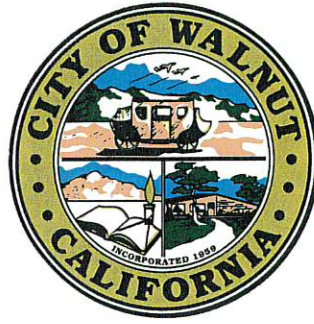


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Mayor, Andrew Rodriguez  
Mayor Pro Tem, Bob Pacheco  
Council Member, Dr. Allen Wu  
Council Member, Eric Ching  
Council Member, Nancy Tragarz

## CITY OF WALNUT

**September 12, 2019**

Regional Housing Needs Assessment Subcommittee  
Southern California Association of Governments  
C/O Peggy Huang  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear RHNA Subcommittee and Chair Huang,

First and foremost, the City of Walnut greatly appreciates the opportunity to provide comment and feedback on the proposed RHNA allocation methodologies presented in early August of this year. While we understand that each option was formulated to manage the State Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) regional determination of 1,344,740 units, the finalized methodologies should take into consideration existing growth constraints that many Cities within the Southern California Region face, such as protected open spaces and the unavailability of suitable infrastructure. The City of Walnut, for example, is only 8.9 square-miles, nearly a quarter of which is protected and preserved open space.

Walnut is in support of encouraging innovative housing methods to address the State's current housing crisis, but such methods should not overburden and overexert a City's resources and abilities to meet the Regional Housing needs. As presented in the report provided by SCAG, Walnut is in favor of Option #3, as it demonstrates fairness in the distribution of housing units to the Cities throughout the region; Option #1, though not optimal, is a reasonable alternative.

Lastly, the severity of this current housing crisis is the result of many factors that cannot be solved in a single Housing Element cycle. The City of Walnut encourages SCAG to work with HCD to explore phasing or multi-cyclical approaches as to lessen the current and future encumbrances to Cities within our region.

Thank you again for the collaborative approach SCAG is affording municipalities in drafting these methodologies. Should you have any questions, please contact Tom Weiner, Assistant City Manager – Development Services at (909) 595-7543.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rob Wishner", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Rob Wishner  
City Manager