

Emergency Housing Voucher Crisis

- Created in 2021, the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program issued 70,000 vouchers to provide housing assistance to individuals and families who were homeless, at-risk of homelessness or housing instability, fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
- EHV's were essentially emergency Section 8 vouchers born out of the pandemic.
- Funding was supposed to last until 2030, but HUD has notified Housing Authorities across the country that final funding will be in 2026.

Hundreds of South Bay Households Now At Risk

- As soon as January, some households will no longer be able to make rent payments
- EHV's prioritized the most vulnerable – extremely low-income population
- Our cities without a Housing Authority rely on the County Housing Authority (LACDA) – ie. Gardena, Carson, Lomita, etc..
 - Need to determine how many of their EHV's are in the South Bay.

Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles	3,365
Los Angeles County Development Authority	1,964
Housing Authority of the City of Inglewood	91
Hawthorne Housing	67
Housing Authority of the City of Torrance	33
Housing Authority of the City of Redondo Beach	29

No Easy Solutions

- Staff will come back in December with advocacy letter for our Federal and State Officials.
 - This affects over 50,000 households across the country
- Inglewood, Hawthorne, Torrance, and Redondo Beach Housing Authority are moving EHV holders to the front of the Section 8 line.
- Replacing EHV holders with regular Section 8 will take at least 1-2 years.
- SBCCOG plans on using our LACA HSA Prevention funds to buy time – 6 months
 - However, not enough funds for everyone

Other Issues

- Most Housing Authorities are in Shortfall status, that is – they are paying more rents than their budget allows. HUD will not allow EHV to Section 8 swaps while in shortfall status.
 - Housing Authorities are seeking a Shortfall waiver
- Rents continue to rise, which exacerbates the problem
 - Cities may want to look into an Emergency Rent Stabilization Ordinance
- Cal Aim rent program maybe able to buy us an additional 6 months
- Will need to have our homeless case managers do problem solving with affected Households.