# Los Angeles Housing Market Past, Present, and Paths Forward

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# High home values nothing new, yet now historically high



# LA follows national trend of dwindling for-sale inventory



## Lowest-value homes in LA County appreciating fastest Growth since Growth since Growth since



# Strong recovery drives down negative equity in LA, but scars of high foreclosure rates still linger.



5 Source: Zillow Negative Equity, 2018 Q2 and Zillow Foreclosure Re-Sales %, December 2019.

## **Entry-level homes hit especially hard by the foreclosure** crisis in the LA metro

#### Share of foreclosed homes that are entry-level, middle-tier and high-end



6 Source: Zillow analysis of foreclosed homes between the beginning and end of the bust.

## Homes located in communities predominately of color were hit the hardest by the foreclosure crisis

Share of homes in Hispanic, black and white communities that were foreclosed



## **Rental values on a steady rise across LA County**



#### In some parts of the LA metro rents have remained relatively level the last five years



#### 5 Year Change in Rent

- < 10%
- 10% 20%
- 20% 30%
- 30%+

#### In many ZIP codes, rents are rising alongside national pace during the past five years



- 5 Year Change in Rent
  - < 10%
  - 10% 20%
  - 20% 30%
  - 30%+

# But across most of the region, rental prices have significantly outpaced the nation



- 5 Year Change in Rent
  - < 10%
  - 10% 20%
  - 20% 30% 30%+

# **Pockets of exceptionally hot rent appreciation within Los Angeles**



- 5 Year Change in Rent
  - < 10%
  - 10% 20%
  - 20% 30%
  - 30%+

# **High incomes don't fully cover for high burdens**



(Un)affordability means less money for living in LA than in SF

Zillow Economic Research | Source: Zillow Affordability and Median Income Calculation from US Census Bureau American Community Survey

#### The Typical Los Angeles Law Enforement Offical has Few Affordable Options in Many Neighborhoods

Share of 1-2 Bedroom 2018 Rental Listings Affordable on the Median Police Officer or Dectective Salary in Los Angeles County ZIP Codes.



#### The Typical Los Angeles Nurse has Few Affordable Options In Many Neighborhoods

Share of 1-2 Bedroom 2018 Rental Listings Affordable on the Median Registered Nurse Salary in Los Angeles County ZIP Codes.



The Typical Los Angeles Teacher has Few Affordable Options Share of 1-2 Bedroom 2018 Rental Listings Affordable on the Median Teacher Salary in Los Angeles County ZIP Codes.



# Share of income necessary for typical rental at historic high



# Affordability pinch most severe on the lower-end of the market



# As the share of income spent of rent rises, fewer people save any income



Share of Income Spent on Rent

# Findings from: Inflection Points in Community-Level Homeless Rates

## Chris Glynn, Thomas H. Byrne, and Dennis P. Culhane

In partnership with Zillow

## In Los Angeles, episodes of homeless on the rise, bucking national trend



#### When a community reaches an affordability tipping point, the link between rent burdens and homeless rates grows stronger



# If rent affordability worsens, the model predicts an increasing homelessness count



## And in Los Angeles this link is even stronger



# Paths forward on housing affordability

I. Address housing supply shortageII. Protect and boost incomes of economically vulnerable

# Public policy has the capability to:

- I. Address housing supply shortage
  - I. Influence cost of production
  - II. Incentivize certain types of housing
  - III. Fund/build it directly
- II. Protect and boost incomes of economically vulnerable

# In many high-priced metros, significantly more new jobs came to town than new housing units were built



## Home building behind historic average

Permits per 1,000 residents in previous 12 months



# Cities with the most land use restrictions see their home values grow faster when new jobs come to town



# Public policy has the capability to:

- I. Address housing supply shortage
  I. Influence cost of production
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  III. Fund/build it directly
  III. Protect and boost incomes of economic
- II. Protect and boost incomes of economically vulnerable







# Mild density housing options important source of low-cost housing in Los Angeles metro

Renter poverty rate by structure type and age of unit

	1959 or earlier	1960-1979	1980-1999	2000 or later
5-49 units	25.7%	21.2%	21.4%	24.6%
50+ units	29.8%	22.7%	24.0%	21.4%
Duplex/Triplex/Quad	22.1%	21.9%	23.2%	25.1%
Single family residence	21.6%	17.2%	18.6%	17.8%

# **Even modest densification can greatly impact supply shortage**

#### How much housing could modest densification add?

#### Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA CSA Homes in 2040 (millions)

- If 1 in 5 single-family lots \_ accomodates 4 homes
- If 1 in 10 single-family lots \_ accomodates 4 homes
- If 1 in 10 single-family lots \_ accomodates 3 homes
- If 1 in 10 single-family lots accomodates 2 homes
- If 1 in 50 single-family lots \_ accomodates 2 homes

Under status quo -

Existing today -



Source: U.S. Census; analysis and estimation by Zillow.

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  - I. Influence cost of production
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  - **III.** Fund/build it directly
- II. Protect and boost incomes of economically vulnerable

# Public policy has the capability to:

- I. Address housing supply shortage
- II. Protect and boost incomes of economically vulnerable
  - I. Rectify imbalance between need and funding
  - II. Improve efficiency of subsidies
  - III. Maintain control of affordable stock
  - IV. Administer rehousing and supportive housing programs

## **Rental assistance often a lottery for a lucky few**





Source: Zillow Analysis of HUD Vouchers and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015

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## Most units affordable for voucher holders in highpoverty neighborhoods

Share of Rental Listings Below 2018 Voucher Payment Standards

2018 listings for 1-4 bedroom units



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