



Bay Area Housing Finance Authority Business Plan

Appendix 2: Equity Framework Accompanying Materials

Cover image

Armstrong Place Senior Housing in San Francisco

Photo by Julio Cesar Martinez, courtesy of BRIDGE Housing



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2A. Definitions

Housing Affordability Levels

Most federal and state housing assistance programs set maximum incomes for eligibility to live in subsidized housing, and maximum rents and housing costs that may be charged to eligible residents, usually based on “Area Median Income” (AMI). AMI refers to the median family income, adjusted for family size, of a geographic area of the state, as annually estimated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Affordability levels for subsidized housing are based on four AMI bands:

- Extremely low-income (ELI): 0-30% of AMI
- Very low-income (VLI): 30% to 50% of AMI
- Low- or lower-income (LI): 50% to 80% of AMI (the term may also be used to mean 0% to 80% of AMI)
- Moderate-income: 80% to 120% of AMI

Community-Based Developers

California Department of Housing Community Development’s (HCD) Multifamily Housing Program (MHP) sets experience guidelines for entities applying as Community-Based Developers, which include demonstration of community knowledge, commitment to long-term community investment and population-specific cultural competency, all through a combination of the following: receipt of grant funds for services within the relevant neighborhood or community, cultural and linguistic competency on staff, a record of hiring from the community and membership in or recruitment from a local Urban League (or substantially equivalent) organization. More detailed information is available in the [2021 Multifamily Housing Program Final Guidelines](#).

BIPOC-led Developers

“BIPOC” means Black, Indigenous, and Other People of Color. HCD’s Multifamily Housing Program (MHP) also sets experience guidelines for entities applying as Emerging BIPOC Developers. To be considered a qualifying BIPOC nonprofit organization, the entity must have a BIPOC Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer and 51% of the organization’s board must be BIPOC.

For purposes of this paragraph, People of Color means “a person who checked the Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander race category or who answered yes to the Hispanic Origin question on the 2020 United States Census or, if that data is not yet publicly available, the 2010 United States Census.” More detailed information is available in the [2021 Multifamily Housing Program Final Guidelines](#).

Emerging Developers

HCD’s MHP also sets experience guidelines for entities applying as Emerging Developers. Entities, including Tribal Entities, applying as Emerging Developers must have developed, owned, or operated at least one (1) but not more than three (3) Affordable Housing Developments that are equivalent to the proposed Affordable Housing Development in size, scale, amenity, and target population. More detailed information is available in the [2021 Multifamily Housing Program Final Guidelines](#).

Community Ownership and Community-Owned Developers

Community Ownership is a category of tenure – separate from traditional, single-household rental and ownership tenures – that combines the legal and financial characteristics of both owning and renting. Community ownership encompasses multiple tenure types, including community land trusts, limited equity cooperatives, resident self-managed rental housing and non-equity cooperatives. These housing models, also referred to as “community-controlled housing” and included within a broader category of social housing, strive for permanent affordability, democratic resident control and social inclusivity.¹ The Equity Framework refers to organizations that produce or preserve housing through community ownership models as “community-owned developers.”

Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAPs)

R/ECAPs are defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as census tracts with populations that are 50% or more persons of color and 40% or more of individuals living at or below the poverty line. For more details on the use of R/ECAPs, see [HCD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: Guidance for All Public Entities and for Housing Elements](#).

Racially Concentrated Areas of Affluence (RCAAs)

HCD developed a regionally-normalized version of RCAAs which reflect predominantly white areas with high income relative to regions. HCD encourages local jurisdictions to use both R/ECAPs and RCAAs in their housing element analyses. For more details on the use of RCAAs, see [HCD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: Guidance for All Public Entities and for Housing Elements](#).

Transit Priority Areas (TPAs)

A TPA is defined in [California Public Resource Code, Section 21099](#) as an area within one-half mile of a major transit stop that is existing or planned, if the planned stop is scheduled to be completed within the planning horizon included in a Transportation Improvement Program or applicable regional transportation plan.

Estimated Displacement Risk (EDR)

The EDR "Overall Displacement" model was developed by the Urban Displacement Project and identifies varying levels of displacement risk for low-income renter households in California while controlling for regions. UDP defines displacement risk as a census tract with characteristics which are strongly correlated with more low-income population loss than gain. For the broader purpose of the Equity Framework Metrics, all categories forecasting displacement risk for extremely-low, very-low, and low-income households should be combined into a singular category representing at-risk neighborhoods. For more details on the EDR methodology, see [HCD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Data and Mapping Resources](#).

Equity Priority Communities (EPCs)

EPCs are identified by MTC and ABAG as census tracts with a significant concentration of historically underserved populations, including (but not limited to) people with low incomes, people of color, seniors, people with disabilities, single-parent families and severely rent-burdened households. More detailed information on Equity Priority Communities can be found in the [Plan Bay Area 2050 Equity Analysis Report](#).

High-Opportunity Areas (HOAs)

HOAs are derived from the TCAC Opportunity Map, which identifies areas in every region of the state whose characteristics have been shown by research to support positive economic, educational, and health outcomes for low-income families—particularly long-term outcomes for children. More detailed information is available in the [Opportunity Mapping Methodology](#). Opportunity mapping is a way to measure and visualize place-based characteristics linked to critical life outcomes, such as educational attainment, earnings from employment, and economic mobility.

Priority Development Areas (PDAs)

MTC and ABAG define two types of PDAs, both within one-half mile of quality transit:

- 1) Transit-Rich PDAs, which have high-quality transportation infrastructure already in place to support additional growth, and
- 2) Connected Community PDAs, which offer basic transit services and have committed to policies that increase mobility options and reduce automobile travel. More detailed information of PDAs is available from [MTC and ABAG's PDA webpage](#).

2B. Equity Working Group

The Equity Working Group was comprised of 11 individuals*:

1. Aboubacar “Asn” Ndiaye, PowerSwitch Action
2. Allie Cannington, The Kelsey
3. Andy Madeira, East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation (formerly), Community Vision Capital & Consulting, and NeighborWorks Capital
4. Anthony Carrasco, UC Berkeley
5. Debra Ballinger, Monument Impact
6. Duane Bay, East Palo Alto Community Alliance & Neighborhood Development Org.
7. Katie Lamont, Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation
8. Melissa Jones, Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative
9. Poncho Guevara, Sacred Heart Community Service
10. Raquelle “Kelly” Myers, National Indian Justice Center
11. Steve King, Oakland Community Land Trust

** organizational affiliation listed for identification purposes only*

The Othering & Belonging Institute, with input from the consultant team and BAHFA staff, developed the following criteria for the selection of Equity Working Group members.

The Equity Working Group includes representatives from organizations who:

1. **Explicitly name racial and/or social equity as part of their mission statement and/or guiding principles;**
2. **Are embedded in and accountable to impacted communities through at least one of the following:**
 - a. Formal decision-making structures that directly involve people from marginalized communities with lived experience of racial or social inequities in housing, or
 - b. Leadership (board, staff) and membership bases that are made up of at least a majority people directly impacted by racial or social inequities.
3. **Approach housing from a holistic lens (in relationship to other racial equity issues, e.g., health or broader community development);**
4. **Have direct experience producing or preserving housing, or protecting people facing various forms of housing instability;**
5. **Add diversity in representation across the following dimensions:**
 - a. Geography - major parts of the region (North Bay, East Bay, South Bay/Silicon Valley, San Francisco), urban/large city and suburban/small or mid-sized cities
 - b. 3Ps - production, preservation, protection
 - c. Marginalized populations and racial groups - including Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian and Pacific Islander communities, and people with disabilities
 - d. Sector - including nonprofit advocacy & organizing, legal & support services, and community-based development.
6. **If representing a membership organization, must be able to respond to potential recommendations within the schedule described in Equity Working Group Scope;**
7. **On balance, the Working Group should embody all the criteria listed above and also have experience working with public institutions in government processes, especially those with formal public decision-making processes.**

2C. Stakeholder Engagement Report

Introduction

Development of the Equity Framework involved an iterative, year-long process of broad community engagement and co-creation with the BAHFA Equity Working Group. This Stakeholder Engagement Report, which serves as a companion to the Equity Framework, provides a comprehensive summary of the feedback received through the stakeholder engagement process. Any adoption or implementation of a recommendation forwarded by stakeholders by BAHFA will be done in accordance with federal and state law.

The recommendations documented here include those presented in each of the four “Opportunities and Challenges” sections of the Equity Framework, alongside additional themes and recommendations shared by stakeholders throughout the engagement process.

The Equity Framework Stakeholder Engagement Process

To create the Equity Framework, a team led by the Othering and Belonging Institute at UC Berkeley (OBI) facilitated a planning process designed to achieve broad public access and be deeply informed by the communities who have been most impacted by housing insecurity. This planning process included:

- **Interviews:** over 20 interviews with housing and equity leaders involved in housing production, preservation, and protection.
- **Public Listening Sessions:** three public listening sessions held in June 2022, during which 138 residents discussed and provided recommendations on draft goals, objectives, and metrics. Invitations for the sessions were distributed to over 300 stakeholders and 175 local government staff working across all 3Ps.
- **Equity Working Group Engagement:** several meetings with a group of 11 leaders from across the region between May 2022 and March 2023. The Equity Working Group used a consensus-based decision-making process to co-create the Equity Framework, drawing from their extensive experience related to housing preservation, production, protection and social equity as well as relationships to the communities and places most impacted by the housing crisis. For a list of Equity Working Group members and criteria used in their selection, see Appendix 2B.
- **Public Workshops:** two virtual public workshops in February and March 2023, during which BAHFA staff presented the Draft Equity Framework and Draft Funding Programs to over 160 stakeholders from across the region. Participants provided feedback on both drafts, including recommendations for how to strengthen the connection between the Equity Framework and Funding Programs. Invitations for the sessions were distributed to over 550 stakeholders.
- **BAHFA and ABAG Feedback:** regional policymakers on the BAHFA Oversight Committee and the ABAG Housing Committee received several reports throughout 2022 about the Equity Framework, and provided comments on the full Draft Equity Framework in January 2023.

Key Themes

Stakeholder recommendations presented in this report are organized into five sections:

- Defining Equity
- Cross-Cutting Opportunities and Challenges
- Production Opportunities and Challenges
- Preservation Opportunities and Challenges
- Protection Opportunities and Challenges

Defining Equity

Stakeholders emphasized the importance of setting a clear definition of equity as a foundation for BAHFA's Equity Framework and organizational practice. The following are key elements of how stakeholders defined equity and described opportunities for BAHFA to make equity actionable.

- **Directing resources to the most critical community needs and most vulnerable populations.** BAHFA can achieve this by prioritizing solutions to homelessness, displacement and housing instability through targeted, race-conscious interventions (to the extent legally permissible) that directly respond to the unique ways in which structural inequity is experienced by different groups.
- **Repairing legacies of structural racism, wealth extraction and other forms of harm perpetuated through housing policies and practices that have historically driven underinvestment and disenfranchisement of Black, Indigenous and other People of Color (BIPOC) and other marginalized communities.** BAHFA can take steps toward this by leading with a rigorous “problem definition” that the region must solve for, grounded in a structural analysis of disparities shaped by housing inequality as well as the root causes (both historic and current) of these disparities. Several stakeholders recommended that this problem definition should directly inform decisions about revenue strategies to pursue, noting the importance of revenue strategies designed to equitably redistribute public resources and curb the extraction of wealth from housing.
- **Transforming public systems and structures so that they are designed to ensure that all people’s needs are cared for and met, enabling individuals to determine their own future and, as integral members of their communities, shape the future of the region.** Structural transformation needed for equity cannot be achieved by BAHFA alone, but BAHFA has the opportunity to set a bold vision for what this transformation can look like and coordinate with its partners to make inroads toward this vision.
- **Establishing pathways for resident engagement that prioritize the voices of people who have been excluded from decision-making spaces.** Numerous stakeholders envisioned a form of governance that involves direct participation of people from marginalized communities, with equal representation of stakeholders from each of the 3Ps. While operationalizing this form of participatory decision-making would need to be explored, BAHFA can begin “meeting people where they’re at” by building new institutional connections and direct relationships with established community organizations and networks. Forming such partnerships should start with deep listening and creating transparency and accessibility of information.

Cross-Cutting Opportunities and Challenges

Capacity Building for Underrepresented Developers

Stakeholders reported a need for capacity building opportunities geared toward developers based in marginalized communities, especially emerging developers who face high barriers to entry into the affordable housing industry. Capacity building for underrepresented developers is seen as a fundamental part of a broader strategy to expand, diversify and strengthen the capacity of the region's housing ecosystem. Without growing the field and sustaining it over the long term, the region cannot deliver the wider range, in addition to a greater volume, of housing choices that communities need.

Several stakeholders highlighted that levels of development capacity and infrastructure differ across sub-regions. For example, fewer BIPOC-led, community-based developers are based in and operate throughout the South Bay compared to the East Bay and San Francisco. Such disparities in capacity will need to be accounted for to ensure that all Bay Area sub-regions can equitably access and benefit from BAHFA's regional programs.

While the need for capacity building is large, AB 1487² and regulations governing the use of general obligation bond revenue limit BAHFA's ability to fund organizational capacity building or enterprise level funding for developers. Moreover, BAHFA alone cannot meet the full range of community-based developers' funding needs, but it can play a leadership role in advancing strategic coordination among the many other institutions throughout the region who are dedicating resources and support toward advancing projects led by BIPOC, Emerging, Community-Based and Community-Owned Developers.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Create programs that are designed to address the unique funding gaps faced by BIPOC-led, Emerging, Community-Based and Community-Owned Developers, especially for community-stewarded housing and preservation projects. One model to consider is a “catalyst fund” dedicated to helping emerging BIPOC-led developers scale up by providing resources for organizational capacity building and pre-development capital. Funding targeted toward emerging developers should have lower eligibility requirements (e.g., a lower requirement for the number of completed projects) than what funding agencies typically require. This type of investment would require “patient capital” that recognizes the importance of creating capacity to produce and/or preserve housing over the long term, even if the funded projects do not result in the delivery of units in the short term.
- Ensure BIPOC-led, Emerging, Community-Based and Community-Owned developers receive information about Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) and Requests for Proposals (RFPs), engagement and partnership opportunities, and available land, and provide this information in multiple languages. Make funding application processes as accessible and streamlined as possible, with clear, easy to understand guidance and explanation of requirements.
- Maintain engagement with underrepresented developers to understand structural barriers to accessing resources and sustaining long-term capacity as the funding landscape evolves. Conduct regular surveys of organizations that are categorically eligible for funding, and/or have placed themselves on a notification list, and which did not apply for funding, to understand why they did not apply.

- Facilitate partnerships between emerging and established developers, as well as between developers and local governments, that are designed to build capacity and relationships across all participants. These relationships could be the basis for mutual learning as well as joint development projects, which would support emerging developers in establishing their own development track record and operating budget. One model to consider is the Los Angeles County Community Land Trust (CLT) Pilot Program. While BAHFA should prioritize funding for projects jointly proposed by emerging and established developers, it should not require emerging developers to engage in joint development in order to be eligible for funding.
- Explore the creation of a cohort-based institute or incubator program that supports emerging developers in building capacity needed to become eligible for BAHFA funding. This type of program would be beneficial not just for the developers, but also for the local jurisdictions they are interfacing with, by ensuring that the projects that come forward are well designed, feasible, and sustained over the long term.
- Support or collaborate with existing capacity building programs designed to meet specific needs of emerging developers (e.g., California Community Land Trust Network Real Estate Institute, LISC Housing Development Training Institute).
- For capacity building needs that BAHFA cannot directly provide, explore developing a coordinated funding strategy with philanthropic institutions that may be better positioned to meet these needs through grant funding.
- Pursue and support actions that eliminate or mitigate existing constitutional prohibitions on the use of general obligation bonds for capacity building initiatives. In addition, consider pursuing related amendments to AB 1487 that would expand eligibility of general obligation bond revenue to take full advantage of a potential constitutional change.
- Explore revenue options that would not be subject to the same limitations as general obligation bonds and that target the root causes of housing inequity. One model to explore is the City of Los Angeles's United to House LA real estate transfer tax, although expanded the taxing mechanisms available to BAHFA would require amending AB 1487.

Individual and Community Wealth Building

Closing the racial wealth gap is a priority of many stakeholders. Stakeholder conversations highlighted the importance of strategies for both individual economic wealth building and collective wealth building that uplifts communities as a whole. It is also important to note that some stakeholders also raised concerns about investing in individual wealth building through homeownership, which perpetuates the use of housing for profit.

Requirements set by AB 1487 present a challenge to the objective of supporting wealth building for historically marginalized people. The legislation requires that regional housing revenue directly administered by BAHFA for production is utilized for rental housing only, not individual or collective homeownership opportunities.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Pursue amending AB 1487 in the future to enable regional production programs targeted toward individual and collective homeownership. Stakeholders noted that such programs could serve as a pathway for upward mobility and continued stability for affordable housing tenants who would lose their housing when their incomes increase beyond the eligibility limit.

- Encourage counties and other direct allocation jurisdictions (which can use revenue for local homeownership programs) to develop production funding portfolios with an appropriate mix of rental and wealth building programs. In addition to programs that create opportunities for first-time homebuyers, stakeholders recommended program concepts aimed at sustaining homeownership, such as accessory dwelling unit (ADU) production support to provide stabilizing revenue for low-income homeowners, foreclosure prevention education and assistance and financial assistance for improvements and repairs that enable homeowners to age in place.
- Explore how BAHFA can play a role in the development of a regional social housing and community wealth building strategy that moves land into public or nonprofit community control. Strategies to consider include land banking, facilitating disposition of surplus/underutilized public land and designing financing products that enable Community or Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (COPA/TOPA) acquisitions. Some models to explore are LA Metro’s Joint Development Program and Los Angeles County’s Land Banking Pilot Program.
- Ensure that term sheets for BAHFA programs do not rule out the possibility of collectively owned housing, including conversion from rental to homeownership, cooperatives, and tenancies in common.
- Support wealth building through affordable housing industry practices and jobs. For example, BAHFA could advance workforce and economic development in marginalized communities through requirements for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise contractors for affordable housing contracts. BAHFA can also look to community plans such as the Golden Gate Village Resident Council Revitalization Plan for Golden Gate Village in Marin City, which includes green renovation and job training programs that will provide residents with opportunities to become skilled tradespeople.
- Explore the possibility of transferring portions of regional revenue to community-controlled funds or BIPOC-led CDFIs as a way for these institutions to build their own capital cycles.
- Advance the use of community ownership tenure models as a means for collective wealth generation. One model is the community land ownership model of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, which holds legal title to 28,000 acres of land in the Coachella Valley and generates collective wealth through leasing portions of their land.

Regional Public Sector Leadership

Achieving BAHFA’s Equity Objectives will only be possible if BAHFA works closely with the housing sector as a whole to increase its capacity and take bold, coordinated action to solve the housing crisis. Stakeholder feedback related to this theme is incorporated into the “Regional Leadership and Technical Assistance” section of the Equity Framework, Appendix 1.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Set clear expectations for how counties and direct allocation jurisdictions should spend return to source funds to meet statutory obligations and align with the BAHFA Equity Framework. This should include standards for vetting development projects and organizations that apply for funding, clear guidelines for reporting and evaluation and a plan for ensuring that officials of counties and direct allocation jurisdictions (including both elected officials and staff) are accountable to the requirements set forth by AB 1487.

- Provide capacity building and technical assistance to local jurisdictions that helps them align with a clearly defined regional vision for housing equity and affirmatively furthering fair housing. Many local officials are seeking to apply an equity lens to their work, but they require additional resources and guidance to implement equitable policies, programs and practices. Stakeholders noted the following as forms of support that would be beneficial: spaces for peer learning on race and equity for local government staff and elected officials, grants to increase staffing capacity and resources that clarify best practices for implementation of local housing programs, such as templates of fair housing standards, program rules, underwriting guidelines and term sheets that can be applied across jurisdictions. These will be critical to ensuring that funding processes are streamlined and resources are deployed as effectively and efficiently as possible.
- Pay specific attention to the varied levels of local jurisdictions' capacity, and target capacity building efforts toward jurisdictions with less capacity and resources to manage housing programs, real estate assets and reporting requirements to promote equitable access to BAHFA resources throughout the region.
- Create spaces and channels for ongoing communication and engagement with local jurisdiction staff, with the purpose of sharing key information about BAHFA's plans and progress that allows them to plan and strategize accordingly, ask questions and provide input, develop the local infrastructure needed to effectively administer return to source funds and leverage regional funding opportunities.
- Serve as a centralized resource for data collection and reporting on regional housing trends. Provide local jurisdictions with data and other research that can support officials in creating equitable housing policies, conducting equity analyses of local housing conditions and reporting on equity impacts of local programs and policies.
- Work with equity-oriented organizations to develop a toolkit for local governments on how to assess racial equity impacts of program implementation and make real-time course corrections to address inequitable program outcomes.
- Serve as a leader in advancing a regionalist approach to housing equity; facilitate region-wide, cross-sector efforts to advocate with one voice at higher levels of government to ensure that the Bay Area has the resources necessary for advancing equity.

Production Opportunities and Challenges

Extremely Low-Income and Permanent Supportive Housing

Creating stable housing opportunities for extremely low-income households, including permanent supportive housing (PSH), is a top priority of many stakeholders. Production of ELI housing presents two main challenges: the tradeoff of providing fewer units in order to create deeper affordability, and especially in the case of permanent supportive housing, the need to secure ongoing funding for operating subsidies and supportive services. The need for supportive services arises from the focus on serving the most vulnerable members of our communities, including formerly homeless individuals and families, who face multifaceted and compounding effects of poverty and marginalization. Supporting these residents to remain housed for the long term often requires the right package of services as well as trauma-informed property management practices – all of which increases the cost of providing these specialized housing types. Adding to this challenge is the fact that currently bond proceeds cannot be used to support ongoing services, and thus BAHFA's most likely source of near-term revenue would need to be paired with other sources to make these projects feasible – and there is a severe shortage of funding for operating subsidies and supportive services.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Establish set-asides or preferences for projects that include a minimum percentage of PSH or ELI housing or other projects that meet criteria aligned with Equity Objectives. The County of Santa Clara’s Measure A Program, which prioritizes funding for ELI developments, is one model for BAHFA to consider.
- Some stakeholders expressed that middle-income and mixed income housing are also priorities for their jurisdictions, especially as they strive to create enough housing for workers at all income levels. Explore the potential of mixed-income housing models that use rents generated from higher-income units to cross-subsidize ELI units. Facilitating the creation of mixed-income housing and integrated housing for people with disabilities (rather than segregating ELI units and accessible housing in separate buildings) is also an important strategy for advancing equal access to choice and opportunity.
- Explore partnerships with local housing authorities, which control the most reliable sources of funding for operating subsidies, to coordinate investments.
- Serve as a regional leader to promote evidence-based best practices for supportive services and trauma-informed property management. This can help ensure that residents of BAHFA-funded properties stay successfully housed and avoid retraumatization that comes with evictions or additional periods of homelessness – which can have a particularly detrimental impact on families with children and people with disabilities.
- Consider tracking and reporting on acutely low-income housing production and outcomes of acutely low-income affordable housing residents.

Balancing Social Mobility and Community Reinvestment Strategies

BAHFA seeks to address systemic racism in housing by advancing a “both/and” approach that increases affordable housing opportunities in historically disinvested communities facing displacement as well as in historically exclusionary communities. To deliver new affordable housing at the necessary scale in all of these place types, BAHFA must leverage its funds with existing housing production programs, the largest of which by far is the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. However, LIHTC funds and other state and federal programs often come with their own explicit geographic targeting criteria (e.g., TCAC’s “Opportunity Map”) or implicitly favor certain geographies over others (e.g., by privileging low cost areas).

The priorities set by these state or federal programs may not always coincide with BAHFA’s “both/and” approach yet will influence BAHFA’s expenditures to the extent that BAHFA seeks to take advantage of the leverage they offer. Furthermore, regular changes to these other funding programs create a level of uncertainty that presents a challenge for BAHFA to design its own programs in a way that complements or enhances the sources of leverage.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- To respond to the constantly evolving landscape of affordable housing finance, BAHFA will need to regularly evaluate its own program outcomes and adjust as needed to more effectively advance the Equity Framework objectives – especially ensuring an appropriate mix of investments that can redress the lingering impacts of systemic racism as those manifest in different place types.
- Join with affordable housing partners throughout the region to advocate for changes to state affordable housing funding programs that would advance equity through a “both/and” approach.

- In designing programs, carefully evaluate the potential impacts of various geographic targeting methodologies according to each program’s specific goals, with a focus on ensuring that impacted communities whom the programs are intended to reach are not unintentionally disadvantaged by the selected methodologies. Engage stakeholders in this process.
- Seek a balance between creating affordable housing opportunities in exclusionary jurisdictions that are resistant to new housing development and responding to the needs of communities who are more receptive to new housing and/or waiting for resources for shovel-ready projects.
- Explore opportunities to support projects that leverage statewide streamlining policies like [SB 35](#) to advance development in high opportunity areas.
- See also recommendations regarding “Defining and Advancing Community Priorities” under “Preservation Opportunities and Challenges” below.

Holistically Designed Housing

Numerous stakeholders articulated their vision for affordable housing that is designed according to far different standards than the status quo. Instead of buildings and units designed to be competitive for LIHTC funding, many envision homes that are designed first and foremost to meet the holistic needs of residents. This requires listening to and engaging community members in the design process, rather than assuming what residents want and need.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- To expand possibilities for affordable housing design, include funding programs that do not rely on leveraging LIHTC funds within BAHFA’s portfolio. Design funding sources to enable elements of holistically designed housing, such as incorporation of community serving amenities (meeting and gathering places, ground floor spaces for community-based anchor and cultural institutions), integration with broader community development (walkability and proximity to essential services, transit and employment opportunities) and alignment with equitable design standards (Housing Design Standards for Accessibility and Inclusion, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, LEED and National Green Building Standards).
- Prioritize the uniqueness of developers that are co-designing concepts with communities who are most impacted by housing unaffordability. For example, design NOFAs and RFPs to award points for projects that were designed through participatory or community-led processes that center the voices of marginalized residents. One model is a NOFA released by the City of Oakland in 2020 for the Bond Measure KK Acquisition & Conversion to Affordable Housing Program, which awards points for projects with tenant involvement.
- Play a leadership role in advancing universal design in new developments to ensure that people with disabilities have full access to affordable housing opportunities. Encourage BAHFA-supported projects to not only meet, but exceed, state and local accessibility requirements. One model to consider here is a NOFA released by the City of San Jose, which awards bonus points for “projects that are committed to increasing accessibility beyond the minimum ADA requirements and are open to feedback and input from people with disabilities.” Consider setting project requirements that ensure units designated for people with disabilities are integrated throughout developments, rather than segregated in separate developments. In addition to tracking the number and percentage of units meeting and exceeding accessibility requirements, monitor whether accessible units are being provided to the populations they are intended to serve, with accessibility features matched to the residents’ accommodation needs.

Equity in Resident Selection and Property Management in Affordable Housing Developments

Equity in BAHFA's Production Programs ultimately hinges upon who is able to move in and stay in newly built affordable housing units. It will be important for BAHFA to track resident characteristics (race, age, family size, income, disability status, etc.) at move-in to identify and address potential disparities in access.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Where disparities in accessing new affordable housing opportunities exist, examine barriers that are causing people in need to “fall through the cracks.”
- Ensure that information about new affordable housing opportunities as they come online are shared widely and made accessible. Partner with community-based organizations to conduct intentional outreach to marginalized populations, including people of color, immigrants and refugees, unhoused families with children, and domestic violence survivors as new affordable housing opportunities arise. Because applying for affordable housing can be an unfamiliar process that requires the disclosure of highly sensitive personal information, this form of outreach and application support is best conducted through trusted community-based institutions. Encourage affordable housing developers and managers to partner with schools, community anchor institutions, and legal aid organizations serving marginalized populations to facilitate outreach and greater understanding of community needs throughout the housing application process.
- Create standards for data collection practices that affordable housing applicants and residents can trust, and provide these as resources to property management organizations to help support and streamline data collection and reporting. Make disclosure of sensitive information voluntary, and implement rigorous privacy and data security protections for any personal information collected by BAHFA and housing providers as part of housing application and program evaluation processes. Provide resources for property managers to work with trusted community anchor and legal aid organizations to develop data security practices and gather resident data that supports program evaluation required by the Equity Framework.
- Encourage the formation of democratic, resident-led property management structures and equitable resident engagement processes in affordable housing developments.
- As part of funding application review processes, ensure that potential developers and property managers of BAHFA-supported developments have a demonstrated track record of equitable and ethical property management.
- Establish requirements for equitable tenant selection and protection policies, such as a standard fair chance housing policy, in BAHFA-supported developments.

Preservation Opportunities and Challenges

Embracing Innovation and Risk

Very few funding sources exist for the preservation of unsubsidized housing, especially for the conversion of unsubsidized units to community-controlled or shared equity models that are deed-restricted for long-term affordability. While these models have not been deployed at scale, they are an effective means of preventing displacement, maintaining the existing affordable housing stock, and advancing community self-determination, especially for marginalized groups who have been historically excluded from homeownership opportunities. Because these types of development are less familiar to financing institutions and also have a variety of financing challenges distinct from new affordable housing construction, regional leadership is needed to expand funding programs designed for them. BAHFA can lead the sector in designing innovative preservation programs, including those specifically for community-controlled housing.

Innovation requires accepting and planning for risk. Too often, investment in emerging developers embedded in BIPOC communities is deemed too great of a risk because they have not yet established enough of a track record for development. Stakeholders reported that this dynamic fails to recognize the value of community-controlled development organizations, and reinforces the structural barriers that limit the self-determination of BIPOC and other impacted communities.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Actively monitor the demand for and capacity to utilize preservation resources, seek innovative opportunities to support the growth of the preservation ecosystem's capacity, and when appropriate, seek to create a greater balance in funding allocated to each of the 3Ps. Create a preservation funding program and financial products that are specifically designed to work with community ownership models and/or small sites, separate from programs that are designed for a broader range of tenure and building types. For financial products designed for broader purposes, include terms that are accessible for community ownership models.
- Design funding programs to allow for greater flexibility around risk. For example, build in a loan loss reserve to underwrite promising nascent organizations and plan ahead a small percentage of potential loss, or explore partnering with CDFIs or other institutions to increase the availability of loan guarantees.
- Consider opportunities to catalyze investment by private capital and push the market in new directions, such as taking a first loss position.
- See also recommendations regarding "Capacity Building for Underrepresented Developers," under "Cross-Cutting Opportunities and Challenges" above.

Defining and Advancing Community Priorities

Stakeholders emphasized the importance of advancing equity-focused, community self-determination by investing in housing production and preservation developments that are identified by BIPOC and impacted communities as priorities. It is important to note that defining "community priorities" and assessing what projects have meaningful community support is a challenge. BIPOC and impacted communities are not monoliths, and groups within them may hold different, even conflicting, priorities. As BAHFA seeks to prioritize the needs of communities most impacted by housing unaffordability, BAHFA will need to develop a rigorous methodology for making equitable determinations about which projects most represent the widest held or highest impact, equity-focused community priorities and meaningfully advance community self-determination.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Explore setting community engagement standards for proposed projects and scoring criteria that award points based on community involvement or sponsorship by a community institution. As previously noted, one model is the City of Oakland’s 2020 NOFA for the Bond Measure KK Acquisition & Conversion to Affordable Housing Program, which awards points for projects with tenant involvement.
- Create structures and pathways through which communities can formally determine and articulate their priorities. Allocate funding to community planning and needs assessment initiatives led by organizations embedded in and accountable to BIPOC and other marginalized communities, which provide a foundation for future housing production and preservation project proposals. Invest in support for equitable community engagement experts, who can provide technical assistance to developers on community engagement or directly run community engagement processes themselves. An opportunity here is for BAHFA to collaborate with MTC and ABAG on their programs related to community planning and engagement.
- Support Community/Tenant Opportunity to Purchase policies (COPA/TOPA) and coordinate a regional COPA/TOPA strategy. Incentivize adoption of local COPA/TOPA policies through preservation funding programs.
- Experiment, assess, and iterate on BAHFA’s approach to identifying and uplifting community priorities through equitable community engagement practices and decision-making structures. Directly reach out to marginalized communities to identify community priorities, and create opportunities for community leaders to participate in evaluating and selecting project proposals for funding.

Additional Recommendations

The following are additional stakeholder recommendations related to Preservation:

- Integrate environmental sustainability objectives into preservation projects by incentivizing electric upgrades or other decarbonization strategies, and pairing funding for preservation projects with funding for transit and walkability improvement.
- Provide funding for rehabilitation of the region’s aging housing stock (separate from funding for acquisition), including upgrades for accessibility, environmental sustainability and safety. Funding for rehab is critically needed for both existing deed-restricted units as well as unsubsidized homes.
- Examine and address barriers to accessing preservation funding for projects in specific marginalized geographies with unique conditions, such as the Bayview in San Francisco, which consists of predominantly single-family homes.

Protection Opportunities and Challenges

Limited Funding to Match the Need and Urgency for Protections

Growing unaffordability, compounded by the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, has elevated the region's already critical need for protection programs. AB 1487 revenue requirements specify that protection funding must account for, at minimum, 5% of BAHFA's revenue spending. With protection comprising the smallest percentage of BAHFA's funds, securing enough funding to match the need is a challenge.

This challenge is further complicated by regulations that prohibit the use of certain forms of revenue, including those generated by a general obligation bond, for most types of tenant protections.

BAHFA must therefore prioritize strategies and financing products that generate revenue that can be reinvested in its protection programs, while also pursuing funding opportunities for which tenant protections are an eligible expense (e.g., philanthropic donations, federal/state grants, etc.).

Stakeholder Recommendations

- While focusing limited resources for maximum impact, also create protection programs that span a range of anti-displacement and homelessness prevention needs. In addition to emergency assistance and eviction protection for tenants at risk of displacement, the region needs protections for individuals living without permanent housing (people who are unhoused as well as people who are precariously housed and living in hotels, garages, or transitional housing) as well as “upstream” interventions to keep tenants stably housed. Upstream interventions include permanent housing subsidies, shallow subsidies, expanded outreach and education programs that raise awareness of tenants' rights as well as available financial and legal resources, and overall strengthening of the region's institutional infrastructure (across public, nonprofit, and legal services agencies) to deliver these and other essential forms of support. It is important to note that in addition to limitations on the use of general obligation bond revenues for protection programs, some upstream interventions – such as long-term or permanent housing subsidies for ELI households who are not seniors – are limited by AB 1487 itself.
- Pursue and support actions that eliminate or mitigate existing constitutional prohibitions on the use of general obligation bonds for tenant protections and related services. In addition, consider pursuing related amendments to AB 1487 that would expand eligibility of general obligation bond revenue to take full advantage of a potential constitutional change, as well as to enable a comprehensive suite of upstream as well as emergency interventions to protect against displacement and homelessness. When appropriate, seek to create a greater balance in funding allocated to Protections.
- Explore opportunities for impact through pilot initiatives that leverage existing resources and expertise throughout the region without requiring significant new funding. For example, create a platform for disseminating existing training and educational materials, especially multilingual resources, developed by legal aid organizations that can be shared with local jurisdictions across the region. Stakeholders reported a need for additional education for landlords and property managers on their responsibilities to their tenants, such as complying with fair housing and tenant protection laws, providing accommodations for and respecting the dignity of tenants with disabilities, and protecting tenants who are domestic violence survivors.
- Support local jurisdictions by providing guidance and convening peer learning spaces on how to most effectively deploy existing local funds for homelessness intervention and prevention programs.

Regional Leadership on Protection Policies

Many stakeholders emphasized the importance of pairing regional protection programs with local protection policies – specifically rent stabilization, just cause for eviction, and anti-harassment policies. While BAHFA does not have the authority to compel local governments to adopt these policies, it can lead the region by elevating the urgency of these specific policies as it coordinates with other regional agencies (e.g., MTC and ABAG) as well as local jurisdictions to, where possible, incentivize and support their adoption.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Promote best practices and emerging trends in tenant protections policies, such as pairing rent stabilization and just cause policies together, and limiting no-fault evictions of families with school-age children during the academic year.
- Support multijurisdictional and multisectoral collaboration on protection program administration to achieve greater economies of scale and strengthen the region’s tenant protection infrastructure.
- Provide funding and technical assistance to local jurisdictions and community-serving institutions to support their efforts to strengthen enforcement of existing tenant protection policies. The Alameda County Housing Secure Program, through which Centro Legal de la Raza provides legal services to residents in addition to technical assistance to Alameda County, is one model to explore.
- Explore collaborating with MTC on implementation of the Transit Oriented Communities Policy, which leverages transportation funding to incentivize housing policy adoption including tenant protections. Because construction of transportation infrastructure, particularly freeways, has produced racial exclusion and displacement, stakeholders expressed that it is appropriate for transportation funding to be leveraged to address inequities and benefit BIPOC communities.
- Play a leadership role in developing a shared regional understanding of the displacement dynamics affecting lower-income neighborhoods. In part, this could include a recognition that some public investments (e.g., in infrastructure, transportation, housing, etc.) that result in neighborhood improvements may have the unintended consequence of spurring displacement through increased land values. As a regional public agency with a core anti-displacement mandate, BAHFA is well positioned to collaborate with other public entities to elevate “investment without displacement” frameworks that encourage devoting resources to historically disinvested areas while ensuring that existing residents can remain to enjoy the benefits.

Data Collection and Analysis

To effectively target interventions, BAHFA will need to ground its program design process in evidence-based analysis of the underlying causes of homelessness and housing insecurity that different populations face.

Stakeholder Recommendations

- Examine the unique, intersectional barriers to affordable housing faced by marginalized groups, such as transition-aged foster youth, transgender people, undocumented immigrants and domestic violence survivors. Furthermore, engage with community-based organizations who are effectively reaching and serving such groups to learn from and expand their outreach efforts.
- Conduct a survey of affordable housing residents that tenants can participate in anonymously and comment on their experiences and concerns as residents.

- Establish a regional rent registry for both subsidized and unsubsidized rental units that tracks rents, evictions, lengths of tenancy, and ownership (e.g., units owned by LLCs or other corporate entities, number of units owned per landlord). Make registry data publicly available (with personal tenant information de-identified) to allow stakeholders and policymakers to conduct their own analysis of the data.

Additional Recommendations

The following are additional stakeholder recommendations related to Protection:

- Require or incentivize tenant protections in BAHFA-supported developments, and track tenant evictions and complaints in affordable housing developments to ensure that residents are treated equitably.
- Explore options for immediate or near-term action to support tenants at-risk of displacement following the lifting of COVID-19 eviction moratoria.
- In addition to emergency rental assistance, provide financial assistance for security deposits and relocation assistance for people who are displaced due to code enforcement and habitability issues.
- For a holistic approach to homelessness prevention, pair financial assistance programs with legal assistance and additional supportive services (such as mental and behavioral health services).
- Provide support to tenant associations, organizing efforts, and outreach initiatives that are working to make information on tenant right more accessible (e.g., easy to understand and available in different languages).

Conclusion

Many of the above recommendations and ideas have directly shaped the Objectives, Metrics, Goals, and commitments articulated in the final Equity Framework. As a whole, the stakeholder feedback documented in this report will continue to inform BAHFA's work as it seeks to develop and implement its Funding Programs in alignment with the Equity Framework.

This report is a starting point for further conversation with stakeholders on what it will take to advance equitable housing in the Bay Area. As described in the Equity Framework, BAHFA is committed to ongoing engagement with and outreach to stakeholders from across the 3Ps, with an intentional focus on equity-oriented organizations who are accountable to and part of communities most impacted by housing unaffordability. This engagement and outreach will continue in various forms as BAHFA works to maintain accountability to the Equity Framework moving forward.

2D. Guiding Questions for Program Development and Design

This set of guiding questions is a planning tool to help generate ideas and evaluate housing program strategies that further the Equity Objectives in the BAHFA Equity Framework. The guide provides open-ended questions designed to provoke analysis of how the potential program could best meet Equity Objectives. The guide is not a scoring system or checklist. It is intended to help BAHFA answer questions such as, “Which Equity Objectives can X program best achieve, and how?”

The guide has three parts: Part 1 sets the context for the program design by asking a couple of questions to identify any key limits or requirements related to the potential program, based on the likely funding source, BAHFA authority, or other factors. Part 2 asks questions about how the program is expected to perform on the relevant metrics and how it could be designed to meet the Equity Objectives. Part 3 asks about which metrics are most relevant to the program, and whether there is data or precedents showing how similar programs have performed according to these metrics.

Part 1. Limits and Requirements

- What is currently known about which funding source(s) are likely to be used?
- What requirements and limits would there be related to the likely funding sources? For example, what types of developers or organizations can we expect would be able to access these funds? What types of projects would be eligible and competitive for any assumed source of leverage?
- What limits or requirements are important to note that relate to BAHFA's legal authority and mandate?

Part 2. Alignment with Equity Objectives

2a. Global Questions about Expected Program Outcomes

Which Equity Objective(s) is this program intended/designed to meet? To the extent that the program is designed to meet multiple Equity Objectives, is one or more Objectives prioritized over the others?

- How is the program expected to perform on each of the relevant metrics?
- How many people/families can we expect the program to serve?
- How many housing units will the program provide? At what affordability level? Over what time frame?
- For innovative programs (e.g., Innovation Fund), is there a multiplier effect if the innovation is more broadly adopted in the sector?

How might this program affect or support BAHFA's efforts to meet other equity objectives that it is not designed for? For example:

- Does this program complement other BAHFA programs' ability to deliver on the Equity Objectives? For example, does it advance specific Equity Objectives that the other programs do not?
- Does this program help to mitigate any unintended consequences or undesirable benefits/burdens from the other programs?
- What potential undesirable benefits/burdens might this program create, and how will these be mitigated by the program's design or by other programs?
- For Production/Preservation programs, does this program generate revenue that can be used to support other Equity Objectives?
- For Protection programs, could this program be paired with or designed to complement BAHFA's Preservation or Production Funding Programs to strengthen anti-displacement goals?

2b. 3Ps Objectives

Part 2b provides questions related to the objectives under each of the 3Ps (Production, Preservation and Protection). Refer only to the questions under the program track(s) that are relevant to the program being considered.

1. Production

1.1 Produce more affordable housing, especially for extremely low-income (ELI) households

- What communities (geographic, demographic, household type) will be specifically targeted to benefit from this program?
- How will the program be designed to generate the targeted benefits (e.g., incentives, threshold requirements, or other mechanisms such as points or set-asides)?

1.2 Invest in historically disinvested areas

- What program elements will function to prioritize projects with demonstrated support from impacted communities?
- How will the program support investment in lower-resource communities and other areas subject to historic disinvestment?

1.3 Create affordable housing opportunities for lower-income households in historically exclusionary areas

- How will the program support new affordable housing opportunities in existing areas of opportunity?

1.4 Create programs that address homelessness

- How will the program be designed to ensure that people without housing benefit from the homes this program produces?
- How will the costs unique to permanent supportive housing be covered?

1.5 Achieve regional climate and environmental justice goals

- How will the program be designed to support projects with climate/environmental justice criteria (e.g., TPA or PDA location, LEED design)?

2. Preservation

2.1 Preserve expiring use affordable housing to prevent displacement

2.2 Preserve existing unsubsidized housing and convert to permanently affordable housing

For Objectives 1 and 2 (answer separately for each type of program, if relevant):

- What types of projects would be eligible and competitive for these funds? Considerations: How might this be shaped by requirements of other funding sources that would need to be leveraged?
- What types of developers can we expect would be able to access these funds? Considerations: How are these types of developers distributed across the region?

2.3 What communities (geographic, demographic, household type) will be specifically targeted to benefit from this program?

2.4 Target preservation investments for most impacted residents

- How can/will the program be designed to ensure that ELI households and people at risk of homelessness benefit from the homes this program preserves (e.g., by creating deeper affordability compared to market rate rents)?

2.5 Create opportunities for community-owned housing

- How can/will the program be designed to support projects that enable community control and/or equity growth, especially in EPCs and for households facing discriminatory and/or structural barriers to homeownership?
- What program elements will function to prioritize projects with demonstrated support from impacted communities?

3. Protection

3.1 Increase access to anti-displacement and homelessness prevention services

- How can/will the program increase access to tenant services that prevent displacement and homelessness?

3.2 Support tenant education and advocacy

- How can/will the program empower tenants through enhanced training, education, outreach and/or community resources?

3.3 Prioritize protections and investments in households and communities facing the greatest housing precarity

- How can/will the program reach and meet the particular needs of ELI households, residents of Equity Priority Communities, and other communities facing the greatest housing precarity?

3.4 Ensure adequate funding for tenant protections

- To what degree would the program meet the regional needs for protection services?
- How can the program leverage new revenue streams?

3.5 Elevate the urgency of tenant protections through regional leadership

- What research, coordination, or communications will occur through the program that elevate the urgency of tenant protections and adoption of best practices in the region?

2c. Cross-Cutting Objectives

4.1 Support community-based and community-owned organizations and developers

- How will inclusion be achieved for Community-Based and Community-Owned Organizations and Developers (e.g., complementary capacity building, set-asides, DBE/SBE requirements, accessible baseline requirements for developers, accessible program terms)? Could the program be designed to be more inclusive?

4.2 Support individual and community wealth building

- How will the program support historically marginalized people and residents historically excluded from homeownership to build wealth and access home ownership?

4.3 Serve as a regional leader on local equitable programs and practices

- How do jurisdictions need to be aligned with BAHFA's objectives for this program to be successful? What types of jurisdictions need to be aligned?
- What incentives, requirements or other mechanisms could be included in the program to encourage participation of local jurisdictions in achieving the equity objectives?
- Is the program designed to incentivize counties and other direct allocation jurisdictions to advance the Equity Objectives? If so:
 - i. Which objectives?
 - ii. What incentives, requirements or other mechanisms will be used to encourage participation of these local jurisdictions in achieving the program's equity objectives?
- What form(s) of technical assistance and/or model practices can be offered to support local jurisdictions' alignment with the Equity Objectives?

4.4 Commit to ongoing, meaningful, and equitable engagement

- What processes could be devised for historically marginalized community members to be involved in program design and/or evaluation?
- To what extent does the program respond to priorities, opportunities and challenges communicated by stakeholders through the Equity Framework public engagement process? Could the program be designed to be more responsive?

4.5 Secure more flexible and unrestricted funding

- Can/should the program generate new revenue that can be used for unmet Equity Objectives? If so, what features of program design would be necessary and what are the trade-offs?
- Will this program be able to access any flexible or unrestricted funding generated through other programs or funding sources? How can other programs or sources be designed to secure additional resources for this program?

4.6 Target most flexible BAHFA funding to accelerate AFFH

- Can/should the program be woven together with the 10% Local Government Incentive Program to address Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing? If so, what features of program design would be necessary?

Part 3. Knowledge Base on Relevant Metrics

Refer to the metrics associated with the relevant Program Track(s). What lessons can be learned from existing data, precedents, or other evidence about how programs similar to the proposed program have performed on any of the Equity Framework metrics that are relevant to this program?

2E. Data Sources for Metrics

Equity Goal	Metric	Data Source
Core Metrics	% cost-burdened renter households by race/ethnicity, income level, disability status	California Housing Partnership, American Housing Survey
	# and % of overall population experiencing homelessness by race/ethnicity, # and % of overall population and K-12 student population experiencing homelessness by race/ethnicity	CA Homeless Data Integration System, CA Department of Education
	% homeowners by race/ethnicity	American Community Survey
	Affordable housing shortfall	California Housing Partnership
	Wealth by race/ethnicity	TBD
1. Choice and Opportunity	For low-resourced neighborhoods, change in HCD/TCAC opportunity index compared to change in number/share of population by race/ethnicity	American Community Survey, CA Tax Credit Allocation Committee
	% extreme commuters by race/ethnicity, poverty level, mode of transportation, and housing tenure	American Community Survey, Bay Area Equity Atlas
2. Stable, Affordable Housing for All	% of homes meeting the American Housing Survey (AHS) Definition of physical adequacy	American Housing Survey, Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy data
	% of households living in overcrowded homes (more than one occupant per room)	American Community Survey
	% of regional housing supply accessible to people with disabilities	American Housing Survey
3. Security, Safety and Belonging	TBD	TBD. Evaluating progress towards this goal is likely best accomplished using qualitative methods.

Equity Goal	Metric	Data Source
4. Neighborhood Stabilization and Cultural Placekeeping	% of low-income households by race/ethnicity across areas with Estimated Displacement Risk (EDR)	American Community Survey , Metropolitan Transportation Commission, CA Dept. of Housing and Community Development
	Metro comparison of displacement risk (Bay Area compared to other metros)	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
	Change in number and share of BIPOC populations within Equity Priority Community (EPCs)	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
5. Community Self-Determination and Participation	% of elected officials by race/ethnicity	Bay Area Equity Atlas
	# of units stewarded by community-owned housing organizations	California CLT Network
	Voter turnout by race/ethnicity	Bay Area Equity Atlas
	Voter turnout for affordable housing ballot measures	Statewide Database
6. Repair	% of tracts designated as Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAPs)	American Community Survey , CalEnviroScreen
	% of tracts designated as Racially Concentrated Areas of Affluence (RCAAs)	CA Dept. of Housing and Community Development

Equity Goal	Metric	Data Source
7. Environmental Health and Justice	% of population by race/ethnicity and pollution burden quintile	American Community Survey , CalEnviroScreen
	% sensitive populations (elderly, children, people with disabilities, etc) by environmental exposure (air quality, sea level rise, wildfires, etc.) and adaptive capacity	Climate Change & Health Vulnerability Indicators for California
	% of population by race/ethnicity and Healthy Places Index quintile	American Community Survey , Public Health Alliance of Southern California
8. Prevention	% of population protected by rent stabilization and just cause for eviction policies	American Housing Survey
	# of households receiving Housing Choice Vouchers or other permanent housing subsidies	American Housing Survey

Data Challenges and Limitations

While the Equity Framework metrics – related to both the Objectives as well as the broader Social Equity Goals – will be vital to the design and evaluation of BAHFA’s program strategies, there are inherent challenges and opportunities related to data and metrics that are important to note.

Data unavailability, geographic inconsistencies of available data, and infrequency in new data made available by existing sources all represent challenges to BAHFA leveraging the Equity Framework metrics to advance equity. Additionally, indicators of progress, especially towards the longer-term goals, will be influenced by external factors that are beyond BAHFA’s direct control.

Other challenges are related to notions which are central to the Equity Framework, such as “community self-determination,” “cultural placekeeping,” and “belonging.” These multidimensional concepts were identified as critical to an equitable housing future in the Bay Area during the Equity Framework’s development and stakeholder engagement process, but nevertheless can be difficult to define and thus also difficult to measure quantitatively.

Despite these challenges, BAHFA has the opportunity to be an innovator in data collection and equity measurement for the region. Components of the Equity Framework that may be difficult to measure quantitatively may be better evaluated through qualitative methods such as interviews and listening sessions with residents and equity leaders. For some quantitative measures where data is lacking, such as wealth by race/ethnicity, BAHFA may consider partnering with other entities, such as the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, to produce this data at the scale necessary to track the reduction of racial disparities in wealth across the region, similar to the methodology used in the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco 2016 report, “The Color of Wealth in Los Angeles.”³

Endnotes

- 1 Ham, K., Strominger, M., & Gordon, L. (2022). Advancing Community-Controlled Housing Preservation through the New Bay Area Housing Finance Authority. <https://www.urbanhabitat.org/resources>
- 2 The Bay Area Housing Finance Authority is governed by Government Code Section 64500, et seq. (hereinafter “the Act”), which was first adopted into law by AB 1487 (Chiu, 2019). The Act was later amended by AB 1319 (Wicks, 2023). This Appendix retains references to AB 1487, which contained the operative statutory provisions during the Equity Framework’s drafting process.
- 3 Data revealing persistent racial disparities in wealth (difference between gross assets and debt) at the national level are available through the Federal Reserve’s 2019 Survey of Consumer Finances. However, data are not currently available at the metro level. One opportunity to consider is partnering with the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco to produce similar data that facilitates the tracking of racial disparities in wealth across the Bay Area.