

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

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September 28, 2010

Mr. Terry Blount, Planning Manager  
Community and Economic Development Department  
City of Martinez  
525 Henrietta Street  
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Mr. Blount:

**RE: Review of the City of Martinez' Revised Draft Housing Element**

Thank you for submitting Martinez' revised draft housing element received for review on July 30, 2010, along with additional revisions on August 27, 2010 and September 28, 2010. The Department is required to review draft housing elements and report the findings to the locality pursuant to Government Code Section 65585(b). Communications with you and your consultant, Mr. Jeffrey Baird of Baird + Driskell Community Planning facilitated the review.

The revised draft element addresses the statutory requirements described in the Department's February 18, 2010 review. For example, the element now demonstrates adequate sites to accommodate Martinez' regional housing need based on vacant sites with appropriate density and size to facilitate housing for lower-income households. The Department commends the City's commitment to promote development affordable to lower- and moderate-income households on identified sites in the Downtown Specific Plan, including "priority catalyst projects" and modifying development standards. These efforts will maximize land resources while promoting a mix of uses and walkability. The revised draft element will comply with State housing element law (Article 10.6 of the Government Code) when adopted and submitted to the Department, pursuant to Government Code Section 65585(g).

The Department appreciates the effort and cooperation provided by you and Mr. Baird throughout the course of the review and looks forward to receiving Martinez' adopted housing element. If you have any additional questions, please contact Paul McDougall, of our staff, at (916) 322-7995.

Sincerely,

Cathy E. Creswell  
Deputy Director