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# 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 cannot 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 other 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.

## 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**, 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 -- its a necessity** for EDC's workforce, seniors, economy, and future. Support small sustainable housing solutions!