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**ORANGE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY ADOPTS RESOLUTION URGING  
CITIES TO APPROVE HOME CONSTRUCTION TO REDUCE HOUSING COSTS**

*Resolution is Co-Authored by People for Housing - Orange County, Associated Students  
UC Irvine Housing Security Commission*

**Irvine, Calif.** (March 12, 2018) — The Democratic Party of Orange County (DPOC), the governing body of the Democratic Party in the nation's sixth-largest county, approved a resolution last week urging the county's 34 cities to approve more housing developments and reduce land use regulations that restrict home construction. The resolution notes rising housing costs are largely a result of restrictive zoning that limits the supply of housing, and increasing the supply can reduce the cost of housing across Orange County.

The resolution calls on leaders with land-use authority to approve homes located near public transportation and in walkable communities with an emphasis on more affordable multi-family housing. It also asks lawmakers to increase affordable housing subsidies and reduce regulatory barriers to housing construction. Responding to several cities that have attempted to restrict home building at the ballot box, the resolution opposes "zoning and planning through ballot-box initiatives and referenda" that restrict funding or approval of affordable housing.

The resolution was approved on February 26, 2018 by the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Orange County, which includes local Democrats elected by voters in each Assembly District, as well as partisan-level Democratic elected officials and nominees.

The resolution was co-authored by Kenneth Stahl, coordinator of the Irvine chapter of People for Housing - OC and Director of the Environmental, Land Use and Real Estate Law program at Chapman University Fowler School of Law, and Cassius Rutherford, an undergraduate student at UC Irvine and Director of the Associated Students UCI Housing Commission.

Stahl characterized the statement as a landmark resolution because it identifies building new housing as a solution to the lack of affordable housing in Orange County. "This resolution sends a strong message that municipalities need to approve more housing at all income levels in order to prevent Orange County from becoming a place where only the wealthy can afford to live," he said. Rutherford said "It's important for the Democratic Party to show the younger generation of renting working professionals, young families, and students that when it comes to housing policy, we have their back."

Orange County's housing costs are among the highest in the country, and have contributed to an increase in homelessness, a rapidly aging population, a decline in economic productivity, and long commutes for many Orange County workers.

[View the full Democratic Party of Orange County's Resolution in Support of More Housing in Orange County](#)

**About People for Housing**

People for Housing - OC is a housing advocacy group that works to promote awareness of California's housing shortage and to advocate for increased home building to increase the housing supply in Orange County. It was founded in 2017 by Orange County residents as part of the YIMBY movement and includes housing advocates with backgrounds in local government, public policy, urban planning and design, and land use law. People for Housing - OC is a sponsored project of Charitable Ventures of Orange County (CVOC), a registered 501(c)(3)-exempt organization. For more information, please find us online at:

[PeopleForHousing.org](http://PeopleForHousing.org)

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