As a resident of San Mateo County, you know there are many wonderful reasons to live and work here, opportunity and quality of life being two of them. But lately, it’s become harder to call San Mateo home.

With more jobs available than homes, rents have sky-rocketed, and affordable homes are harder to find.

Our neighbors are moving away and it’s impacting our quality of life, from the schools our children attend, to the availability of emergency responders.

And we can all agree commute traffic has made getting around a daily battle.

Get Involved

1. Visit HomeForAllSMC.com to read the Home for All Action Plan and learn more about specific tools to help create more homes residents in San Mateo County can afford.

2. Visit our Get Involved page at HomeForAllSMC.com to find out about upcoming events.

3. Schedule a presentation at your organization’s luncheon, roundtable meeting, or event by contacting Jessica Mullin at jmullin@smcgov.org.

4. Check the Current Progress page on the website to find out which housing policies have been adopted in your jurisdiction and encourage your elected officials to adopt additional tools to increase housing options.

5. Voice your support for proposed development projects in your community that include units for a range of incomes.

6. If you are a homeowner, consider building a second unit on your property or participating in home sharing. Or, host an information meeting through your Homeowners Association to help your neighbors learn more.

Get additional information at HomeforAllSMC.com
The Challenge

- 75% of all SMC land is protected open space
- 25% is urban and suburban development
- 2/3 of the developed land is single family homes

In SMC, median rent for a 1-bedroom apartment is $2,735. For a 2-bedroom it is $3,409.

In 2015, the median home sales price in SMC was $1.25 million.

From 2010 to 2014, SMC added 54,600 new jobs, but only 2,100 new housing units.

Supporting All Types of Housing Development

- Launched a Home For All San Mateo County public relations campaign and website to provide resources and educate the community and policymakers on the housing gap, the range of solutions, and concrete actions stakeholders and residents can take to help solve the problem.
- Establishing a “Second Unit Center” to provide technical assistance, design templates, referrals to city second unit “liaisons,” and low-interest loans, and analyzing second unit capacity countywide.
- Piloting a facilitated community meeting process to address potential concerns and foster respectful discussions with neighbors regarding proposed development projects.

Funding Affordable Housing

- Established an Affordable Rental Housing Preservation Program with $10 million in County money to provide matching funds to preserve market-rate affordable units.
- Pursuing a revenue measure to provide additional funding for affordable housing or housing and transportation combined.
- Increasing public and private sector funding and participation in the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust of San Mateo County.

Action Plan to Close the Gap

Closing the jobs-housing gap means collaborating to create and preserve more homes people can afford throughout San Mateo County. The Home For All Action Plan identifies key strategies and actionable solutions for providing more homes at all income levels.

Building Partnerships and Community Support

- Adopting a “Home for All, San Mateo County” resolution in the County and all 20 cities that commits them to work together to address the housing crisis on a regional basis and implement the Action Plan.
- Engaging school districts and other public entities, businesses, hospitals, funders and foundations, environmental and other advocates, congregations, and community stakeholders to provide information on the impacts of the jobs-housing gap and tools to help them take action.

Securing Land and Strengthening Community Infrastructure

- Reviewing and analyzing the development feasibility of available sites countywide, focusing on publicly-owned land in Priority Development Areas and transit corridors.
- Exploring regional options to enhance public transportation within San Mateo County and to improve East Bay - Peninsula connectivity.
- Ensuring new development incorporates best practices for water efficiency and conservation.

But this is San Mateo County; we’re innovators and problem solvers. Together, we can solve these challenges. Let’s support solutions to create more affordable homes for residents, reduce traffic and make San Mateo County a place everyone can call home.

Only 27% of San Mateo County households can afford to purchase an entry-level home, defined as 85% of median sales price (Q2 2016).