

WHEREAS, quality affordable housing is vital to healthy, safe, vibrant, and diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic consequences have placed an unprecedented number of tenants at risk of eviction or significant rental debt and threatens the stability of non-profit and small-scale housing providers to provide stable affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, a key part of creating livable communities is by introducing and implementing policies that follows the "3 P's": Production, Preservation, and Protection; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, the City Council has passed numerous policies and funded multiple projects aimed at making Berkeley more affordable and accessible; and

WHEREAS, 2016's Measure U1 and 2018's Measure O, approved by Berkeley voters, have generated millions of dollars for protections of tenants at risk of homelessness and the production and preservation of affordable housing, including Berkeley Way, the largest affordable housing development in the City's history, and Jordan Court, a senior housing project that is the first affordable housing development in North Berkeley in decades; and

WHEREAS, a community based planning process is underway for housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, with the goal of building hundreds of below market rate housing units next to transit; and

WHEREAS, over the years, additional investments have been made around anti-displacement programs, helping hundreds of tenants remain in their homes; such programs became even more critical during the COVID-19 pandemic when financially impacted people were no longer able to pay rent but were able to receive assistance; and

**WHEREAS,** this week is part of a Bay Area Affordable Housing Month because the housing crisis can only be resolved when the entire 9-county region takes action to expand affordable housing and end homelessness.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jesse Arreguin,** Mayor of the City of Berkeley, does hereby proclaim May 13-20, 2021 as

## 25th ANNUAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING WEEK

and hereby launches the "Housing For All" campaign to educate and inform the public on the bigger picture by highlighting the work being done to make Berkeley a place we can all call home.

MAYOR SEARREGU

Jesse Arreguin

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Mayor

May 11, 2021