

September 29, 2021

An unprecedented upcoming investment by the State of California for affordable housing and homelessness solutions will provide essential additional financial resources. These will help address the housing challenges in San Diego and statewide.

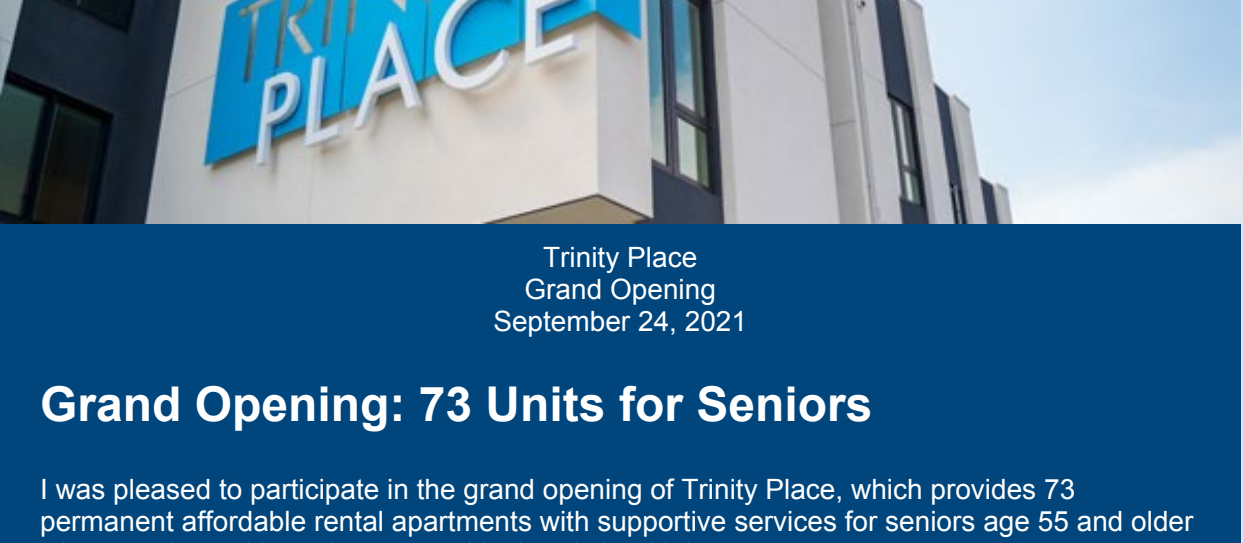
Lourdes Castro Ramirez, California's Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, wrote about the State's investment and strategic coordination to address these issues in an [op-ed that CalMatters published](#) September 17, 2021.



Richard C. Gentry
SDHC President & CEO

The impact of financial support and collaboration is reflected in the San Diego Housing Commission's (SDHC) activities. These include the recent grand opening of permanent housing with supportive services for seniors who experience homelessness and the City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program, through which SDHC has issued more than \$103 million in payments to help households with low income.

I invite you to read more about these and additional recent SDHC activities.



Trinity Place
Grand Opening
September 24, 2021

Grand Opening: 73 Units for Seniors

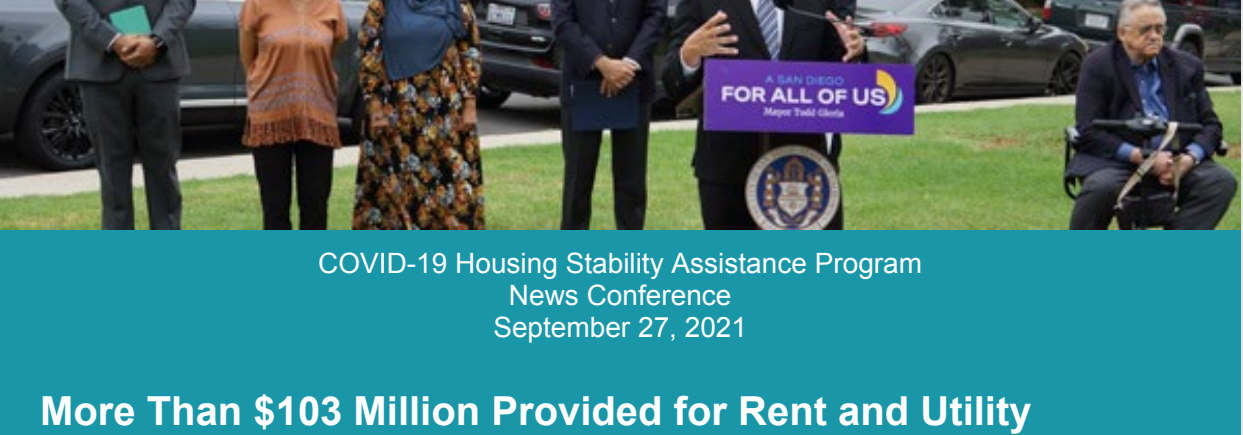
I was pleased to participate in the grand opening of Trinity Place, which provides 73 permanent affordable rental apartments with supportive services for seniors age 55 and older who experienced homelessness with chronic health issues.

SDHC supported the Trinity Place development through our homelessness action plan, HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO. The affordable rental units at Trinity Place are among approximately 9,800 housing solutions HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO has created in less than seven years for San Diegans experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. More than 500 additional units are approved and pending completion with help from SDHC's homelessness action plan.

The units at this development also support the goals of the Community Action Plan on Homelessness for the City of San Diego.

Trinity Place was developed by Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation in collaboration with SDHC, the County of San Diego and several additional financing partners and service providers.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)



COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program
News Conference
September 27, 2021

More Than \$103 Million Provided for Rent and Utility Assistance

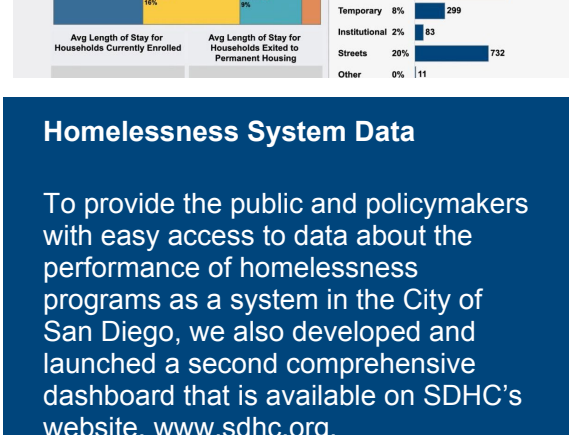
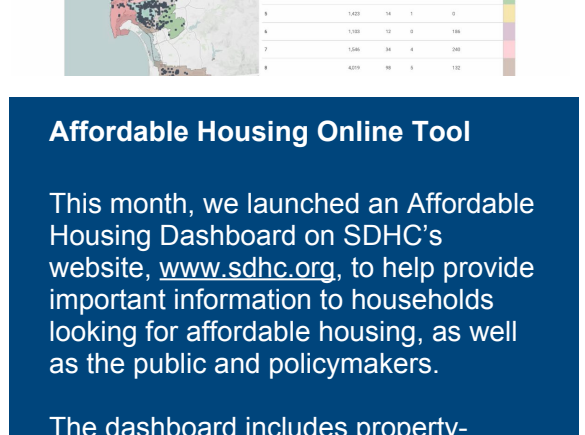
The City of San Diego's COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program, which SDHC administers, has issued more than \$103 million in payments to help more than 11,800 households with low income pay their rent and utilities.

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria announced this milestone at a news conference with City Council President Pro Tem Stephen Whitburn, City Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera and additional community partners, in which I was pleased to participate.

SDHC launched the COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program March 15, 2021, and began making assistance payments in late April for qualifying households with low income experiencing financial hardship due to or during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Gloria also announced his proposal for an eviction prevention and education program that SDHC will administer, subject to City Council consideration next week.

[Read the Mayor's News Release](#)



Affordable Housing Online Tool

This month, we launched an Affordable Housing Dashboard on SDHC's website, www.sdhc.org, to help provide important information to households looking for affordable housing, as well as the public and policymakers.

The dashboard includes property-specific details, such as the proximity to public transportation, which bus or trolley routes provide service to the area, and contact information for the unit's property management company.

A high-level overview about affordable housing throughout the city also is available, and the dashboard allows selected data to be exported into an Excel spreadsheet file.

[View the SDHC Dashboard](#)

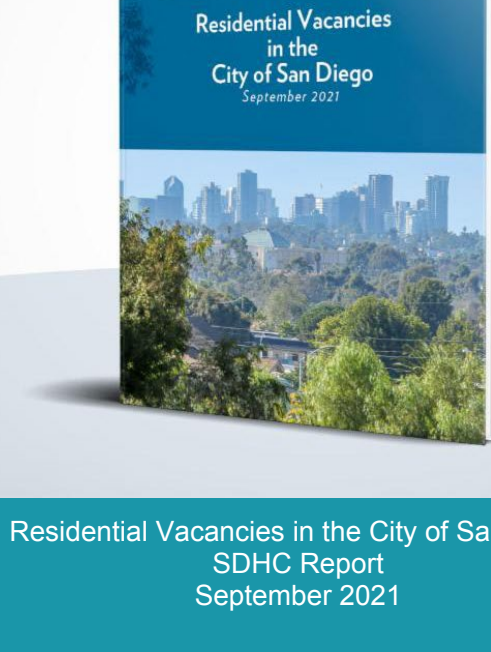
Homelessness System Data

To provide the public and policymakers with easy access to data about the performance of homelessness programs as a system in the City of San Diego, we also developed and launched a second comprehensive dashboard that is available on SDHC's website, www.sdhc.org.

This dashboard reflects data for homelessness programs for which the City of San Diego and SDHC provide funding. Overview data display the number of households served, how many individuals obtained housing, how many entered the homelessness system, and the number of individuals active in programs as of a specific date. The dashboard allows the user to adjust the date ranges for the data they are seeking.

More detailed information about specific programs also is available. The data are gathered from the San Diego Continuum of Care Homeless Management Information System, which the Regional Task Force on Homelessness manages.

[View SDHC Dashboard](#)



Residential Vacancies in the City of San Diego
SDHC Report
September 2021

SDHC: Residential Vacancies Report

SDHC completed a study to analyze vacancies among homes in the City of San Diego as a potential factor in the city's housing crisis. We published the report, "Residential Vacancies in the City of San Diego," on SDHC's website this month.

The study identified less than 1 percent of residential housing units were vacant for at least six consecutive months at some point during a five-year period before the COVID-19 pandemic.

This study provides important data—based on best practices from similar studies in other communities—to inform discussions and decision making as the City of San Diego continues to address housing affordability challenges.

To help determine the extent to which homes are vacant in San Diego, the SDHC Board of Commissioners directed SDHC staff to commence this study to identify units vacant for six months or longer.

[Read SDHC Report](#)

San Diego Joins National "House America" Initiative

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria announced the City of San Diego's participation in the "House America" initiative, a national partnership to address homelessness that includes programs SDHC administers in the City of San Diego.

Through "House America," the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) invite mayors, county leaders, tribal nation leaders and governors to use resources from the federal American Rescue Plan toward addressing homelessness.

SDHC administers 480 Emergency Housing Vouchers authorized through the American Rescue Plan, as well as HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds awarded to the City of San Diego.

[Read the Mayor's News Release](#)

State Law to Create Housing

On September 16, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law State Senate Bill (SB) 9, authored by State Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins, which SDHC supported as important legislation to help address the shortage of affordable housing in California, including San Diego.

I wrote a letter to Governor Newsom in support of SB 9, known as the California Housing Opportunity and More Efficiency (HOME) Act. The new law streamlines the process for homeowners to build more housing or split residential lots to create potentially hundreds of thousands of naturally affordable homes across California.

This law provides local governments with a measured approach to increasing small-scale residential development while maintaining local control.

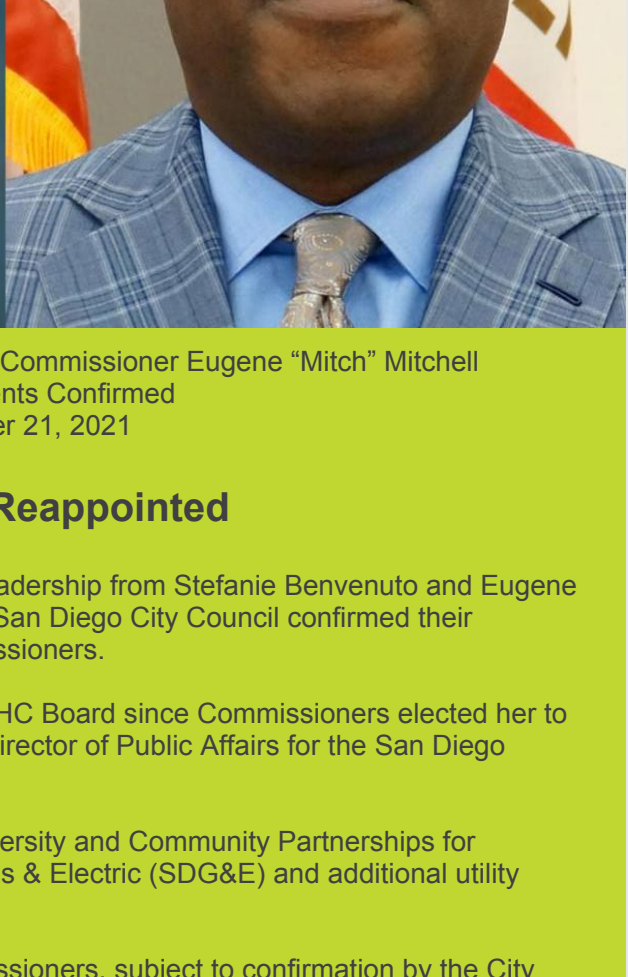
Middle-Income Housing Working Group

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria announced his Middle-Income Housing Working Group, whose 22 members include SDHC's Vice President of Policy.

This panel will provide ideas to increase the production of housing for San Diegans with middle incomes who cannot afford market-rate homes, but do not qualify for affordable housing.

As part of Mayor Gloria's "Homes For All of Us" plan, the group is expected to develop policies and financing recommendations for City Council action.

[Read the Mayor's News Release](#)



SDHC Chair Stefanie Benvenuto and Commissioner Eugene "Mitch" Mitchell Reappointments Confirmed
September 21, 2021

SDHC Board Commissioners Reappointed

I am looking forward to ongoing exceptional leadership from Stefanie Benvenuto and Eugene "Mitch" Mitchell in the years to come after the San Diego City Council confirmed their reappointments to the SDHC Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Benvenuto has served as Chair of the SDHC Board since Commissioners elected her to the position on January 11, 2019. She is the Director of Public Affairs for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Mitchell is the Senior Vice President of Diversity and Community Partnerships for Sempra, the parent company of San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) and additional utility companies.

The San Diego Mayor appoints SDHC Commissioners, subject to confirmation by the City Council.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

