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DID YOU KNOW?

The Housing Federation is working rapidly to adjust to the COVID-19 response as it relates to housing policy and advocacy at all levels of government. Please make sure to sign up to receive our [Weekly Brief](#) to get the latest on advocacy action alerts and other time-sensitive items.

To learn more about SDHF's policy positions, visit our [website](#).

SDHF announces release of 2021 Housing Needs Report

To announce the release of California Housing Partnership's 2021 San Diego Housing Needs Report, San Diego Housing Federation hosted a press conference to highlight the findings of the report, discuss the significance of the recent sale of the Conrad Prebys apartment portfolio to Blackstone, and call for solutions to address the affordable housing shortfall and need for preservation assistance. Speakers at the event included SDHF's President & CEO, Stephen Russell; City Heights CDC Executive Director, Laura Ann Fernea; and CEO of PATH, Joel John Roberts.

The [2021 San Diego Housing Needs Report](#) finds that the region has a shortfall of over 132,000 units of housing for low-income renter households. Just weeks before the release of the report, the Conrad Prebys Foundation announced the sale of 66 apartment buildings, approximately 5,800 units, to the Blackstone Group. The Housing Federation and other affordable housing advocates [voiced deep concern](#) over the sale, citing the company's record of increasing rents on housing that is currently occupied by lower-income households.

Speakers at the press conference called on legislators to pass [SB 490](#), a bill that would establish the Housing Acquisition and Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Program to provide support for acquisition-rehabilitation of affordable housing, and include \$500 million in the state budget to fund acquisition-rehabilitation projects.

City of San Diego votes to approve final version of 6th Cycle Housing Element

The San Diego City Council voted 9-0 on June 8 to approve amendments to the city's Housing Element and submit the plan for final review and approval by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). San Diego is the first jurisdiction in the state to submit a plan for the 6th Housing Element cycle, incorporating several new requirements established by state law since the 5th Housing Element cycle. [Voice of San Diego](#) and [KPBS](#) reported on the approval of the plan and what it means for San Diego as well as other cities in the region and throughout California.

The San Diego Housing Federation submitted comments on the draft plan in December of 2019 as well as the plan submitted for Council consideration this month. Those letters, as well as comment letters for the draft Housing Elements for several other jurisdictions in the region, can be found on the SDHF website [here](#).

