

Housing Workshop #1

January 26, 2022

Introduction

The first Housing Workshop consisted of a presentation on the purpose of the Housing Element, various state regulations that are included in the Element, demographics and changes to the City of Yreka in the last twenty years, and open discussion on general housing needs and topics.

Public Questions during Workshop

What agencies are included in the Housing Element public outreach process?

The City will include members of state, county, regional, nonprofit, and local agencies that have an interest and focus on housing issues. This would include organizations that help the unhoused or homeless.

How does the Housing Element address refugees from regional disaster like the Paradise and Carr fires?

The Housing Element does not directly discuss the needs of disaster refugees but information in the Safety Element of the General Plan could address short-term actions to absorb a sudden in flux of people looking for quick housing after a significant disaster.

How do we include the “Unhoused” in the Housing Element?

“Unhoused” people are those that do not have a permanent shelter with the minimum amount of necessities to live. These necessities include heat, cooling, a kitchen for cooking and storing food safely, and restroom.

The City has been participating in the “Point in Time” counts to accurately understand how many people are currently unhoused. That data will be included in the Housing Element and used to create goals, policies, and implementation programs to address the needs of the unhoused.

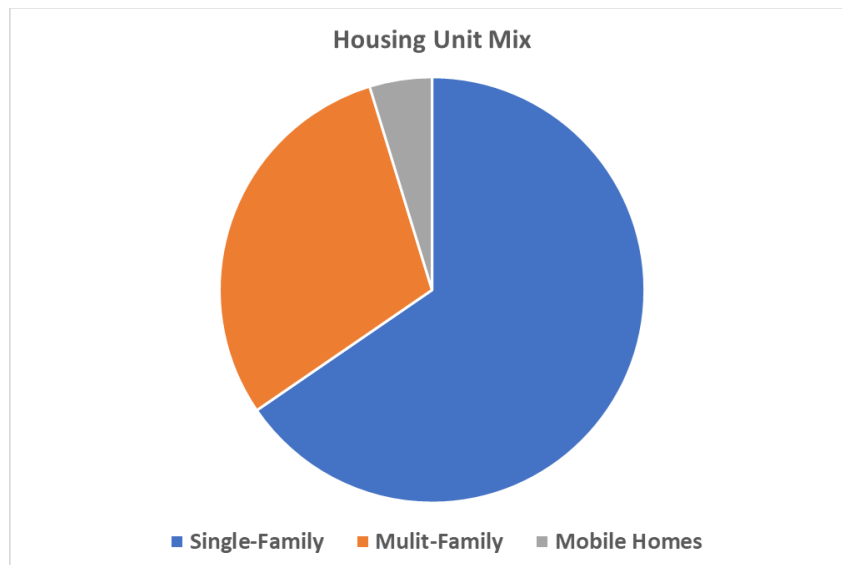
The City is also in the process of creating a city homeless action plan that would directly address the needs of the unhoused. There will be additional outreach specifically to the unhoused population in the form of interviews and surveying.

Are manufactured houses considered single-family homes or mobile homes in the Housing Element data?

Manufactured homes are considered housing units but can be single-family, duplex, etc. depending on the number of housing units in the manufactured homes. Manufactured homes are typically only a single-family home. Mobile homes are housing units without a permanent foundation.

Within the powerpoint presentation, are duplexes categorized with single-family homes or multi-housing?

The question was in reference to the existing housing unit mix graph on slide 19 of the presentation.



The blue section labeled single-family homes is only a single housing unit. Duplexes, triplexes, quads, and apartment buildings are all considered multi-family housing in this graph.

What did people share?

The following are summaries of the input that people shared at the workshop:

- People would like to see more low income housing with 3 to 4 bedrooms. These would help families that are struggling in the city.
- We would like to see some "half-way" or drug recovery housing that meets the needs of addicts trying to get better. These should not be mixed with families

- Unhoused people are missing from the housing discussion and need to be included more
- The City needs more apartment buildings to accommodate people who can't afford or need a single-family home.
- Manufactured housing needs to be looked at as a quick way to construct housing
- We need quick action to address the lack of housing units in the City!
- Repurposing vacant, unused commercial building for housing would use what the city already has available
- There were multiple people that liked the idea of repurposing and fixing up vacant buildings for housing
- SSI and Social Security based housing units are needed because these people have fixed incomes and considered very low or extremely low income. They can't even afford the low income units
- There needs to be more programs for supportive and group homes in the city
- NIMBY-ism is strengthen in Yreka by the current zoning code. It is prohibitive to supportive housing group homes.
- Disability focused housing is a needed and need to be located near services like a grocery store and transportation. We can't put this type of housing too far away from everything else.
- Transit is needed to help with low income housing projects
- The stakeholder reengagement should include families in the child welfare system who are struggling to find housing

How to continue contributing

There will be additional public outreach to stakeholder agencies like the County, nonprofits, and other interested groups in the form of interviews, there will be another housing workshop in late-April, and questions on the upcoming visioning survey that address the unhoused and housing needs.

To find out more visit yrekageneralplan2044.com or sign-up for the General Plan newsletter to receive notifications on upcoming events at https://yrekageneralplan2044.com/?page_id=45

