



# Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711

commissions@santacruzcounty.us

www.scclatinoaffairs.org

## Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

DATE Wednesday, August 3, 2022

TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF AB 361 AND CAL. GOV. CODE 54953, **THIS WILL BE A REMOTE MEETING** WITH NO PHYSICAL LOCATION AVAILABLE, BUT ACCESS AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT WILL BE PROVIDED. **PLEASE DIAL-IN TO THE TELECONFERENCE WITHIN TEN MINUTES OF THE MEETING START TIME.**

### ACCESS REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM

TO JOIN BY VIDEO: <https://zoom.us/join>

OR

TO JOIN BY PHONE ONLY: +1 669 219-2599 US (San Jose)

**NOTE: SPANISH TRANSLATION NOT AVAILABLE BY PHONE. PLEASE USE COMPUTER AUDIO**

Meeting ID: **889-6016-1630**

Passcode: **413877**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

2. Approve *June 1, 2022 Minutes*

3. Public Comment

*Any person may address the Commission for a period not to exceed three minutes on an issue within the jurisdiction of the Commission.*

4. New Business/Action Items:

4.1. County Housing Support Overview – Dr. Robert Ratner (*Director of Housing*)

4.2. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc Strategic Action Plan Subcommittee

4.3. Consider Adopting the AB-361 Statement of Findings Allowing Remote Meetings

5. Commissioner District/City Reports

5.1. District 1

5.2. District 2

5.3. District 3

5.4. District 4

5.5. District 5

5.6. Santa Cruz City

5.7. Watsonville City

6. Staff Report

7. Adjournment

**Next Meeting Scheduled for 6:00 PM on Wednesday, October 5, 2022**

*The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you require assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact (831) 454-2772 or TTY/TDD: 711 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.*



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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, June 1, 2022

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Meeting held remotely

PRESENT: Yadira Flores-Martinez (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), Gregory Peinado (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*), Cesar De Santos (*4<sup>th</sup> District*), Leo Gomez (*Chair, 5<sup>th</sup> District*), Rebecca Hernandez (*City of Santa Cruz*), Sylvia Mendez (*Vice Chair, City of Watsonville*)

EXCUSED: Rebecca Garcia (*City of Watsonville*)

ABSENT: Fe Silva-Robles (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*), Jenny Van Natta (*Spanish Language Interpreter*)

GUESTS: Stephanie Hansen (*County Planning Assistant Director*), Micaela Lopez (*Administrative Aide*), Shane Mckeithen (*District 1 Analyst*), Ramon Gomez (*District 4 Analyst*) and 23 members of the public were present.

### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:07 PM.

Commission welcomed new District 2 Commissioner Gregory Peinado and new District 4 Commissioner, Cesar De Santos.

### 2. Approve April 6, 2022 Minutes

Minutes amended to correct an error.

**Motion to approve minutes as amended.**

Motion/Second: Mendez/Hernandez

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### 3. Public Comment

### 4. New Business/Action Items

#### 4.1. County Sustainability Planning Overview

Hansen and Lopez provided a sustainability policy and regulatory update summarizing amendments to the General Plan/Local Coastal Program, modernization of County Code, implementation of new County design guidelines, amendments to land use and zoning maps, and environmental, economic and transportation impact considerations. Commissioners are encouraged to participate in the public review process to offer feedback on the County's plans. Commission discussed potential cultural considerations; limited parking availability and law enforcement considerations in areas designated for high-density housing; and expressed appreciation for the comprehensive nature of the plan.

#### 4.2. Consider Adopting the AB-361 Statement of Findings Allowing Remote Meetings

**Motion to approve statement of findings authorizing the Commission to hold their next meeting remotely under the provisions of Assembly Bill 361**

Motion/Second: Mendez/De Santos

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## 5. Commissioner Reports

### 5.1. District 1 Report (Flores-Martinez):

Flores-Martinez reported that the walking for wellness project is ending, and the Pure Water Soquel project is ongoing. Most community member questions about the Sustainability Planning presentation center around housing, recreation, and transportation.

### 5.2. District 2 Report (Peinado):

Peinado introduced himself and provided some background information.

### 5.3. District 3 Report (Silva-Robles): No Report

### 5.4. District 4 Report (De Santos):

De Santos introduced himself and requested additional information about community resources for recreational transportation.

### 5.5. District 5 Report (Gomez):

Gomez reported that the RTC website is conducting an online survey to improve transportation safety in the Hwy 9 corridor around school sites and requested that the Commission's website be updated to include photos and bios for Commissioners.

### 5.6. Santa Cruz City Report (Hernandez):

Hernandez encouraged Commissioners and members of the public to avoid the UCSC area during the upcoming weekend as they will be holding the first in-person graduation ceremonies.

### 5.7. Watsonville City Report (Mendez):

Mendez reported that Watsonville hospital is operating but \$12M is still needed to purchase it. Driscoll has offered to match donations. There is doubt that Dominican could manage the influx of patients if Watsonville Hospital cannot continue to serve the community. Between 30-40 babies are born at Watsonville Hospital each month.

### 5.8. Watsonville City Report (Garcia): No Report

## 6. Staff Report:

Staff reported that in mid-June, the City of Santa Cruz will vote on a nominee to represent them on the Commission after which the Board of Supervisors must formally appoint them to the Commission. Quantitative analysis of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Employee Survey data has been completed and qualitative analysis of survey commentary to identify trends and disparities is ongoing. The EEO Office hopes to be able to share aggregate results at the next meeting. Dr. Robert Ratner (County Housing Director) is scheduled to present on the County's efforts to address homelessness at the August meeting. County has updated their branding parameters and Commissioners are encouraged to provide bio paragraphs and photographs that they would like added to the Commission's membership page. Commission will discuss establishing a Strategic Action Plan Subcommittee during the August meeting.

Commission held a moment of silence to honor the victims of the recent school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, most of whom were members of the Latino community.

## 7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*

# Housing for Health: Building a Coalition to Prevent and End Homelessness in Santa Cruz County

Robert Ratner, MPH, MD

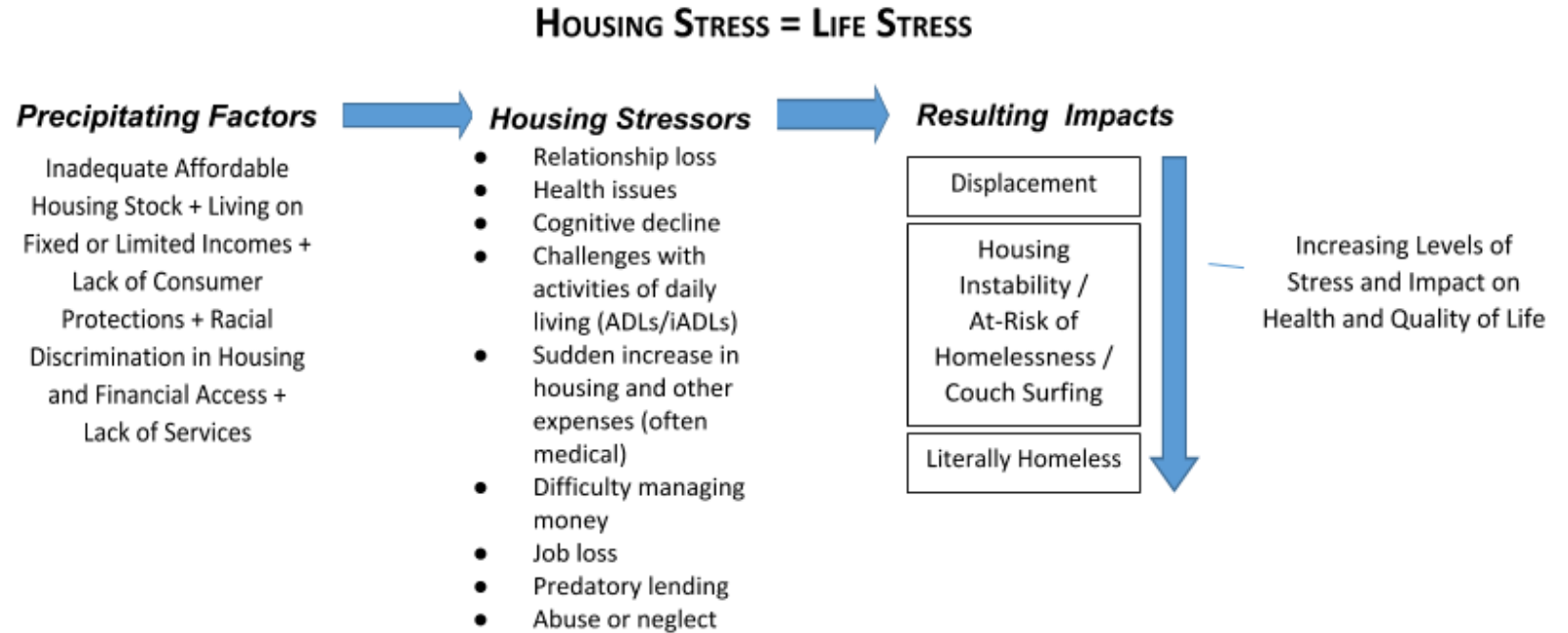
County of Santa Cruz, Human Services Department

Housing for Health Division

[robert.ratner@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:robert.ratner@santacruzcounty.us)



# Housing and Health Connection



# Three Year Framework

- **Build a stronger, collaborative coalition of people committed to positive change**
- **Targeted Prevention**
- **Improving the “Front Door” – Outreach, Drop-In, Temporary Housing**
- **Expanding the “Back Door” – Pathways to Homes**

## Three-Year Framework Goals

- Reduce overall homelessness by 25% and “unsheltered” by 50% by end of January 2024
- 600 shelter/transitional beds + more leaving shelter for homes
- 490 rapid re-housing slots (services and time-limited subsidies)
- 600+ permanent supportive housing units
- Improve program and coalition performance

# Housing for Health Division

- Created November 2020 within the Human Services Department to coordinate and promote efforts to prevent and end homelessness within the County
- Staff to the HUD-mandated Continuum of Care (CoC) + community development effort
- Functional areas – admin/finance, operations, direct services
- Small team of 11 current staff (growing) trying to create impact through community partnership and development approach



# Housing for Health Core Responsibilities

Build a results-oriented effort from an equity and inclusion framework

Greater communication and transparency

Community building and partnerships

Governing board and committees

CoC and CoC-linked funding and contracts + more

Build a more coordinated effort and system

HMIS data system and evaluation

Customer-centered involvement, feedback, and improvement

# Budget Information

- FY 21-22 Budget = \$14.9M managed directly by Housing for Health
- Continuum of Care (CoC) annual funding = \$4.9M
- Does not currently include other HSD programs involved in housing issues, e.g., Home Safe, CalWorks HSP, HDAP, etc.
- Does not include Health Services Agency, Planning, Probation, Sheriff investments in issues of housing and homelessness
- Estimated county annual direct investments = \$33.2M/year
- South County investments – Community Action Board (CAB) South County Housing Collaborative; CAB Watsonville Works; CAB Flexible Fund; CAB Youth Homeless Response Team; Salvation Army Shelter; Healing the Streets and others



# Why is there homelessness?

## Housing Costs > Incomes

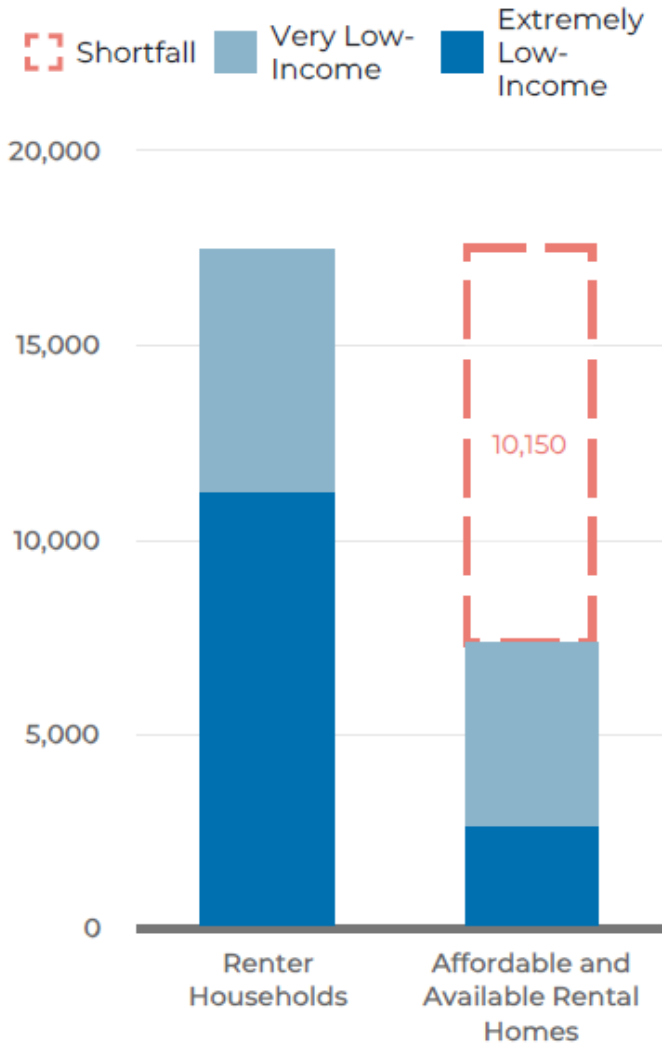
## Health Challenges impacting Daily Living

## Absence or Loss of Supportive Connections

## Loss of Hope and Purpose

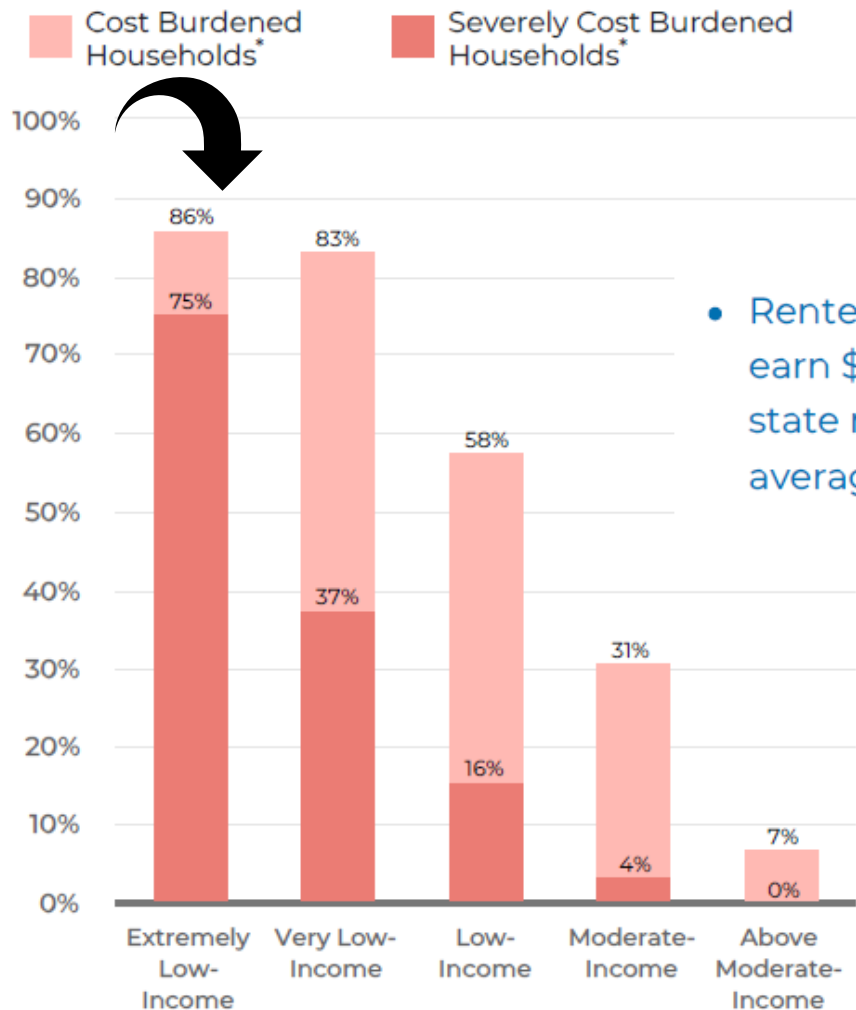
# AFFORDABLE HOMES SHORTFALL

**10,150** low-income renter households in Santa Cruz County do not have access to an affordable home.



# COST BURDENED HOUSEHOLDS

**75%** of ELI households in Santa Cruz County are paying more than half of their income on housing costs compared to just 4% of moderate-income households.



- Renters in Santa Cruz County need to earn \$41.37 per hour — **3.2 times** the state minimum wage — to afford the average monthly asking rent of \$2,151.

[Report Link](#)

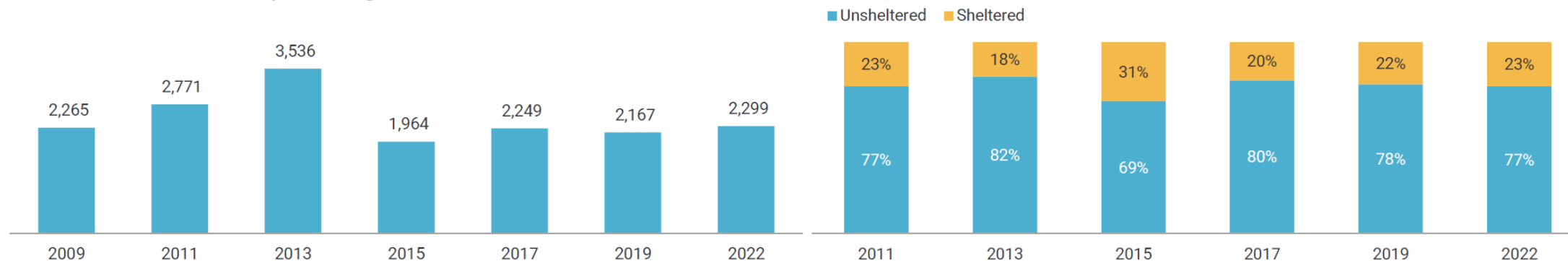
**Percentage of 8-Year New Housing Production Goal Achieved thru 2021**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<i>Very Low Income % Complete (30-50% AMI)</i>	<i>Low Income % complete (50- 80% AMI)</i>	<i>Moderate Income % complete (80-120% AMI)</i>	<i>Above Moderate Income % Complete (&gt;120% AMI)</i>	<i>Total % Complete</i>
Capitola	3%	0%	8%	65%	29%
Sanata Cruz	32%	239%	171%	193%	157%
Santa Cruz County	23%	58%	113%	52%	57%
Scotts Valley	0%	46%	31%	285%	131%
Watsonville	12%	9%	12%	87%	43%
	<b>Target = 734 units To Date = 151 units (21%)</b>				
<b>Family of 4 Annual Income</b>	\$46,650-\$77,750	\$77,751- \$124,750	\$124,750 - \$143,160	>\$143,160	

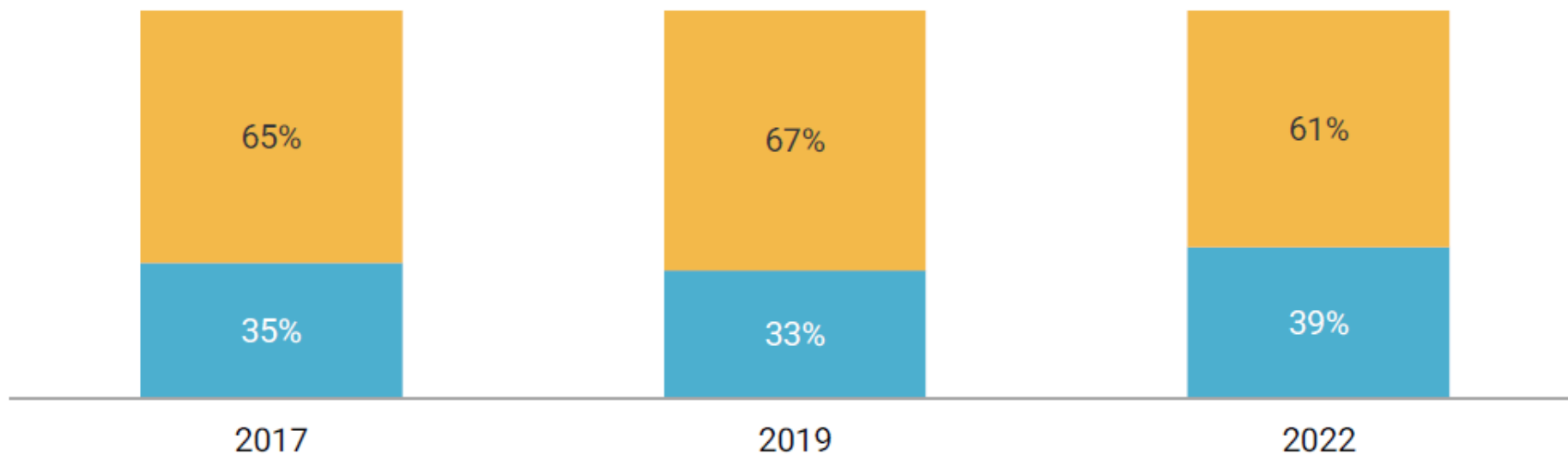
# Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)

# 2022 Data "Point In Time"

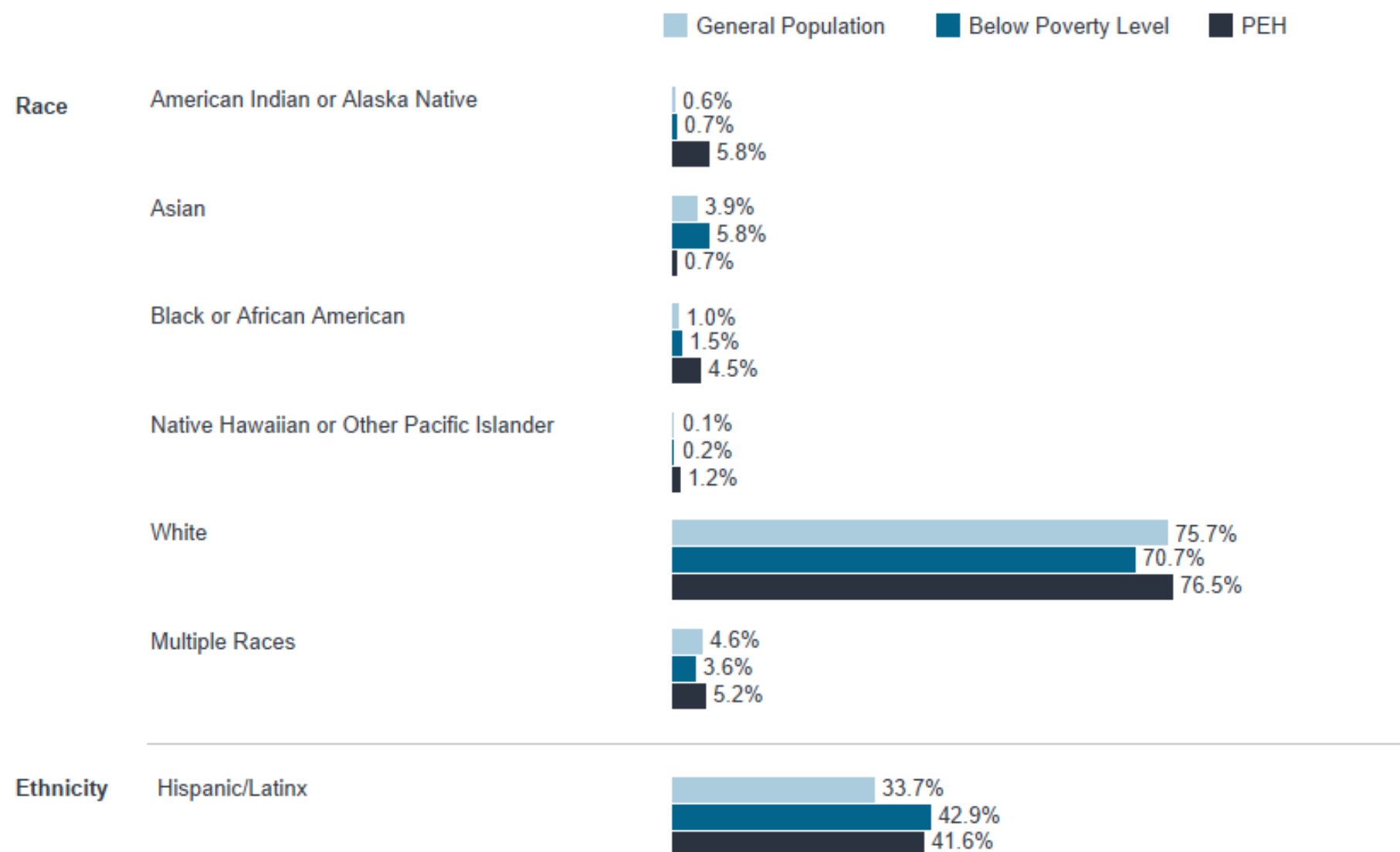
Total Number of Persons Experiencing Homelessness



Hispanic/Latinx Non-Hispanic/Latinx

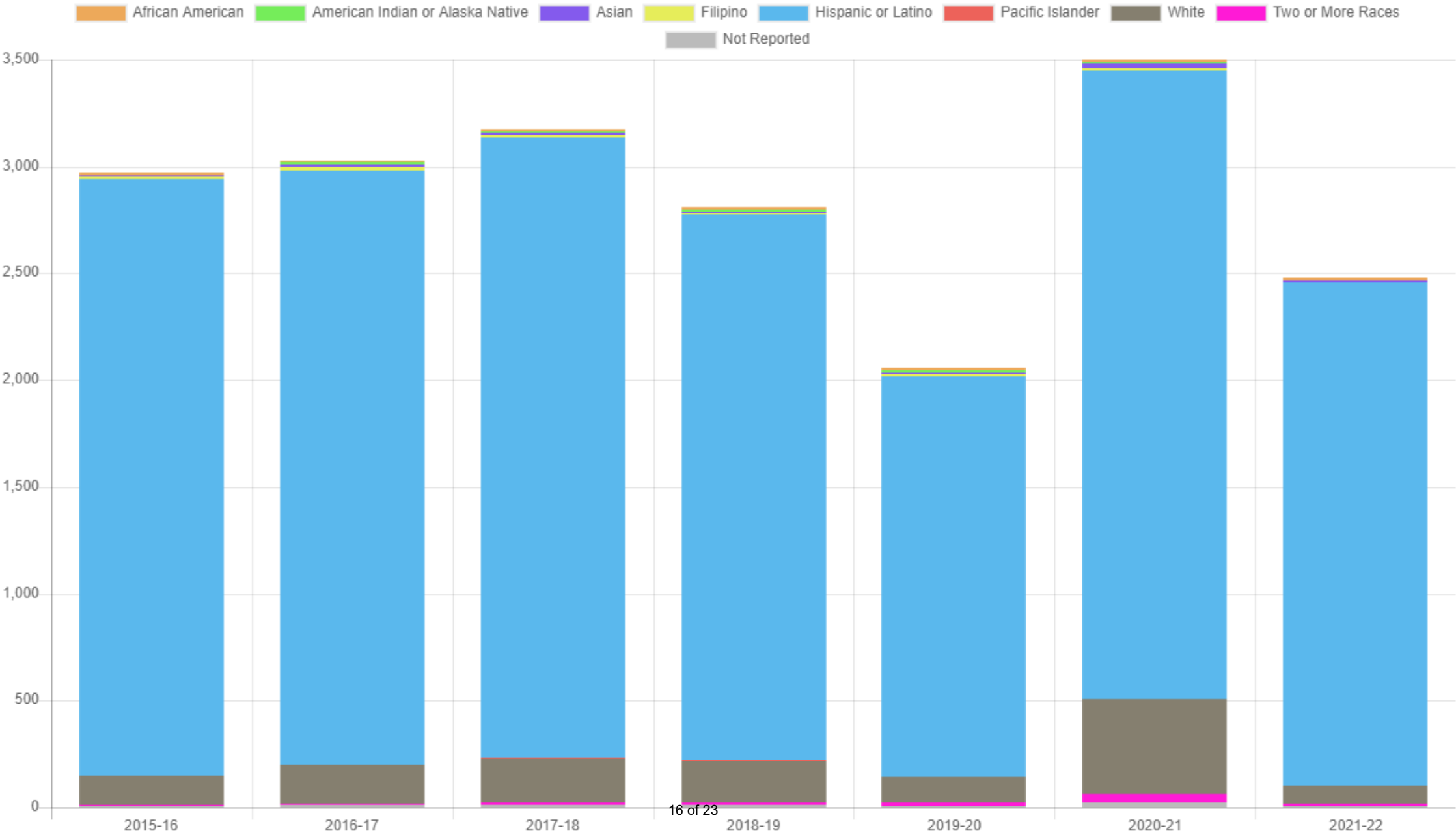


Race and Ethnicity of those experiencing homelessness compared to the general population and those living below the poverty line in **CA-508 Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC** in 2019.



# Santa Cruz County – “Homeless Student” (K-12)

## Enrollment by Ethnicity





# Health Challenges

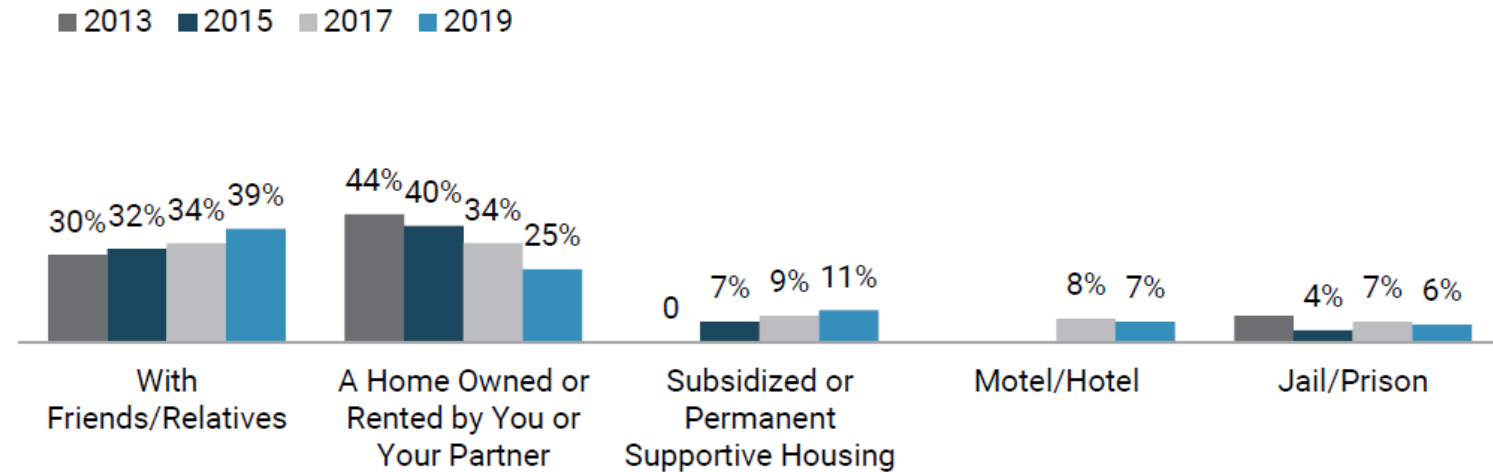
- Some health challenges impact people's ability to complete daily living tasks. They may need support and treatment to get and keep housing, e.g., behavioral health, dementia, physical limitations, etc.
- Some not motivated or able to get care without outreach, engagement, and support

Facilities providing care and supervision closing and increasing in costs...

- 11 residential care facilities for the elderly 468 beds closed in last 5 years
- 9 adult residential care facilities 125 beds closed in last 5 years

# Supportive Connections

FIGURE 19. LIVING ARRANGEMENTS PRIOR TO BECOMING HOMELESS (TOP FIVE 2019 RESPONSES)



2011 n=497, 2013 n=358; 2015 n=332; 2017 n= 447; 2019 n=370

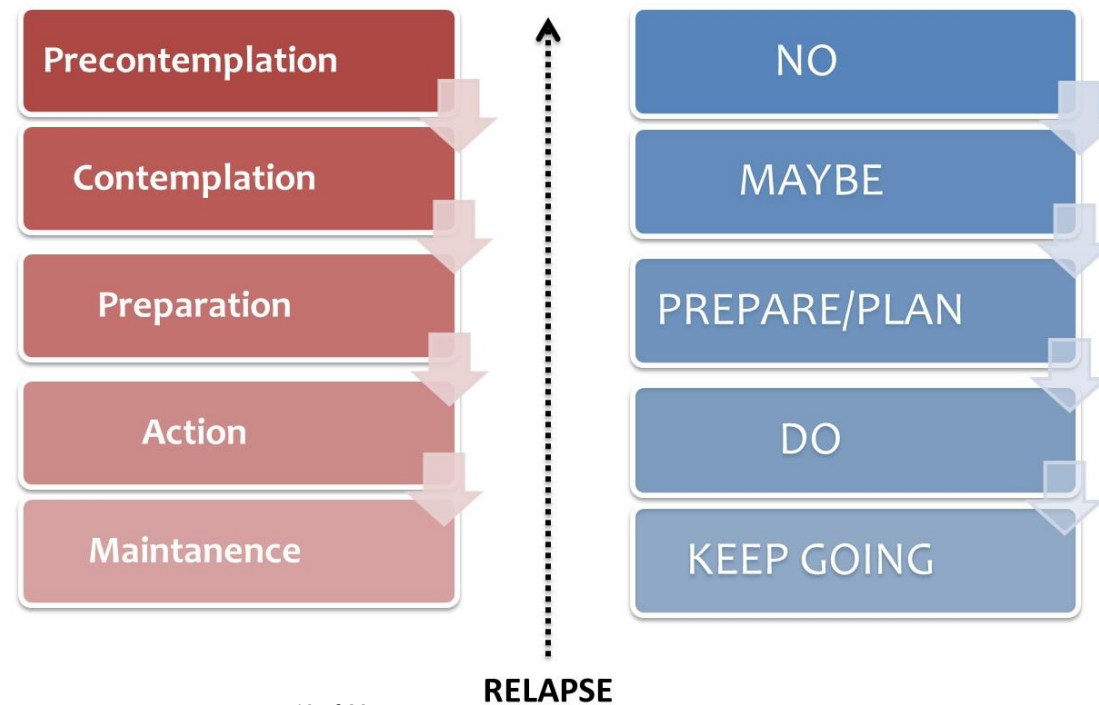
Note: Response option "Motel/Hotel" was added in 2017 and do not have comparisons in past years. "Permanent Supportive Housing" option was added in 2015.

- Many extremely low-income households live with others before becoming homeless
- Couch surfing, overcrowded living, buildings not up to code, etc.
- 6% of K-12 students in Santa Cruz County identified as "homeless" at some point in the 2021-22 school year

Loss of Hope  
and Purpose  
(Trauma, Loss,  
Stigma,  
Isolation)



### Transtheoretical Model Stages of change



# Q&A

[Housing for Health Partnership \(list-manage.com\)](#)



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### **SANTA CRUZ COUNTY LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION'S FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING**

**WHEREAS**, The Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 3, 2022, The Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission held a videoconference meeting under AB 361; and

**WHEREAS**, this Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission makes the following findings by a majority vote:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission.

**Section 2.** Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**Section 3.** No later than thirty (30) days from making today's findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Leo Gomez  
*Chair, Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission*

ATTEST: 

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Department Staff

Approved as to Form:

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Office of the County Counsel



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## Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, regularly scheduled Latino Affairs Commission meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: First (1<sup>st</sup>) Wednesday  
MONTH: Every other month (February, April, June, August, October and December)  
TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM  
LOCATION: **United Way of Santa Cruz County (unless held remotely)\*\***  
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

Changes to the schedule, including special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations, will be listed on the website at [www.scclatinoaffairs.org](http://www.scclatinoaffairs.org) as soon as information becomes available.

2022 Meeting Dates		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 2, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	Remote
April 6, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	Remote
June 1, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	Remote
August 3, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	Remote
October 5, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
December 7, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined