

March 17, 2025
Planning Commission Meeting
Written Public Comment

Item 4.1
General Plan Annual Progress Report to
the State of California

CITY OF ORANGE
CITY CLERK



www.kennedycommission.org
17701 Cowan Ave., Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92614
949 250 0909

March 28, 2025

2025 MAR 31 AM 7:55

Mayor Dan Slater
Orange City Council
300 E. Chapman Ave.
Orange, CA 92866

RE: Item 4.1 Commission Business-2024 6th Cycle Housing Element Annual Progress Report

Honorable Mayor Slater and City Council Members,

The Kennedy Commission (the Commission) is a broad-based coalition of residents and community organizations advocating for the production of homes affordable for families earning less than \$30,000 annually in Orange County. Since 2001, we have successfully partnered with jurisdictions across the county to create housing and land-use policies that increase affordable housing opportunities for lower-income working families.

We are writing to express concerns regarding the City of Orange come households, as reflected in the recently posted 2024 Annual Progress Report (APR). The report indicates that **0 non-deed restricted and deed restricted very-low income units** and **166 deed restricted low-income units** were permitted during the 2024 reporting period. While progress is reflected for the low-income category, there is a stagnant progress for the very-low income category. This underscores the urgent need for stronger commitments and effective strategies to address the city's critical shortage of affordable housing.

RHNA's allocations for the **very-low income** category is **1,067 units**. From 2021 to today, the City of Orange has met **5%** towards their RHNA goal for this income category. RHNA allocated **604 units for the low income** category for Orange to fulfill. From 2021 to today, the City has met **42%** towards their RHNA goal for this income category. We advise the City to continue implementing programs, policies, goals, and funding in the Housing Element to further promote and produce affordable housing.

We look forward to working with the City of Orange to support the creation of affordable housing to increase housing opportunities for lower-income residents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (949) 250-0909 or cesarc@kennedycommission.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cesar", written over a horizontal line.

Cesar Covarrubias
Executive Director

CC: Melinda Coy, Proactive Housing Accountability Chief
CA Housing Community Development Department