



CITY OF SANTA CRUZ  
CALIFORNIA

# Mayor's Proclamation

WHEREAS QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS VITAL TO HEALTHY, SAFE, VIBRANT, AND DIVERSE COMMUNITIES—A FACT THAT CONTINUES TO BE HIGHLIGHTED BY CLIMATE-RELATED WEATHER EVENTS; and

WHEREAS ACCESS TO A STABLE, HEALTHY, AFFORDABLE HOME IS NECESSARY TO TAKE CRITICAL STEPS TO PRESERVE INDIVIDUAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH; and

WHEREAS AFFORDABLE HOMES ARE CRITICAL FOR THE SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS AND PROVIDE SUPPORT TO SENIORS, FAMILIES, YOUTH, VETERANS, PEOPLE RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES; and

WHEREAS RISING HOUSING COSTS HAVE LED LONGTIME RESIDENTS TO BE DISPLACED, LIVE IN OVERCROWDED AND SUBSTANDARD HOMES, OR BECOME HOMELESS; and

WHEREAS CREATING NEW PERMANENTLY AFFORDABLE HOMES AND PRESERVING AND IMPROVING EXISTING HOUSING MAKES FOR STABLE, VIBRANT COMMUNITIES, HELPING RESIDENTS MAINTAIN COMMUNITY ROOTS AND FOSTERING RACIAL AND ECONOMIC DIVERSITY FOR GENERATIONS; and

WHEREAS AFFORDABLE HOMES CLOSE TO PUBLIC TRANSIT AND JOBS REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND PROVIDE LOW-INCOME FAMILIES BETTER ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES AND AMENITIES; and

WHEREAS NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL JURISDICTIONS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, FAITH-BASED GROUPS, AND MANY OTHERS CONTINUE TO BUILD INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES SUPPORTING LOW-INCOME PEOPLE AND THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS; and

WHEREAS REGIONAL HOUSING ORGANIZATIONS ARE CONTINUING TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF MAY AS "AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONTH" BECAUSE THE HOUSING CRISIS CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED WHEN THE ENTIRE REGION TAKES ACTION; and

WHEREAS LOCAL JURISDICTIONS, SUCH AS THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ, PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE BY RAISING LOCAL RESOURCES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO LEVERAGE FEDERAL, STATE, AND OTHER FUNDS; and

WHEREAS THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ HAS PRIORITIZED THE CREATION OF HOUSING AND HAS RECEIVED THE DISTINGUISHED PROHOUSING DESIGNATION BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA; and

WHEREAS THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN ADVANCING AFFORDABLE HOUSING, WITH APPROXIMATELY 662 DEED-RESTRICTED AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS PERMITTED BETWEEN 2022 AND 2025 AND APPROXIMATELY 1,000 AFFORDABLE UNITS IN THE DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRED KEELEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF MAY 2026 AS "AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONTH" IN THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ, ALONG WITH OTHER LOCAL LEADERS IN THE GREATER SAN FRANCISCO AND MONTEREY BAY AREA REGIONS.



FRED KEELEY, MAYOR