



# City Councilmember Scott Sherman

*District 7*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **City Council Approves First of Several Reform Measures to Fix Housing Crisis**

### *Legislative Items will Streamline the Housing Approval Process*

*San Diego* – In response to the crippling housing crisis the region currently faces, the City Council approved a package of housing reform measures (fact sheet attached) that will cut red tape and streamline the housing approval pipeline. These reforms will allow the construction of housing to move faster, therefore reducing the cost to build.

Everyone agrees that the San Diego region is facing a severe housing crisis. Cost of living is far outpacing income and San Diego families are consistently spending more than 30 percent of their incomes on housing. Average rent in San Diego now costs over \$1,700 a month and the median price of a home in the county well exceeds a half-a-million dollars. On average, San Diegans spend more of their annual income on housing than San Franciscans!

In an event labeled “Housing Action Day”, the City Council began addressing this crisis by approving three items. These items include:

- **Streamlining Companion Unit Construction**
- **Process Level Reductions of Qualifying Housing Projects**
- **Reforming the Appeals Process**

“While these measures will help streamline the housing approval process, there is still much more work to be done. We must continue the momentum and bipartisan efforts to lower the cost of housing for San Diego families,” said Councilmember Sherman.

“These reforms are an excellent first step in making housing in San Diego more affordable,” said Councilmember David Alvarez

Future actions being considered by the Smart Growth & Land Use Committee include park equivalencies, deferring fees, setting housing target goals, options for self-certification, and restructuring development fees. Additionally the committee will review opportunities to support funding affordable housing programs.

For more information regarding the reform measure, please review the following op-ed penned by Councilmembers Scott Sherman and David Alvarez:

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/commentary/sd-utbg-housing-reforms-costs-20170720-story.html>.

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