

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

TODD GLORIA Mayor

September 9, 2021

The Honorable Sherrod Brown 503 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C

The Honorable Maxine Waters 2221 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C 20515 The Honorable Ron Wyden 221 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C

The Honorable Richard Neal 372 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C 20515

Dear Chairman Brown, Chairman Wyden, Chairwoman Waters and Chairman Neal,

As your committees begin work on the FY2022 Budget Reconciliation bill, I urge you to include robust investments to support homeless assistance and resources that create more homes people can afford.

The reconciliation process represents the most significant opportunity to invest in affordable housing and community development in decades. A generational federal investment to help our community build, preserve, and retrofit our housing infrastructure, as well as provide additional resources to help us end homelessness, will allow our City and other communities to build back better.

My City has continued to step up to meet this need by exploring new, innovative ways of building, preserving, and acquiring affordable housing, but we need federal investment to help us move the needle. I urge your committees to consider making investments in the following:

Senate Finance Committee and House Ways and Means Committee

- A temporary reduction in the 50% test for bond-financed housing to 25% until bond cap pressure is eased
- An increase in the annual 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) allocation amount
- Establishing a Middle-Income Housing Tax Credit
- Permanently expanding Private Activity Bonds
- A number of indefinite 30% basis boosts primarily for private activity bondfinanced properties
- Creating a new low-income housing supportive services basis boost to cover a portion of costs for providing certain resident services at LIHTC properties

- A 150% first year LIHTC award to address issues related to COVID-19
- A new low-income housing supportive services basis boost to cover a portion of costs for providing certain resident services at LIHTC properties

Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee and House Financial Services Committee

- \$90 billion for Housing Choice Vouchers
- \$6 billion for green improvements to subsidized and unsubsidized affordable housing
- \$37 billion for the Housing Trust Fund (HTF)
- \$35 billion for the HOME Investment Partnership Program
- \$10 billion for HUD Downpayment Assistance and Housing Counseling
- \$8.5 billion for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to fund affordable housing
- \$4.5 billion for improvements to zoning, planning and land use, and coordination between housing and transportation investments
- \$2.5 billion for Section 202 supportive housing for the elderly
- \$1 billion for Section 811 supportive housing for persons with disabilities
- \$1 billion annually for five years to McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Grants
- \$500 million over five years in outreach funding to ensure that homeless people are connected to the resources they need
- \$20 million for states and localities to integrate health care and housing initiatives.
- Creation of a permanent rental assistance program and/or expansion of current emergency rental assistance programs

These critical and timely investments will help our City construct and preserve additional affordable housing, as well as supplement our ongoing work to end homelessness. I look forward to supporting your efforts in crafting this historic package and to finally turn the tide on America's housing crisis.

Sincerely,

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Mayor City of San Diego