

# HOUSING INITIATIVE UPDATE

Fairfax HS Community Meeting August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025



# **Meeting Logistics**



For translation, click the globe icon, then select Interpretation and choose your language.

Para escuchar la traducción, haga clic en el ícono del globo, elija "Interpretación" y seleccione su idioma.





All attendee audio and video are off.



Type your questions via Zoom Q&A. We will answer questions at the end of our meeting.

# Meeting Logistics



If your question is not answered, please note that all questions will be documented by the project team and will be shared on the Workforce Housing FAQ page.



Please be respectful with your questions and do not share any sensitive personal information, as these will be recorded.



The session will be recorded and available to view online after our meeting.



# Sharing Your Feedback



Type Questions in the Zoom Q&A Function



Participate in Zoom Polls during the Webinar



Visit the <a href="https://www.laschools.org/new-site/workforcehousing/">https://www.laschools.org/new-site/workforcehousing/</a>



Email <u>housing-assessment@lausd.net</u>



# Nice to meet you!

Please let us know who you are in the Zoom pop-up poll:

# Who'sin the room?



School Staff



School Administrators



Operations & Services (Custodial, food

services, etc.)



Other District
Staff



Parents /
Caregivers







Neighbors / Residents



Communitybased Org



Elected
Official /
Governments



**Other** (please specify)



# Meeting Purpose

Inform the community about LAUSD's efforts to develop affordable workforce housing on District-owned property, explain why housing is needed, and discuss the property at 1049 N. Fairfax Ave. as a possible site for future workforce housing and provide updates from prior community engagements.

#### The Team

Isela Lopez, Facilities Development Manager, LAUSD

Ann Volz, President, Volz Company

Kelly VanOteghem, Housing Specialist, Gensler

Midori Mizuhara, Community Engagement Lead, Gensler

# Today's Agenda

- 1. Initiative Overview & Timeline
- 2. The Need for Housing
- 3. Overview of Potential Housing Sites
- 4. Round 1 Community Feedback
- 5. Next Steps





# LAUSD Housing Initiative Overview, Goals, & Timeline





# **LAUSD Housing Initiative Overview**

Assess possibilities and opportunities to better utilize land & provide more attainable housing for District employees





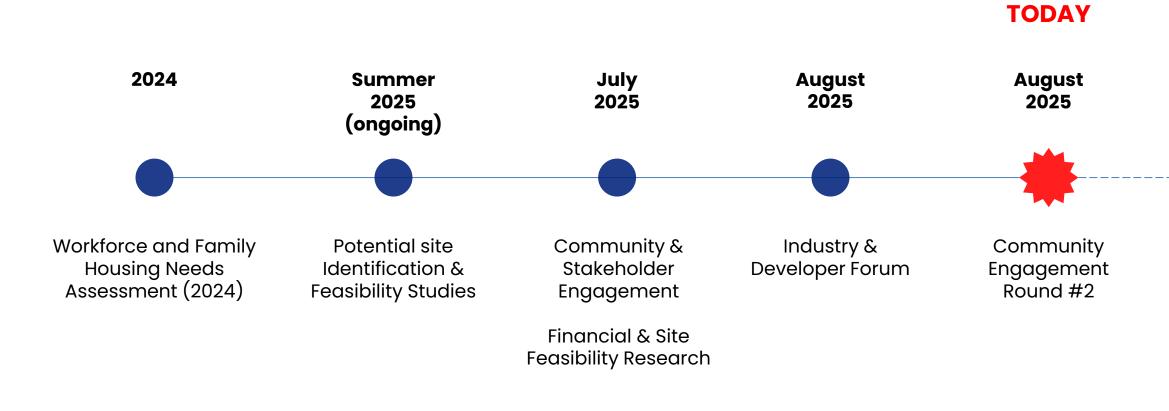
#### Goals

- Attract and retain qualified teachers and staff
- 2. Make LAUSD more competitive and be an employer of choice
- 3. Support better work-life balance by living closer to the workplace which can reduce stressors, improve mental and physical health

- 4. Reduce commute times and have a positive impact on the environment
- 6. Employees can live in and become a part of the communities they serve
- 7. Ensure resources are being utilized for their **highest and best use** to support students and staff



## Where We Are Today

























# What is affordable housing?



Housing is considered affordable when a household pays no more than 30% of their gross income for housing costs.

AMI (Area Median Income) is the midpoint of a region's income distribution — half the households earn more, and half earn less. It is a key metric used to determine eligibility for affordable housing programs.



# What is affordable housing?

Household spends no more than 30% of its income on rent and utilities.

Rental apartments, designed to be affordable to people with low to moderate incomes, are professionally managed, safe, and well-designed and help working people stay rooted in the communities they support — long-term rental homes close to jobs and schools.

Affordable housing income limits are set by HUD and include categories ranging from ≤ 30% AMI (Extremely Low Income) to ≤ 120% AMI (Moderate Income).



# LAUSD's Workforce Housing Developments

LAUSD has a strong record of developing affordable housing on District-owned property.

Over the past 10 years, the District has completed **three multi-family housing communities** that provide affordable apartments to LAUSD employees.



- Attract and retain talented staff
- Reduce commute times
- Strengthen school-community connections

We are now looking to **build on this success** and expand affordable housing options for more of our workforce.





Sage Park Gardena, CA

Norwood Learning Village Los Angeles, CA



Selma Community Housing Hollywood, CA



# 2024 Workforce and Family Housing Needs Assessment

# Quick Overview & Summary

In 2024, LAUSD surveyed over 11,000 employes about their housing needs. The results are clear:

- 43% of respondents are housing insecure, worried about losing their homes
- 5% are houseless, lacking stable housing
- 34% have faces housing challenges in the past year
- 46% have considered leaving their jobs due to high housing costs
- **52% of employees** expressed interest in LAUSD affordable housing

These challenges impact employee retention, student success, and community stability. This is why LAUSD is exploring attainable housing on District-owned sites.



# **Potential Housing Sites**

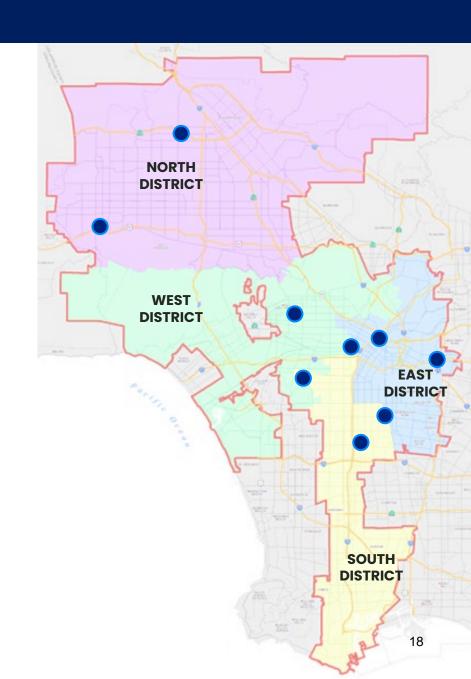
In response to the significant housing challenges identified in our 2024 survey, the District reviewed its full real estate inventory to identify properties that could support affordable housing development.

We selected **9 vacant sites** based on the following criteria:

- Vacant and unused, with no current instructional or operational programs
- No relocation of school services required
- Located in residentially zoned areas appropriate for housing
- Would not disrupt existing school operations or planned future use

Today, we're here to talk with you about one of these properties – the site located at 1049 N. Fairfax Ave., near Fairfax Senior High School.











# The Volz Company/Gensler Team

# **Volz Company**Real Estate Advisor



Ann Volz



AJ Yoon



Alexia Leonardo

#### **Gensler**

Site Planning Considerations +
Stakeholder Alignment & Community Outreach



Kelly VanOteghem



Clair Souki



Kevin Rosenstein



Midori Mizuhara



Madison Wilson



Mithila Kedambadi



### Attainable Housing Contributes to Livable Neighborhoods

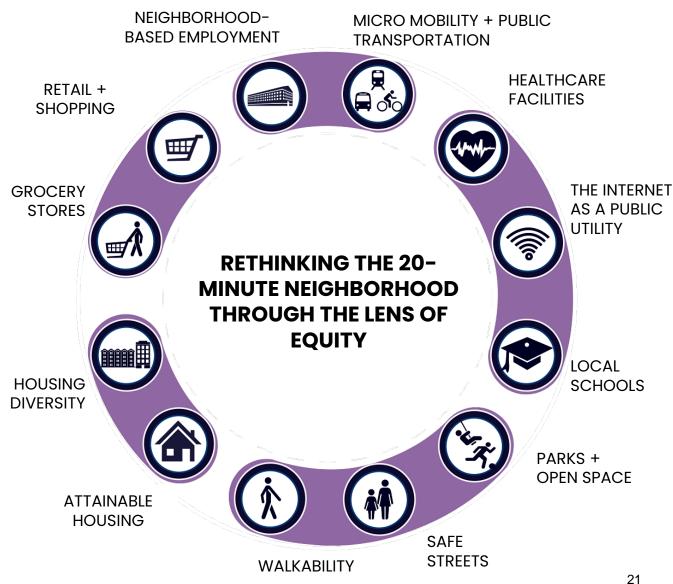














# Focus on Employee Housing

# Both employee and family housing options were evaluated in the process.

Based on property analysis findings the District is moving forward with employee housing to maximize feasibility, alignment with current legislation and strategic goals.

#### **Opportunities?**

If you or your organization has access to resources that could help overcome these barriers and support family housing development, we welcome your ideas and would be glad to explore them.



# Site Overview & Context





# Site Feasibility Considerations

#### We evaluated 9 District-owned sites for viability considering the following:



# Land Use & Planning Alignment

- Zoning and allowable uses
- Consistency with local planning policies



# Site Size & Shape

- Total buildable area
- Lot shape and layout efficiency



# Access & Connectivity

- Frontage and access to main roads
- Proximity to public transit



# Physical Constraints

- Topography or environmental limitations
- Existing structures or required site prep



# Proximity To Key Amenities

- Distance to jobs, schools, and public services
- Access to commercial or retail areas



# Factors Influencing Development



#### **Financial Modeling**

Evaluate multiple scenarios, such as mixed-income models and third-party funding.



#### **Housing Eligibility**

Establish thoughtful policies to preserve housing opportunities for current District staff while managing unit availability.



#### **Tax Credits and Subsidies**

Explore creative solutions like publicprivate partnership models or leveraging tax credits to meet affordability goals.

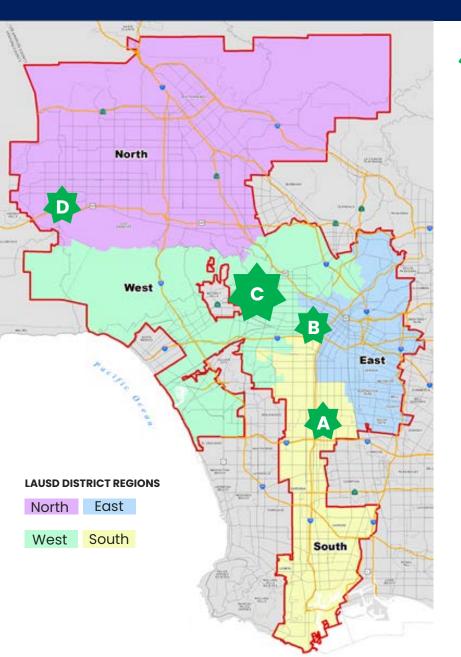


#### Target Population(s) to Serve

Different market populations will likely require different financial solutions and accommodations influencing development options.



#### Identification of 4 Viable Sites





# VIABLE SITES Advance to seek proposal development

#### **Site A** | 11300 Main St. | BD7

Vacant parcel adjacent to Samuel Gompers MS Zone: PF-1 Public Facilities

#### Site B | 911 Hoover St. | BD5

Vacant paved lot at NW corner of Hoover ES Zone: R4-1 Multiple Dwelling

#### Site C | 1049 N. Fairfax Ave. | BD4

Fairfax COS

Zone: PF Public Facilities

TODAY'S DISCUSSION

#### Site D | 5717 N. Rudnick Ave. | BD4

Former Collins Site

Zone: [Q]PF-1XL Public Facilities

#### **Aerial Views of 4 Viable Sites**



Hoover Street ES

W 9th St

W 9th St

James M Wood Blvd

SITE B

Site A - 11300 Main St.



Site C - 1049 N. Fairfax Ave.

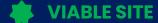


Site D - 5717 N. Rudnick Ave. (Former Collins Site)

Site B - 911 Hoover St.



# Site C | 1049 N. Fairfax Ave.



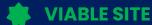








## Site C | 1049 N. Fairfax Ave.



#### **Fairfax COS Site**

#### **Site Details:**

- Lot Size: 1.4 Acres
- Board of Education District: 4
- Region: West
- Zone: PF Public Facilities

- Closest School(s)
  - Gardner Street Elementary School 0.6 miles
  - Fairfax Senior High School 0.9 miles
  - Larchmont Charter School 0.9 miles

#### **Advantages:**

- Excellent location with access to high-quality retail and amenities
- Large site with flexible development potential
- Strong walkability and transit access
- No major physical constraints



- Mature trees could limit or influence design to maintain them
- Health and value assessment of the trees required
- Existing buildings to be removed





















### How We Engaged

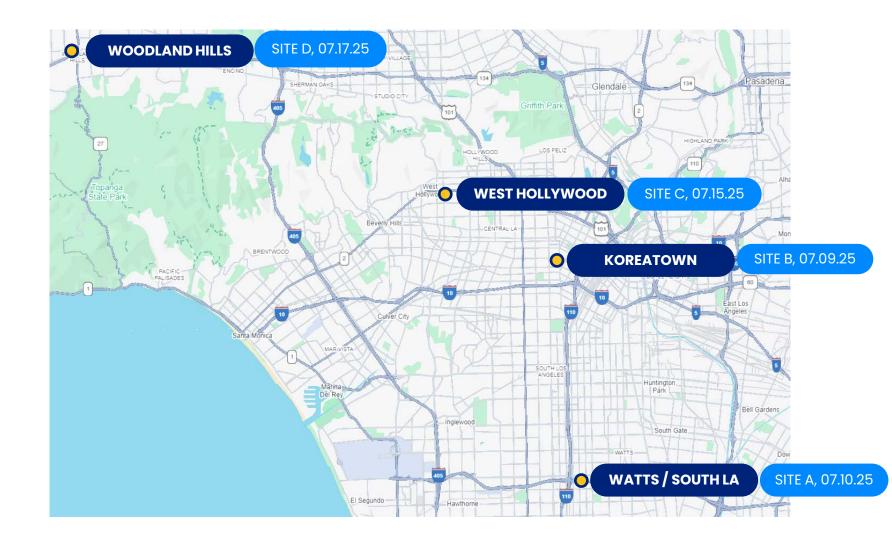
#### **Outreach Methods**

Participants were invited through targeted email outreach and posting of community flyers. To enhance accessibility and reach, flyers were translated into Korean, Tagalog, Hebrew, and Farsi.



#### **Engagement Format**

Meetings were offered in a hybrid format, with in-person sessions at LAUSD school sites and a virtual option available via Zoom.





# How We Engaged









#### What We Heard From You

#### **Overall Themes**







**Transparency** 







#### What We Heard From You

#### Community Feedback for Site C | 1049 N. Fairfax Ave.

#### **Meeting Date & Location**

Fairfax High School Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

#### **Invited Participants**

- Council District 5
- West Hollywood Current and Historic Preservation Planning Department
- Mid City West NC
- Friends of West Hollywood Elementary
- Friends of Rosewood
- Greenway Arts Alliances
- West Hollywood Community Housing Corp.
- Center for Early Education

#### Key Feedback from the West Hollywood and Mid-City Communities

Most questions reflected the perspective of residents and neighbors, focusing on how the proposed housing would impact their community. Key areas of interest included:



Neighborhood Impacts: Parking, Construction Noise, Site Capacity



Long-term Tenancy: Prioritization for LAUSD employees





Improvement of Outreach and Communication





















### Objectives

- Invite Housing Developers and Industry Stakeholders
- Communicate the District's vision for workforce housing
- Present the considerations and development parameters of the four potential sites
- Invite feedback on structuring a successful partnership and delivery model
- Lay the groundwork for the upcoming Request for Qualifications and Proposals



# Key Themes

Meeting Date: August 7, 2025

Participants requested information related to:

- AMI breakdown of employees
- Parking requirements
- Survey results
- Prioritization of LAUSD employees
- The District providing credit enhancements/backstopping rents
- The District's involvement in the management of the developments















### Timeline / Next Steps

#### Where We Are Today:

- Sharing our findings with the community
- Seeking your feedback on Site C: 1049 N. Fairfax Ave.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

#### **Board Action (Fall 2025)**

- Present feasibility findings and community feedback to the Board of Education
- Request Board approval to issue a Request for Qualifications and Proposals (RFQP) to qualified housing developers

#### RFQP Process (Fall 2025)

- Issue competitive RFQP to experienced affordable housing developers
- Evaluate proposals based on community priorities, financial terms, and development experience

#### Final Board Action (2026)

- Present recommended proposal and project details to Board for final approval
- Notify the community of the selected proposer and project details

If a proposer is selected, we will continue engaging with the community throughout the planning, design, and construction phases of the project.



### Lessons Learned to be Applied to RFQP

### What we heard

- Importance of prioritizing employee housing
- Importance of communication and outreach throughout the process
- Address parking and neighborhood concerns

# What we are applying

- Prioritize LAUSD employees
- Require proposer-led informational sessions during project development
- Require parking impact analysis and mitigation strategies in proposals
- Encourage collaboration with the community to address concerns proactively



#### RFQP Evaluation Process

- One Request for Qualifications and Proposals (RFQP) will be issued that includes the four viable sites
- Proposers may submit proposals for one or multiple viable sites
- District is looking for a
   development team to design,
   build, finance, and maintain
   property

#### **Evaluation Criteria Considerations\*:**

- Optimize site use to provide affordable units (30–120% AMI)
- Prioritize LAUSD employees; retain rent-setting control
- No District funding; preserve long-term value/ownership
- Open to market-rate or land exchanges for viability
- Require experienced developer with full O&M responsibility
- Include strong community engagement plan









# THANK YOU!

Please stay in touch by visiting <a href="https://www.laschools.org/new-site/workforcehousing/">https://www.laschools.org/new-site/workforcehousing/</a>

or

email housing-assessment@lausd.net







