

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

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January 23, 2020

Randy Groom, City Manager
City of Visalia
315 E Acequia Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291

Dear Randy Groom:

RE: Visalia's 5th Cycle (2015-2023) Adopted Four-Year Housing Element Update

Thank you for submitting Visalia's Housing Element adopted December 3, 2019 and received for review on December 23, 2019. Pursuant to Government Code section 65585, subdivision (h), 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 the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program.

HCD is pleased to find the adopted Housing Element in full compliance with state Housing Element law (Article 10.6 of the Government Code). The adopted element was found to be substantially the same as the revised draft Housing Element that HCD's October 14, 2019 review determined met statutory requirements.

Government Code section 65588, subdivision (e)(4) requires a jurisdiction that failed to adopt its Housing Element within 120 calendar days from the statutory due date to revise its element every four years until adopting at least two consecutive revisions by the applicable due dates. The city is subject to the four-year revision requirement. Adoption of this Housing Element meets the requirements of the first four-year update. Provided the city adopts a Housing Element pursuant to the requirements of Gov. Code section 65585 on or before the due date for 6th cycle Housing Elements, it will meet the second four-year update requirement and return to an eight-year update schedule.

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:

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, CalTrans Senate Bill (SB) 1 Sustainable Communities grants; the Strategic Growth Council and HCD's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program; and the SB 2 Planning Grants as well as ongoing SB 2 funding consider Housing Element compliance and/or annual reporting requirements pursuant to Gov. Code section 65400. With Housing Element compliance, Visalia meets the Housing Element requirements for these funding sources.

HCD appreciates the hard work and dedication Brandon Smith, Senior Planner, provided throughout the course of the Housing Element review. HCD wishes Visalia success in implementing its Housing Element and looks forward to following its progress through the General Plan annual progress reports pursuant to Gov. Code section 65400. If HCD can provide assistance in implementing the Housing Element, please contact Shawn Danino of our staff, at (916) 263-6430.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannan West". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shannan West
Land Use & Planning Manager