# Supporting Housing in Your Community Through Policy, Finance, and Communications

City of El Cerrito

EL CERRITO

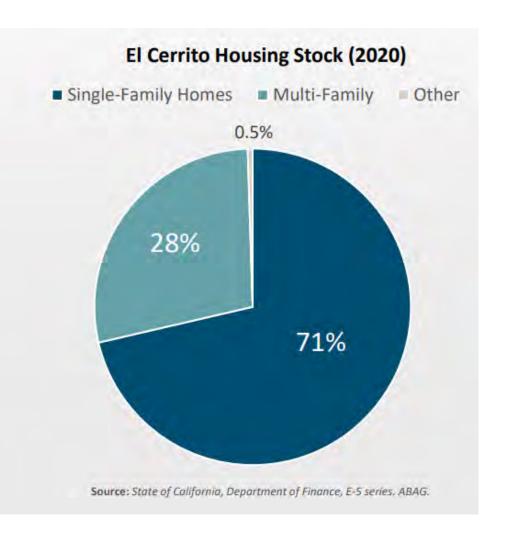
# **EL CERRITO - CONTEXT**



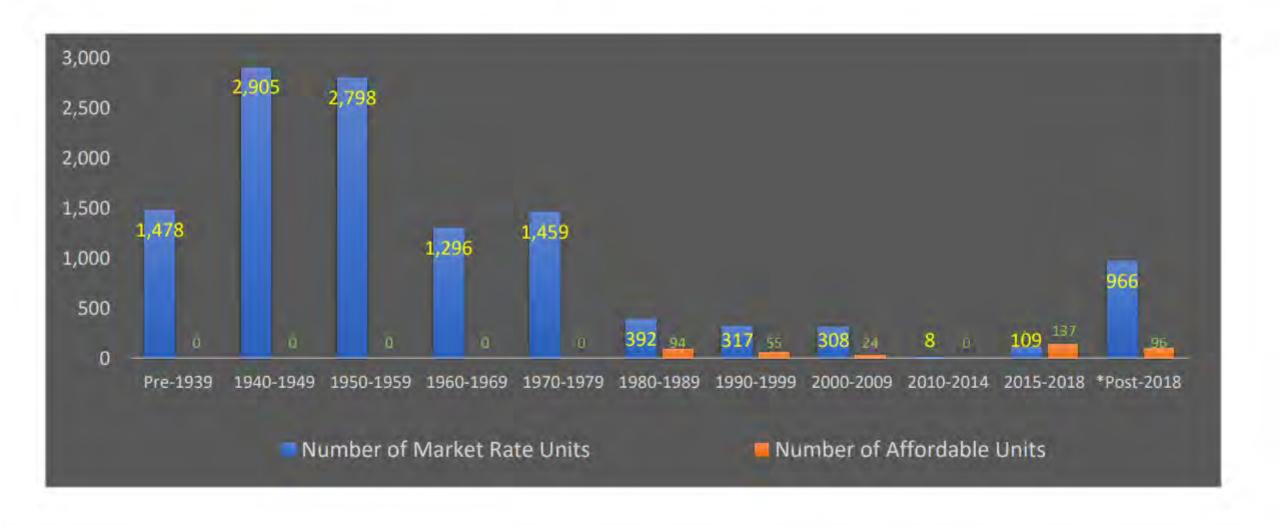
**El Cerrito** is a charter city in Contra Costa County and is part of the inner San Francisco Bay Area, with an estimated population of 25,845 according to the 2021 ACS. Our community is small, with 3.9 square miles, and 10,258 households, but very diverse: 51% white, 5% African American, 29% Asian, 12% Latinx, and over 10% two or more races.

# EL CERRITO — HOUSING PROFILE

- 71% of housing stock is single family homes
  - ▶ 28% multifamily homes (2+ units)
- Since 2010, home values increased
   183%
- Median Sale Price March 2022 was \$1,170,000 (Redfin)



# BACKGROUND: AGE OF HOUSING UNITS



# EL CERRITO – RHNA GOALS

Income Category	2015-2023 RHNA (Housing Units)	2023-2031 RHNA (Housing Units)	Percent Change	
Very Low Income (<50% of Median Income)	100	334	234%	Total "lower income" = 526 units
Low Income (51-80% of Median Income)	63	192	205%	38% of RHNA
Moderate Income (81-120% of Median Income)	69	241	249%	
Above Moderate Income (>120% of Median Income)	166	624	276%	
TOTAL	398	1,391	249%	

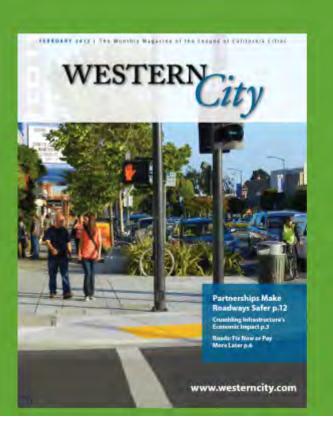
# EL CERRITO – MEETING RHNA GOALS

	Lower <sup>1</sup>	Moderate	Above Moderate	Total
Regional Housing Needs Allocation	526	241	624	1,391
Approved and Planned Projects	355	479	737	1,571
Vacant and Underutilized Sites within San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan	494	195	341	1,030
Citywide Vacant and Underutilized Sites	0	0	136	136
Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Projection	58	28	9	95
Total Capacity	906	702	1,223	2,831
Surplus(+)	+380	+461	+599	+1,440





# Background



### 2007 Richmond/El Cerrito San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan

• Framework/Vision, Community Engagement

### 2006/2011 Economic Development Studies

- Key Opportunity: Pursue high quality, dense residential as key strategy to also bolster commercial activity
- Analysis & Key Findings: Increase height, Reduce parking, Allow ground floor residential

### 2013 City Strategic Plan

- Long-term financial sustainability: Maximize opportunities for existing and expanding business
- Deepen Sense of Place: Develop a vision for underdeveloped properties that encourage investment and/or new development

### 2013 Climate Action Plan

 Key community strategy: Reduce Per Capita Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) through more compact, higher density infill near transportation

### 2014 San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan & Complete Streets Plan

- Form Based Code (Urban Design, Public Realm, Pedestrian Nodes, Development Certainty)
- Complete Streets (Vehicle, Transit, Pedestrian, Bicycle, reStreets)
- FIR







# Objectives

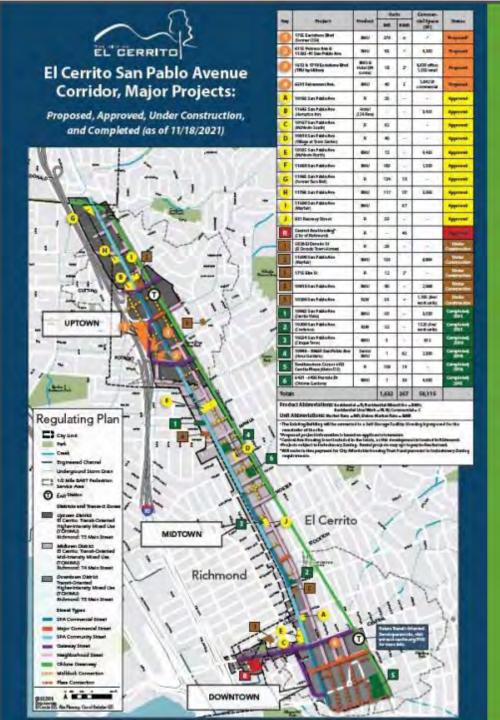
Economic Development: New Commercial Spaces, Increased Foot-Traffic & Customer Base; Increase Property Value/Revenue

Climate Action Goals: Reduce per capita Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and GHG Emissions through Infill Development Near Transit

Housing: Meet City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) for all income levels

Sense of Place: Attract pedestrian activity to key activity "nodes", reinforce assets (e.g. Ohlone Greenway), project design/public realm

Complete Streets: Elevate transit, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure; reStreets



# **Development Progress**

- To date, 1,464 units and 116,610 commercial s.f. have been approved and/or built
- 108 Additional units and 6,143 commercial s.f. are in current permit pipeline







# Results: To Date Since 2014

Entitled: 19 projects; =1,30 units

Below Market Rate: ~ 204 unit

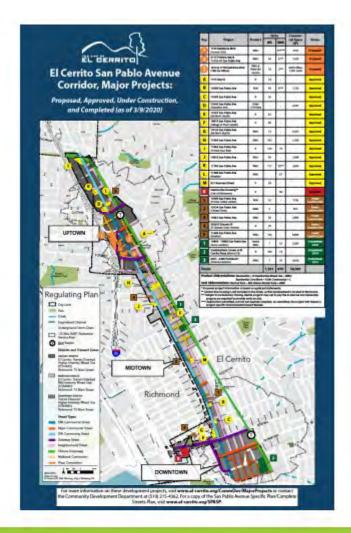
Built/Under Construction: 10 projects; 635 units

New commercial spaces: 6-10 new commercial spaces plus 124-room hotel (Hampton Inn) New Public Open Space : 3/4 acre

Open Space in Lieu Fees/Tier IV \$ \$1M Frontage Improvements: New Sidewalks, Green Infrastructure, Street Trees

Public Art/Art in Lieu Fees: Onsite or 1% (up to \$250,000) to Arts & Culture Commission Fees/Public Benefit: WCCUSD Stege Sanitary, Subregional Transportation Mitigation Program, City Transportation Impact Fee (TIF)













Active Projects: <a href="https://www.el-cerrito.org/majorprojects">www.el-cerrito.org/majorprojects</a>

# EL CERRITO PLAZA BART STATION





Aerial View of Project Site - Looking Northwest



### El Cerrito Plaza TOD City-BART Goals & Objectives: Highlights

### Complete Communities

- . Enhance Ohlone Greenway: connectivity, sustainability,
- · Connect: BART Station, neighbourhood, services
- Explore including library
- · City to manage street parking in neighborhood with BART's support

### Value Creation & Capture

- · Delivery long term revenue to support BART and the
- · Leverage innovative funding and financing options

### Sustainable Community Strategies

- \* Deliver community serving facilities
- Address regional housing
- \* Incorporate sustainable design

### Transportation Choice

- \* Increase % of people who walk, bike, and take the bus to get to BART
- \* Reduce reliance on cars for new residents
- · Expand pedestrian and bicycle network
- . Embrace rapid evolution of mobility trends / technology

### Ridership

- \* Increase BART Ridership
- . Attract BART patrons from San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan area through sustainable ways of travel to the station

### Affordability

- At least 20% affordable homes for low- and verylow-income households
- \*Support BART's 35% systemwide housing affordability goal
- . Support local economy with project labour agreements

### **Project Highlights**

750 to 800 Housing Units

53% Market Rate

32% Below Market Rate

15% Workforce



- 1.8 Acres of Publicly Accessible Open Space
- 28,000 square foot Public Plaza
- Enhanced Ohlone Greenway



- Additional Bike Parking
- City-led Parking Management Program
- Class 4 Protected Bike Lanes



Potential ~20,000 square foot Modern Library



- Sustainable Design
- Modular / Pre-Fabricated Construction
- · Energy, Waste, and Material Management

Stay Involved: Study Session Coming in September www.el-cerrito.org/TOD for information on upcoming meetings























2022 League of California Cities:

Supporting Housing in Your Community
Through Policy, Finance, and Communications

September 7, 2022

LIFT TO RISE



# Our North Star

A future where all Coachella Valley families are healthy, stable, and thriving. We have developed a collective impact model that includes investing in housing and economic mobility for all residents, while responding to immediate needs during a health and economic crisis, and beyond.

With input from more than 50 collaborative partners and countless community members, Lift to Rise is radically increasing housing stability and advancing economic opportunity for all Coachella Valley residents.



### I. CALL TO ACTION

### FORGING A PATH FORWARD

The issues that we face are so complex, and at times polarizing, that it's easy as organizations and individuals to feel as though hing can be done. Our existence as an organization is in If a commitment to move forward together. By continuing to mmit to one another and to our shared goals, we can forge a forward with resolve and even optimism. We can choose to ally accept where we are—without weaponizing our identities awing lines—while acknowledging our failings and our sses. We can strengthen our ability to work together toward ed destination of prosperity for every resident who calls the ella Valley home. We can be the best of who we are, while way to the best of who we can become. This action plan is ared commitment to forging that future together.

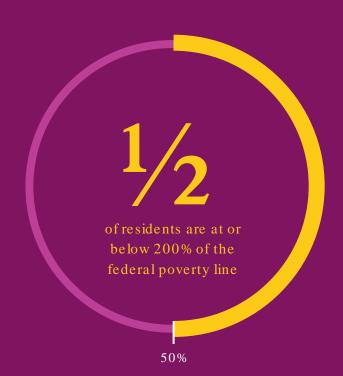


### LIFT TO RISE

### TWO VALLEYS

# "Workers"

- Wages are half of what they need to be to afford the Fair Market Rate for a two-bedroom apartment
- Widespread housing cost burden
- People of color face higher rates of rent burden, eviction, and are more likely to exerience homelessness
- A wonderful place full of hard-working people worth investing in





## Our Goals:

Create 10,000 affordable homes by 2028

Build paths to economic mobility opportunities

Reduce rent burdened households by 30%

### And how we get there:



### Readiness

Advancing a pipeline of investable projects that resulting in 5,000 units of affordable housing by 2024.



### Regional Equity

Driving a regional investment vehicle to catalyze the development of affordable housing across the region.



### Reducing Rent Burden

Building pathways to economic mobility and security for residents experiencing poverty.

### **How We're Getting There**



Advance a communityvalued **pipeline** of investable projects that will result in **5,000 units** of affordable housing by 2024



Drive a regional investment vehicle to invest in and catalyze the development of affordable housing across the region



Work with city, county, and state governments to implement affordable housing-friendly policies to facilitate the planning, approval, and construction of affordable housing units in the shared pipeline



Build pathways to economic mobility and security for residents experiencing poverty



# Community Driven Regional Model

- Multilayered investment makes projects feasible.
- Credit Enhancement at the base is critical to make this approach work; by investing at the base of the fund, other investment becomes possible.
- The capital stack allows various types of investors to participate, thereby reducing rates and creating various product types to solve for financing gaps.



# LIFT TO RISE

# Thank you.

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