

# Affordable Housing in El Dorado County: Dispelling Myths & Addressing Facts

Misinformation about affordable housing in El Dorado County (EDC) is spreading, often fueled by “Not in My Backyard” (NIMBY) voices that resist any development—regardless of its benefits to our community. Here’s the reality:

## **Thousands of seniors, workers, and families in EDC can’t afford to live here.**

- **3,555 low-income renter households** in EDC **lack access** to an affordable home.
- **70% of extremely low-income (ELI) households** spend more than **half their income** on housing—leaving little for essentials like food, healthcare, and transportation.
- Renters need to earn **\$35.21/hour (2.2 times the minimum wage)** to afford the **average asking rent of \$1,831/month**.

## **A Housing Crisis Hurts the Entire Community.**

When families and seniors spend most of their income on rent, they have **less to buy groceries, support local businesses, donate to charities, or invest in education and job growth**. Affordable housing means more financial stability for our residents and a stronger local economy.

Statistics Source: California Housing Partnership, 2024 Annual Housing Report

## **FAQs: Addressing Common Concerns**

### **"Isn't affordable housing just government handouts?"**

No. Affordable housing is **for hardworking community members** - teachers, nurses, first responders, retail workers, and seniors who have served our community for decades—who **can't afford market-rate rent** but are essential to our county.

### **"Won't affordable housing bring crime?"**

False. Studies show **no correlation between affordable housing and increased crime**. In fact, stable housing **reduces crime rates** by preventing homelessness and fostering community investment.

### **"We don't need new developments in EDC!"**

We do. EDC is facing a **severe housing shortage**, and without new developments, the crisis will only worsen. **More housing means more affordability and a thriving, inclusive community**.

Let's set the record straight: Affordable housing **isn't just a benefit—it's a necessity** for EDC's workforce, seniors, economy, and future. **Support smart, sustainable housing solutions**.

- *For further information about the El Dorado County Commission on Aging Housing Subcommittee, contact:*

Area Agency on Aging, Placerville Health and Human Services  
937 Spring Street, Placerville, CA 95667  
Phone: (530) 621-6150

