

**From:** Christopher S. Elmendorf <cselmendorf@ucdavis.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 08, 2020 4:17 PM PST  
**To:** Moira O'Neill <moiraoneillhutson@berkeley.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: More housing element policy briefs

Thanks!

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**From:** Moira O'Neill <moiraoneillhutson@berkeley.edu>  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 11:08 AM  
**To:** "Christopher S. Elmendorf" <cselmendorf@ucdavis.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: More housing element policy briefs

I only had a comment on one part of the resolution, where I caution it might not be good language to include. I added a comment to explain why, but I can always share more if you need me to.

On Sat, Nov 7, 2020 at 1:14 PM Christopher S. Elmendorf <[cselmendorf@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cselmendorf@ucdavis.edu)> wrote:

Hi Team:

Moira and I spoke late last week about some ideas for another policy brief, or two, and I wanted to give you an update and share an outline for one of them.

The backstory is that I've had a couple of calls recently with local officials in San Francisco and Culver City who want guidance on how to write a prohousing housing element. It's not just a matter of their own understanding; they're trying to monitor and control their consultants, and the consultants have pretty engrained views about how to write a housing element. What they need is an easy-to-understand template they can provide to the consultants.

Additionally, the San Francisco folks would like a detailed, chapter-and-verse constraints analysis, using the CALES data.

So here's what I've done:

1. Drafted a [model resolution](#), which a city council could adopt to guide its consultants. With luck, Culver City will adopt a version of this, and AHLA will promote it to other Southern California jurisdictions.
2. Written the introduction and outline of a new policy brief, [Using Housing Elements to Solve the "Politics of Housing": A Guide for Mayors, Planners, and City Councils](#). This could be published as a joint Lewis Center / UC Davis / UC Berkeley brief. I've also spoken with Ben Metcalf about the possibility of the Turner Center sponsoring a workshop on writing prohousing housing elements. Please use hyperlink to access document and add comments.
3. Talked through with Moira the idea of a "CALES constraints analysis" for San Francisco. Moira would take the lead in writing this and be the first author.

I will push forward with the "Politics of Housing" brief and try to get a draft completed this week.

--C.

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