



American Planning Association

Texas Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All

The American Planning Association's Texas Chapter and its 2,400 members—community leaders, private developers, design professionals, and local officials—work with the private and public sectors in communities throughout Texas. We use our expertise and innovation to shape livable and sustainable Texas communities that reflect the character and values of each local city, town or rural area.

2023 APATX Policy Priorities for Housing and Affordability

Based on the experience of our public and private sector members, the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association has identified these seven priorities for the 88th Session of the Texas Legislature.

Expand Housing Supply and Production

Support legislation that increases opportunities for housing production and reduces regulatory barriers while preserving the flexibility of local jurisdictions.

Support legislation for housing finance reforms and new financing mechanisms to build more housing where financing gaps exist and to increase the variety of housing types, choices and products.

Support legislation and funding that promotes planning efforts of local and regional jurisdictions to identify housing needs and implement solutions.

Promote Housing Choice and Diversity

Support legislation that promotes and supports providing diverse housing options and densities that serve a spectrum of housing needs, including revisions to zoning regulations.

Support legislation that preserves the ability of local jurisdictions to allow accessory dwelling units and missing-middle housing options.

Support legislation that preempts restrictive covenants and barriers to fair housing and access to housing choice.

Reduce Barriers to Homeownership

Support legislation and funding that provides tools and resources to increase home ownership opportunities including broadening programs for moderate income families, first-time homebuyers, and workforce housing.

Support legislation that promotes fair housing including rights of homeowners.

APA TEXAS SUPPORTS THE
DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVATION OF
SAFE, AFFORDABLE, DIVERSE, AND
SUSTAINABLE HOUSING CHOICES FOR ALL
RESIDENTS.

Improve Housing Affordability

Support the modernization of enabling statutes for planning and zoning that promote local planning efforts and facilitate housing options that address affordability challenges.

Establish and preserve the authority of local jurisdictions to establish inclusionary housing and zoning programs and related rules and regulations aimed at creating and preserving affordable housing.

Support legislation and funding that strengthens and improves the tools and resources, including Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and Public Facility Corporation / Housing Finance Corporation programs, to address housing affordability challenges while preserving local authority and tax base.

Support funding increases and timely access to State run housing affordability, down payment assistance, tax credit and rental assistance programs.

Support property tax reforms that impact affordability.

Increase Housing Opportunities for Families and Persons in Need

Support legislation and funding that furthers the development of alternative housing options for families and persons in need including transitional housing, assisted living, group homes, halfway houses, and homeless shelters.

Support funding and programs that provide services, shelters, and permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness, veterans, immigrants, and the formerly incarcerated. Includes programs that increase stability for low-income families and programs that help homeless households find and maintain safe housing.

Preserve the Quality of the Existing Housing Stock

Support legislation and funding that strengthens local programs for stabilizing and revitalizing neighborhoods including planning, community engagement, infrastructure repair, and redevelopment.

Support legislation and funding that strengthens local programs for maintaining existing housing including property maintenance, home repair assistance, code enforcement, and property improvement incentives.

Support legislation that preserves the authority of local jurisdictions to implement and enforce minimum housing and property maintenance standards.

Protect the Housing Quality and Rights of Renters

Support legislation that further protects the rights of tenants and provides tools and resources for tenant rights assistance.

Support legislation that reduces renting discrimination and protects and expands opportunities for rental voucher holders

Support legislation that preserves the authority of local jurisdictions to implement and enforce minimum housing standards including rental registration and inspection programs.