



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

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August 18, 2026

Update Regarding Your Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Assistance

Dear Participant,

The Housing Authority has been communicating with you over the past several months regarding the anticipated expiration of federal funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program. We know this has created real uncertainty and concern for you and your household. Please know that we understand how serious this issue is, and we have been actively working to identify every available option to preserve your housing assistance.

We are writing to provide you with our most recent update.

HUD notified the Housing Authority that EHV funding is currently expected to be available through December 31, 2026. While this extends the anticipated funding period, HUD has not announced whether additional funding will be provided beyond that date. We continue to work closely with HUD and are awaiting guidance on whether additional resources such as Tenant Protection Vouchers (TPVs), or other funding opportunities will be made available.

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 requirements and final implementations 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 not materialize.

This Board approved pathway 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 keep you informed as those steps move forward.

It is very important that you remain in good standing with all program and lease requirements. If you are eligible to transition to another voucher program, the Housing Authority will need to redetermine your eligibility. This would include reverifying your income and background and program compliance checks.

We understand that this has been a stressful and unsettling process. Our goal is to preserve housing assistance for EHV households and provide as much stability as possible. We will contact you again as soon as we have additional information about the timing and steps for any transition process.

Please contact your Housing Specialist, Tiffany Morten at (805) 897-1084 with any questions.

Sincerely,

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

ROB L. FREDERICKS
Executive Director/CEO