



Agenda Item: 14.B
Date of Meeting: February 26, 2024
Department: Planning

STAFF REPORT

To: City Council
From: Ana Budnyk
Subject: **A Resolution Authorizing Application to and Participation in the Prohousing Designation Program**

Prepared On: February 21, 2024

Attachments: City of Bishop Preliminary Prohousing Score Sheet Project Proposal
Resolution Prohousing Designation Program

Background/History:

Increasing the availability of housing statewide is critical to bettering the quality of life of all Californians. The 2019-2020 Budget Act provided a spectrum of support, incentives, and accountability measures to meet California housing goals, and provided for the establishment of the Prohousing Designation Program. Local governments with the Prohousing Designation can receive priority processing or funding points when applying for several funding programs including:

- Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities (AHSC)
- Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG)
- Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)
- Solutions for Congested Corridors
- Local Partnership Program
- Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP)

Other programs may be added to the list after HCD engages with stakeholders and partner agencies to consider adding Prohousing points to other housing and non-housing programs.

The Prohousing Designation Program creates incentives for jurisdictions that are compliant with state housing element requirements and have enacted what HCD has determined to be Prohousing local policies. Cities with a Prohousing Designation will receive additional points or other preference in the scoring of their competitive applications for specified housing, community development, and infrastructure funding. Local governments with the Prohousing Designation are eligible to apply for Prohousing Incentive Pilot Program (PIP Round 2) grant funding, a \$9.5 million state investment from the Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund. Future grant funds may also be available to jurisdictions with Prohousing Designation.

Analysis/Discussion:

The City of Bishop can use PIP funds to contribute to the housing fund, provide predevelopment loans to construct affordable units, pursue preservation efforts on existing units, completing the financing for the City's affordable housing pipeline. The City has Silver Peaks affordable housing site that requires access to competitive State funding to move forward. Obtaining the Prohousing Designation will improve the developers ability to access competitive funds.

City of Bishop has made significant progress in adopting policies consistent with the Prohousing Designation Program, which are outlined in the Housing Element and Specific Plan. The City's application will reflect adopted policies and programs as well as those identified in the Housing Element, Specific Plan, and Strategic Plan to be implemented in the next two years, which can be included in the application as proposed policies.

In order to receive a Prohousing designation, a jurisdiction must receive a minimum of 30 points. Existing and proposed policies may receive points. Staff has done a preliminary assessment of existing policies and those proposed in Housing Element. The attached Preliminary Prohousing Score Sheet details each of the categories eligible for points. Staff has calculated that the City of Bishop is likely to receive 36 points under the four Prohousing categories. Staff has not yet done a full assessment of all policies that qualify for enhancement factors.

Economic Impacts:

The City will receive additional points or other preference in the scoring of their competitive applications for specified housing, community development, and infrastructure funding, as well as obtain access to grants only available to Prohousing jurisdictions.

Budget Impacts:

None

Legal Review:

City Attorney Pucci has reviewed this item and finds that the recommended action complies with the law.

Recommended Action:

Recommended Motion: Adopt the Resolution (by title only) authorizing the Planning Departments to:

1. Submit a Prohousing Designation Program application to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD); and if the application is approved by HCD,
2. Execute all documents deemed necessary or appropriate to participate in the Prohousing Designation Program.

Approved By: Robin Picken 2/21/2024

Approved By: Russell Hildebrand 2/22/24

Approved By: Dean Pucci 2/22/2024

Approved By: Deston Dishion 2/22/2024