

CC: City Council

November 20, 2020

Mayor Roland Esquivias

111 Civic Drive

Hercules, CA 94547

Dear Mr. Mayor Esquivias,

As your representative on the county's Advisory Council on Aging, I want to update you on my council activities over the past 3 years.

As you know, the 40 member Advisory Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors. Besides approving programs and advising the Area Agency on Aging, council members participate in work groups where most of our work is accomplished. These work groups include Planning, Membership, Health, Housing, Legislative, Elder Abuse prevention, and Technology which provides senior trainings. Each work group focuses on adequacy of services provided and advocacy for seniors.

Hercules is well represented on the Advisory Council. Gerald Richards is chair of the county wide housing committee and Jagjit Bhambra is on the legislative group. I am chair of the Membership Committee. This committee is responsible for recruitment of new members and ensuring continued commitment from current members. I attend four meetings per month.

The council's accomplishments in 2019 included:

- Developing and distributing an informational pamphlet about the Council. This serves as a recruitment strategy.

- Meeting and discussing senior issues with each district's BOS member. Jagjit and I met with Supervisor Federal Glover.
- Partnering with the county's Elder Abuse Prevention Project.
- Developing a mentoring project for a new member to team with an experienced member in order to better understand the workings of the council. A formal orientation is also provided.
- Holding a Well-attended conference on Master Plan on Aging in conjunction with Choice in Aging.
- Planning a Sept. 2020 educational conference on "Retiring in the Bay Area." Due to Covid 19, this conference was cancelled and rescheduled for fall, 2021.

This year, the Advisory Council met in person in January and February. In July, we returned to remote meetings of the council and work groups. All meetings will continue to be via zoom until our group can meet in person again.

At the local level, over three years, I have had lunch with seniors at the senior center in order to learn about their concerns. I provided new brochures and literature to the senior center as needed. I met and volunteered with the Friends of Hercules, especially in planning the Breakfast with Santa fundraiser. I now try to pass on senior related information via Nextdoor.

County-wide, Seniors identify two main areas of need- affordable housing and transportation. Members of the council attend county wide meetings to address these problems. An info fact sheet developed by the housing workgroup is attached.

I willingly serve as the representative of Hercules at the city council's pleasure. If you have questions, please contact me at 510 206-4894.

Sincerely,


Jennifer Doran

NO PLACE TO CALL HOME

EMERGING HOUSING STRUGGLES IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
MEAN OLDER ADULTS NEED YOUR HELP



Contra
Costa
County's
Growing
Number of
Older Adults

3rd largest
population in
the Bay Area



1 IN 5 RESIDENTS IS 60
YEARS OR OLDER

223,361

60+ POPULATION
TODAY

386,606

60+ POPULATION
IN 2030

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS 60+ BY CITY TODAY

35%

Walnut Creek (23,342)

19%

Concord (24,297)

18%

Richmond (18,962)

16%

Antioch (17,916)

MONTHLY MEDIAN SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME



\$1,738

71% of Contra Costa County
older adults live on this
income alone



MONTHLY INCOME NEEDED TO AFFORD BASIC NEEDS



\$2,287

Older Adult Who Rents



\$2,996

Older Adult with a Mortgage

High Housing
Costs Leave
Many Older
Adults on
Fixed
Incomes
Struggling to
Make Ends
Meet

HOUSING COST-BURDENED

Spending 30% or more of
income on housing

65%

Single older
adult with a
mortgage

54%

Single older
adult who rents

NOT ENOUGH AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO MEET THE NEED

12,585

Number of older adults 62+
on waitlists for subsidized housing

HOMELESS POPULATION IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

20%

55+ older
adults

88%

increase of
older
adults 62+
since 2017