

# **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

## **City of Westmorland**

Concerning the Adoption of a DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element.

The City of Westmorland will consider adopting a DRAFT Housing Element. State law specifies that the Housing Element must assess housing needs and evaluate the current housing market in the city and then identify programs that will meet housing needs. The City Council, is making every effort to prepare and submit a complete Housing Element to the Department of Housing and Community Development, and adopting the DRAFT Housing Element will help the city in this process.

Pursuant to State law, the City of Westmorland, will hold a public hearing at the time, date, and location specified below to consider adoption of the City's 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element.

City of Westmorland  
355 South Center Street  
Westmorland, CA 92281  
Council Chambers  
October 2, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

# CITY OF WESTMORLAND

## REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

**MEETING DATE:** October 2, 2024

**FROM:** Laura Fischer, Manager

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing – Regarding Adoption of the DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element via Adoption of Resolution 2024-16.

**ISSUE:** Shall the Board Open a Public Hearing to gather input regarding the DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element?

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:**

- A) Open the Public Hearing to consider any comments regarding the Heber Public Utility District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan.
- B) After receiving comments, close the Public Hearing.
- C) Adopt Resolution 2024-16 Adopting the DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element for the City of Westmorland.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The development of the Housing Element was funded through a LEAP grant in the amount of \$65,000. The LEAP grant has been fully expended and we have submitted one complete reimbursement package and have received a total of \$45,200, which leaves a balance of \$19,800 for our final reimbursement request.

Not adopting the Water DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element will result in the City not meeting the LEAP Grant final reimbursement deadline. The City has been granted a short time extension, past the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline, to adopt the DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element. This extension will give the City time to adopt the DRAFT Housing Element, which is a requirement for final reimbursement of expenditures related to the Housing Element.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The purpose of the hearing is to solicit comments from interested persons regarding the adoption of the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element, which is mandated by the State.

The Housing Element is one of the elements required to be included in the City's General Plan. State law identifies the subjects that must be addressed in a Housing Element. These guidelines are identified in Article 10.6 of the State of California Government Code (Sections 65580 et seq.).

State law specifies that the Housing Element must assess housing needs and evaluate the current housing market in the City and then identify programs that will meet housing needs. The housing market evaluation includes a review of housing stock characteristics as well as housing cost, household incomes, special needs households, availability of land and infrastructure, and various other factors. Also included in this

evaluation is the community's "Regional Housing Needs Allocation" (RHNA) which provides an estimate of the number of housing units that should be provided in the community to meet its share of new households in the region. In addition to this information, the Housing Element document must evaluate and review its past housing programs and consider this review in planning future housing strategies.

The City's previous Housing Element was adopted in 2016. Until recently, Housing Elements have been required to be updated every five years, unless otherwise extended by State law. Senate Bill 375, enacted in 2008, established an eight-year cycle for housing element updates. The statutory planning period for this Housing Element begins on October 15, 2021, and extends through October 15, 2029. However, the RHNA period begins June 30, 2021, and extends through October 15, 2029.

The 2021-2029 Housing Element is subject to review by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for compliance with applicable State laws.

**DISCUSSION:**

The City of Westmorland is considering adopting the DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element to meet the LEAP grant funding requirements. The DRAFT (3<sup>rd</sup> version) will be submitted to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for a final review. Once approved by HCD the City will hold another public hearing and consider adopting the final approved version of the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element and taking action to meet State mandates. Some of the actions that the city needs to take can be found in the DRAFT Housing Element Section 7 page 8-19.

**CONCLUSION:**

After opening a Public Hearing, gathering comments and information from the public, staff recommends closing the Public Hearing and adopting Resolution 2024-16.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Fischer, Manager

Attachments:

Public Hearing Notice

6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element (version 3)

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-16**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF  
WESTMORLAND ADOPTING THE DRAFT 6<sup>TH</sup>  
CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT PRIOR TO HCD  
APPROVAL**

**WHEREAS**, Article 10.6 of the State of California Government Code (Sections 65580 et seq.) specifies that the Housing Element must assess housing needs and evaluate the current housing market and identify programs that will meet housing needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 375, enacted in 2008 established an eight-year cycle for housing element updates; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element begins on October 15, 2021 and extends through October 15, 2029; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element is in DRAFT form and must be reviewed and approved by the California Department of Housing and Community Development for compliance with applicable State laws; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Westmorland desires to adopt a DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element to facility the funding reimbursement for this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Westmorland published the Notice of Public Hearing; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Westmorland, having heard the matter as scheduled; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Westmorland:

1. The City of Westmorland's DRAFT 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element is hereby approved.

Passed and Adopted by the City Council on this 2nd day of October, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

EXCUSED OR ABSENT:

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Judith Rivera, Mayor

ATTEST:

Christine Pisch, Clerk of the Board

I, Christine Pisch, City Clerk for the City of Westmorland, County of Imperial, State of California, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was dully passed, approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Westmorland at its regularly scheduled meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2024.

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By: Christine Pisch, Clerk of the Board