



## Our Future Los Angeles Our Future Past Must Not Be Like Its Past Must Not B

Of the 3,007 counties in the United States, Los Angeles County has the worst housing affordability, overcrowding, and unsheltered homelessness-and the pandemic has only made this more acute. Rampant racial segregation and real estate speculation are pushing lower-income Black and Brown families out of their homes and communities at an alarming rate.

L.A. County's inability to reverse how racism has been embedded within the housing policies and the built environment has created a housing market that continues to fail to meet the needs of the people, specifically the low-wage workers that continue to be the backbone of our

economy during the pandemic. We have not focused on creating homes people can afford near the jobs where they work and the limited public investment we currently have is not enough to address the scale of the challenge.

Our current housing market has failed to preserve and create housing for working class and low-income people

### Who Can Afford to Rent

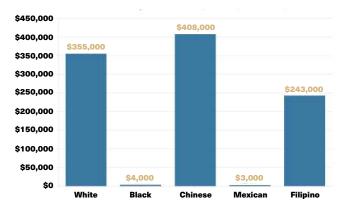
Renters need to earn 2.8 times minimum wage to afford the average two-bedroom asking rent in L.A. County





Median housing prices have continued to rise exponentially quicker than incomes and retail and service sector job losses continue to contribute to the unsustainably high rates of rent burden, displacement, overcrowding, and homelessness that we see throughout L.A. County.

## Median Net Worth of Los Angeles Residents by Ethnicity/Nationality, 2016



**SOURCE:** "The Color of Wealth in Los Angeles," Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

## Trends in Household Income Los Angeles, 1960-2017



**SOURCE:** "Where the American Dream Goes to Die": Changes in House Prices, Rents, and Incomes since 1960 by Region & Metro, <u>WolfStreet.com</u>

RACIAL-ETHNIC COMPOSITION

MAJORITY NH WHITE

MAJORITY NH WHITE

MAJORITY BLACK

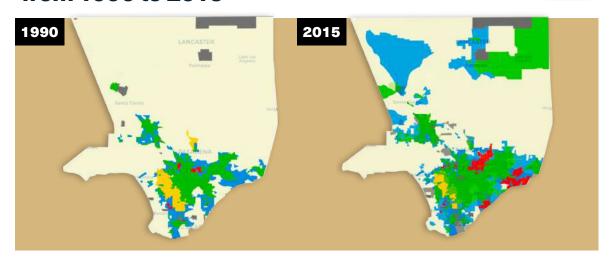
MAJORITY HISPANIC

MAJORITY ASIAN

POPULATION <100

NO MAJORITY

# Racial-Ethnic Composition from 1990 to 2015



**source:** Urban Displacement Project

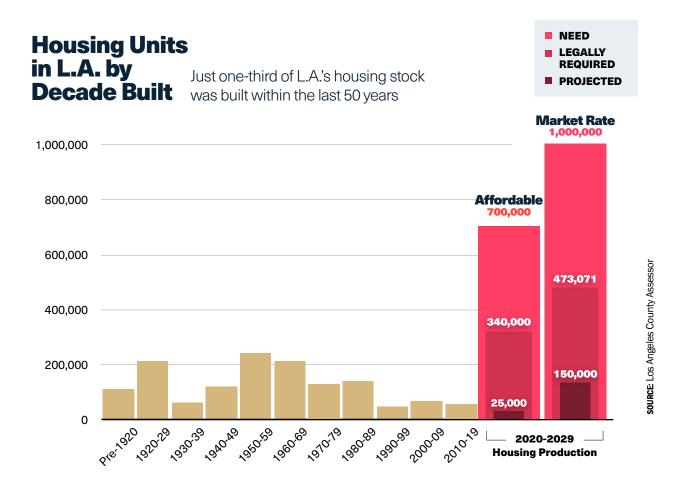
**Our Future is** 





On average, over 46,000 families have faced formal eviction in L.A. County each year. Black and Latinx renters are the most impacted by all forms of eviction and the result is housing insecurity and homelessness.

**SOURCE:** Based on filing data from the L.A. Superior Court system



Our goals are large, but our coalition is strong. We know that there is no quick fix to these structural challenges we face, but we are relentlessly determined to do the hard work necessary over many years to come to realize this vision.

We demand a future where everyone has a safe, healthy and quality home–housing for all–in a strong and vibrant neighborhood of their choice; where everyone can succeed because we have dismantled the structures that create and perpetuate inequities; where everyone is safe because we have advanced new strategies that make homes affordable and create new pathways to home ownership; and where homelessness is unheard of because we have invested in proven solutions.

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# Our Future L.A. Can Be Different If:

01

We help people stay in their current homes through protections to address eviction, foreclosure and skyrocketing costs.

The majority of people living in L.A. County are renters. Inconsistent—and often nonexistent—protections for renters put hundreds of thousands of people at risk of losing their homes, with little notice or support. We are calling for a right to counsel for all renters in L.A. County, stronger rent control facilitated by changes in the Costa-Hawkins Act, Ellis Act Reform, and foreclosure protections for low-income homeowners, and increasing the opportunities for people and mission-based community organizations to purchase homes at affordable rates.

02

We create more safe and affordable homes in communities with highquality resources, including job centers, transit, schools, or parks.

There is little connection between where housing is allowed and what opportunities exist near that housing. We are calling for an increase in housing that is affordable to all incomes and allowed near high-quality job centers or high-quality transit, which can be built quickly and cost-effectively so that we can meet the urgent housing needs of all residents.

The policy details and implementation will matter, including that this new housing will not be allowed to displace existing tenants and will be located everywhere in the County to remedy past segregation.

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We reimagine and prioritize public and private investment to ensure that every neighborhood is a resource-rich, community of choice that helps people increase their incomes and build their wealth.

It is not enough to just increase housing opportunities in high-resource neighborhoods because many people, for a variety of reasons, do not want to move to these high-resource neighborhoods. People should not have to leave their own communities to seek opportunity and their fair share of investment. Rather than expecting people to move elsewhere, we must address historic inequities in how resources have been allocated to ensure that all neighborhoods have sufficient investment so that all its residents can thrive.

We create a single countywide housing solutions agency that can fund and approve affordable housing with the goal of a dramatic increase in housing and services for Very, Extremely & **Deeply Low-Income people.** 

State and regional policies now require local governments across L.A. County to plan for 341,000 homes that are affordable to low and very low-income people, by 2030. This goal is likely unachievable because there is currently no dedicated revenue source or focused countywide strategy at this scale. Each of the 88 cities approaches the challenge differently, with some doing nothing at all.

It's beyond time for a single, unified approachcentered on racial equity-that maximizes the scale and resources of the largest county in the nation.

We are calling for a single entity that has the ability to raise significant, ongoing revenues, finance, and approve permanently rentrestricted housing or homeownership opportunities for people who make an average salary or below-especially low wage workers and other people with extremely low incomes. It is also critical that this entity funds countywide renter protection programs, like a right to counsel and emergency renter support.