

Section 2

Housing Vision and Goals

2.1 Vision for Housing in Napa in the Year 2025

Visioning is a way of looking at the future. It is important that the Housing Element focuses on today's issues and concerns, but also looks forward to a point in time to identify a desired end state – taking a constructive, positive look at our community by defining what we want instead of just reacting to today's problems. Following is our *VISION* for housing in Napa in the year 2025.

We are spending the day in Napa in the year 2025 and this is what Napa is like

In the year 2025 we are a thriving, balanced, and diverse community. We have preserved Napa's beautiful surroundings and respected our heritage while creating a vibrant downtown and distinctive, livable neighborhoods.

Our Environment

Our environment is clean and sustainable, with high standards for energy and resource conservation. The flood control project is complete, leaving a healthy, living Napa River which we have access to enjoy. Our City is set within open hillsides and vineyards as development has stayed within the Rural Urban Limit (RUL). There are lots of green spaces throughout the City.

The Types and Mix of Housing

We have many types of housing to meet our varied needs. We have figured out how new affordable housing can get built, preserved lower income housing and improved our neighborhoods. There is a housing mix throughout the City – from apartments, condos, single family, mixed-uses downtown and in our commercial areas, single-room occupancy units (SRO's), second units and housing for special needs—to non-traditional housing that may have common shared facilities. Our housing stock is adaptable to allow people to age in place.

Our Community of Neighborhoods

Our distinctive neighborhoods link us together. We have local gathering places and services all within walking distance or a short bicycle ride, including neighborhood shopping, schools, parks and recreation, community gardens and centers.

Downtown

Downtown is the center and heart of our City, with a harmonious mix of housing, services, businesses and entertainment and many evening activities.

The Appearance and Use of Our Land

We are smart and efficient in how we use and reuse our land so that new development adds to the health and fabric of the community. We have respected our heritage. Our City is attractive, well-maintained, and pleasing to experience. We have created a culture of quality; our housing and neighborhoods are designed well, they are creative, and they are “green.”

The Health of Our Community

We have designed our City to promote health and wellness. There is excellent health care that educates as well as treats us.

Our Economy

Our vibrant economy is strengthened through innovation and diversification. We have locally grown food and services to meet our needs. Arts and entertainment enrich our lives and those who visit us. Economic development and housing are balanced so that people who work here can live here.

Our Infrastructure and How We Get Around

We have reduced the need to drive by providing safe, attractive bicycle and walking connections within and between neighborhoods, and traffic-quiet/pedestrian-only zones. Accessible public transit connects us to local and regional destinations. We get around easily on smooth streets, and parking needs are met.

Who We Are and How We Value Each Other

We are a socially integrated and an ethnically and economically diverse City. All ages, incomes and cultures feel welcome here and actively contribute to our community. We care about each other and have addressed potential crime and the impacts of isolation. Our children and youth have high quality schools and safe places to play. We provide support services for those in need.

How We Govern and Interact

Our community benefits from the integration of cultures and in sharing leadership. Our neighborhoods are organized, informed and involved in community decision-making through a constructive dialogue. We are skilled at community outreach and conversations as we talk through choices and make decisions. We are informed and involved. We collaborate and work with our neighbors in matters affecting Napa and the region as a whole.

2.2 Housing Goals

The goals below are seen as a way to respond to the *VISION* and other issues. A goal is the *WHAT*, or the end-state — a description of what we want to achieve. A goal is broad in scope and is intended as a way to organize community housing strategies, policies and programs (how we get there). Housing policies and implementing programs, described in the next two sections, are specific ways to achieve the goals we have identified.

- Goal H1** **Napa Is A Vital and Diverse Community** — We are a balanced, vital and evolving community with a socially and economically diverse population that has preserved our small town feel and heritage, sense of community, beautiful natural environment, attractive neighborhoods, vital and diverse businesses and adequate services.
- Goal H2** **We Have A Variety of Housing Types and Choices** — We have lots of housing types and choices. There is an integration of income, ethnicity, and culture in our neighborhoods. There are mixed-use projects in our Downtown and in mixed-use areas and we have housing over stores. There is a housing mix throughout the City of Napa and diversity of housing (single-family, apartments, single-room occupancy housing, condominiums, smaller units, accessory second units) and the

proportion of single-family compared to other types of housing will go down in the long term.

- Goal H3 We Have Great Neighborhoods Offering a Variety of Nearby Services and Activities** — Our housing and neighborhoods show pride and efficiency in their design and maintenance. There is creativity in housing design and types with innovative, “people friendly” architecture. We have parks, green space, trees, and a strong sense of community. We support our neighborhoods — our neighborhoods work well — and they share in the responsibility of meeting citywide goals. There is balance throughout the community, a mixture of incomes, and our fair share of housing needs are met in each neighborhood. We have neighborhood shopping, transit, recreation, school and community gathering places within walking distance.
- Goal H4 We Have Housing Linked with Services for Our Special Needs Populations** — Support systems, assistance programs, and housing are in place to help the disadvantaged (homeless and those at risk of homelessness; persons with mental, physical and developmental disabilities; lower income seniors; farm-workers; single women with children; victims of domestic violence; persons with drug and alcohol dependence; persons with HIV/Aids, etc.). Napa cares about special needs households — many with children; we are doing something about it; they have a place in our community; people without homes are sheltered; and we provide housing affordable to all income levels.
- Goal H5 We Have A Strong Sense of Community and Responsibility** — We are a friendly town, with lots of interaction and community involvement. We know people in our community on a first-name basis. There is good civic participation. Our neighborhoods are organized so that participation occurs through an informed dialogue around important community choices. There is a simple planning and permitting process. The policies and programs in the Housing Element are funded sufficiently, implemented in a timely manner, and monitored for effectiveness. We are strategic in our planning, strive to accomplish our goals, and are serious in our commitment to action.