



# 21 Elements — A Collaborative Approach to Housing

<http://www.21elements.com>

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## Quotes and Support

■ “21 Elements is a unique approach that not only helps all jurisdictions in San Mateo County effectively comply with State housing law but also creates an unprecedented working relationship along all 21 jurisdictions in the county to forge a common understanding of how best to face the challenge of meeting San Mateo’s and the region’s housing needs in a comprehensive manner.”

*Cathy Creswell, former Director, California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)*

■ “A phenomenal and unique partnership of communities that will help all of us work together in the future.”

*21 Elements participating jurisdiction*

■ “As a non-profit involved in affordable housing, we want to underscore the effective solutions and quality dialogue that the 21 Elements process has provided.”

*HEART of San Mateo County (non-profit housing advocate)*

■ “One of the innovative aspects of this project is that it switches the paradigm from jurisdictions working in isolation, to jurisdictions cooperating to solve problems.”

*Association of Bay Area Governments*

■ “This was probably the most successful process in which I have participated that actively engaged so many jurisdictions.”

*21 Elements participating jurisdiction*

## Housing Collaboration in San Mateo County

**Housing Planning** — 21 Elements brings together cities in San Mateo County to learn from each other and collaborate, helping them complete their state required Housing Elements, or housing plans. By providing data, sample language, and best practices, 21 Elements allows cities to write high quality Housing Elements with fewer resources.

**Housing Policy** — Often, cities in San Mateo County are struggling with similar housing issues and considering similar solutions. 21 Elements helps those cities find policies that are right for them, working with their neighbors in a supportive, cooperative environment. Respecting local control, 21 Elements makes it easier to adopt innovative policies that address important housing needs. From affordable housing to accessory dwelling units, 21 Elements has resources to help.

Thanks to the City/County Association of Government of San Mateo County, San Mateo County and all 21 jurisdictions for their financial support.

