



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

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IMPORTANT UPDATE REGARDING EHV PROGRAM FUNDING

August 19, 2026

Dear Participating EHV Property Owner/Landlord:

The Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara is writing to provide an important update regarding the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program and the households currently receiving EHV assistance at your property.

As outlined in our communication from June 22, 2026, the Housing Authority has been actively pursuing options to preserve housing assistance for EHV households as federal EHV funding comes to an end. We recognize that this uncertainty affects both the participating households and the property owners and managers who have partnered with us to provide stable housing.

HUD has notified the Housing Authority that EHV funding is currently expected to be available through December 31, 2026. This means that, based on HUD's current information, EHV Housing Assistance Payments are expected to continue through the end of this calendar year. However, HUD has not announced whether additional EHV funding will be available beyond that date.

At its meeting on August 5, 2026, the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners approved a plan intended to preserve rental assistance for currently assisted EHV households if federal EHV funding ends. Under this plan, and subject to HUD requirement and final implementation steps, the Housing Authority would use prior-year Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Fee reserves to help resolve the agency's regular Housing Choice Voucher funding shortfall. Once that shortfall is resolved, the Housing Authority would then work to transition eligible EHV households into the regular Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program, should other federal funding sources, such as Tenant Protection Voucher funding not materialize.

The Board approved this pathway that is intended to help prevent currently assisted EHV households in good standing from losing rental assistance when EHV funding ends.

There are still administrative steps that must be completed before any transition can occur. The Housing Authority must continue working with HUD, complete required program and eligibility steps, and determine the appropriate process for each household. We will communicate additional information as those steps move forward as we will need to work closely with you and your team for document signing, etc.

We also want to emphasize that any continued rental assistance will depend on the participant remaining in good standing with the Housing Authority program requirements and lease obligations. We have communicated this expectation directly to EHV participants.

We greatly appreciate your continued partnership and your willingness to participate in this program. Your cooperation has been instrumental in providing stable housing to households that have experienced significant housing challenges. We know this situation has created uncertainty for property owners/managers as well, and our goal is to provide as much clarity and continuity as possible.

The Housing Authority remains committed to doing everything within its authority and available resources to preserve housing assistance and minimize disruption to both participating households and property owners.

We will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available. If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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Sincerely,

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CITY OF SANTA BARBARA



ROB L. FREDERICKS
Executive Director/CEO