



AGENDA MEMO



TO: Oakland City Council and Members of the Public

FROM: At-Large Councilmember
Rowena Brown

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION IN CELEBRATION OF
MAY 2025 AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONTH
AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF
DEEPLY AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR
CREATING HEALTHY, SAFE, AND
ECONOMICALLY VIBRANT COMMUNITIES**

DATE: May 1, 2025

City Council Colleagues and Members of the Public,

As we enter the next phase of a difficult budget process, it is more important than ever to prioritize deeply affordable housing in Oakland. Quality affordable homes are vital to healthy, safe, and racially just communities. Increasing housing costs lead to longtime residents being displaced, living in overcrowded homes, or experiencing homelessness, threatening our region's racial diversity and economic opportunity.

There are concerted efforts underway to drastically reduce or altogether eliminate federal funding support for affordable housing. Tens of millions of dollars in federal housing grants have already been canceled, and proposed budgets for the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development threaten existing housing voucher, public housing, and homelessness assistance programs, leaving communities without critical support. The role of local governments and regional bodies has never been so critical in maintaining support for producing, preserving, and protecting affordable housing opportunities for low-income communities.

East Bay Housing Organizations (EBHO) is a coalition of local organizations working to produce, preserve, and protect affordable housing, and has organized Affordable Housing Week for the past 29 years. The City is proud to join with EBHO and other local housing organizations acknowledging the need for and benefits of affordable homes, and proclaiming May 2025 as Affordable Housing Month in Oakland.

Sincerely,

Rowena Brown
City of Oakland, Councilmember At Large