



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Councilmember Raul Peralez

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** June 11, 2018

Approved

Date

6/11/18

**FY 2017/18 - FY 2021/22 AFFORDABLE HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Direct staff to maintain prioritization of building supportive housing for the chronically homeless.

**BACKGROUND**

The City of San José has reached crisis levels of housing unaffordability that have significantly impacted the quality of life across all income groups. While the Mayor's offers an impressive goal of developing 10,000 affordable housing units to alleviate that impact, the Housing Department must continue to prioritize on populations with the highest need and deemphasize the focus on "project readiness." Preferencing project readiness could negatively impact the production of supportive housing for the chronically homeless in San José.

Over the last five years, the City has been a leader in funding the development of hundreds of permanent supportive housing units for formerly homeless residents. This work was accomplished with the explicit focus on supportive housing from the Housing Department and City Council. While new resources such as the County Measure A Bond now exist to fund ELI/supportive housing, it is imperative that the City continue to prioritize supportive housing and continue to make ending homelessness a core value for the City.

It has been demonstrated across the country that permanent supportive housing is a proven solution to reduce chronic homelessness. Providing this type of housing relieves the strain on City resources and improves the safety and health of the individual and our City. We should not neglect our most vulnerable population over project readiness and must exhaust all avenues in building these supportive units. It is our responsibility to ensure that we welcome and support all of our residents without inadvertently exacerbating the housing crisis through a policy focused solely on quantity.