prasad, of our staff, at (916) 263-1784.

Sincerely,

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

Shannan West
Land Use & Planning Unit Chief