



**TO: The Eastern Sierra Council on Governments**

**FROM: Patricia Robertson, Executive Director, Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc.**

**DATE: December 6, 2019**

**RE: Meeting 12/13, Agenda Item #9 – Update on housing activities from all member agencies**

Dear Member Agencies of the Eastern Sierra Council on Governments,

Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. (MLH) is a 501(c)3, State-certified Community Housing Development Organization serving Inyo, Mono, and Alpine counties. Our vision is that communities in the Eastern Sierra thrive because everyone has access to safe, affordable, quality housing. We work towards this goal by administering housing programs for jurisdictions, development of affordable housing projects, and facilitating discussions that spur the creation of long-term community housing assets.

I am writing to you today to let you know about some of the progress we have made in the past year.

Mammoth Lakes Housing currently administers \$1.7 million in active grant funds for first-time home buyer gap-financing and rehabilitation loans in Mono County and Mammoth Lakes. These funds will be used to assist income-eligible households either purchase their first home by filling the gap between what they can afford in a primary mortgage and the purchase price, or by providing loans and grants to eligible households for health and safety repairs. These programs have assisted households in Bridgeport, June Lake, Mono City, Lee Vining, Mammoth Lakes, and Crowley Lake working in the recreation, food service, hospitality, arts, and construction industries. Mortgage assistance loans are a popular and successful program and we are excited to continue to expand this service with additional funding sources and public partnerships.

In October 2017, MLH purchased a commercial property in Mammoth Lakes with the intention to convert the two buildings into eleven one-bedroom affordable apartments. This past year, the Board of Directors authorized an agreement with Kevin Daly Architects, we held a bilingual community design workshop, and we completed due diligence. Currently, we are completing funding applications to the State Department of Housing & Community Development for both HOME and CDBG which will be submitted in January and April 2020. Through generous community support we have secured funding partnership possibilities with IMACA, a partial seller land donation, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and Mono County Social Services. Depending on the grant awards, we anticipate occupancy in the fall of 2021.

Through our contract with the Town of Mammoth Lakes we held a myriad of successful, free community outreach and educational events. These included two first-time homebuyer classes, a Housing Legal Learning Day for landlords and tenants, as well as a community story-telling event. Lastly, I met with staff from Mammoth Hospital as well as both Inyo County and the City of Bishop to discuss potential partnerships on funding applications, development of new programs, and the creation of affordable housing opportunities for our neighbors. I hope that we can continue to build on these conversations and grow our local capacity for community solutions in the near-term.

As always, I am available to answer any of your questions or to brainstorm new ideas as we move towards solving our great regional housing need of 1,083 homes.<sup>1</sup>

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Best wishes,



Patricia Robertson  
Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> MLH Strategic Plan, 2019-2023, p. 7