



**HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**

808 Laguna Street, Santa Barbara CA 93101

Phone (805) 965 – 1071 • Fax (805) 564 – 7041 • TTY English (866) 660 – 4288 • TTY Spanish (866) 288 – 1311 • info@hacsb.org • www.hacsb.org

June 22, 2026 ^{K1F} Corrected letter 6-26-2026 - see highlighted added key word

***** FOLLOW UP COMMUNICATION REGARDING EHV PROGRAM FUNDING *****

Dear Participating EHV Property Owner/Landlord,

I am writing to follow up on the notice the Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara (HACSB) sent earlier this month regarding the anticipated end of federal funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program.

First, I want to thank you for your partnership with the Housing Authority and for providing housing to households assisted through the EHV program. Your participation has helped some of the most vulnerable members of our community secure and maintain stable housing. That has mattered deeply.

As we previously advised, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has informed housing authorities nationwide that federal EHV funding is being depleted earlier than originally anticipated. HACSB continues to estimate that, absent additional funding or other approved alternatives, federal EHV housing assistance payments may be exhausted this fall.

Since our prior notice, HACSB has just today received communication from HUD that their plan is to fund EHV Housing Assistance Payments through the remainder of this year. Additionally, we have been actively pursuing every viable option available to extend rental assistance for as long as possible. We are working with HUD, reviewing whether other HUD program resources may be used, exploring whether EHV households can be transitioned to the regular Housing Choice Voucher program, and seeking local and state funding that could support a temporary bridge program if federal solutions are not approved.

Our preferred outcome is to avoid an interruption in assistance for currently leased EHV households. Unfortunately, because of inadequate federal funding for the regular Housing Choice Voucher program, HACSB does not currently have the capacity to simply convert all EHV households to regular vouchers. We are asking HUD for flexibility and approval to use other available HUD program resources to help make such transitions possible. We are also continuing to advocate for additional federal assistance, including Tenant Protection Vouchers or other replacement funding.

If HUD does not approve those requests, we are also developing a local bridge-funding plan. While we cannot yet promise permanent replacement assistance, staff expects to bring a recommended continued funding plan to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners at its August 5th Board meeting. At a minimum, if federal EHV funding is depleted and no permanent federal solution is available, we expect to recommend that HACSB provide some level of bridge assistance for at least six months after the federal EHV funding ends, and hopefully longer if resources allow.

I want to be direct: the EHV program was created as a temporary federal program, and HACSB cannot spend funds that are not legally available to us. At the same time, we recognize that this situation creates significant uncertainty not only for participating households, but also for property owners who have relied on the Housing Assistance Payments made by HACSB on the tenant's behalf. We are taking that responsibility seriously.

For now, we ask that you continue working with your EHV-assisted tenants and with HACSB staff as we pursue these funding and transition options. EHV participants have also been informed that they must continue to comply with all program and lease requirements while assistance remains in place. HACSB will continue to provide updates as soon as more information is available.

Please understand that this situation is not the result of any action by the tenant, the property owner, or HACSB. It is the result of federal EHV funding being depleted nationally earlier than originally expected, without a permanent replacement funding source yet being provided.

We greatly value your continued partnership and your willingness to house EHV participants during an extremely difficult housing environment. We will continue doing everything within our authority and available resources to extend assistance, preserve tenancies where possible, and communicate with you as clearly and promptly as we can.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact Tiffany Morten at tmorten@hacsb.org or 805-897-1084, or Perla Vega at pvega@hacsb.org or 805-897-1024.

Sincerely,

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA



ROB L. FREDERICKS
Executive Director/CEO