CALIFORNIA IS FOR EVERYONE.

3 Years of Impact
Who we are

Our Mission

Make California an affordable place to live, work, and raise a family.

Achieving our mission will put California back on a path of broad-based economic prosperity, creating vibrant, inclusive, and liveable communities for everyone.

Our Goal

Increase new home construction to 500K per year by passing legislation to remove exclusionary barriers to home building.

Our Values

We believe in neighborliness and that communities are enriched and strengthened by openness and diversity.

We believe in empowering residents to remain and thrive in their communities as they welcome new neighbors.

We pursue excellence in all aspects of our work and hold ourselves accountable. We believe in evidence-based decision making and change our views to accommodate new information.
We’ll end the housing shortage by passing laws to:

**Upzone**
Legalize home building, especially near jobs and transit

**Streamline**
Accelerate the housing approval process

**Reduce Fees**
Prohibit high fees and expensive requirements

California’s housing shortage leads to poverty, racial segregation, environmental degradation, declining economic opportunity, and it prevents millions of people from achieving their full potential.

We write and campaign to pass legislation that removes exclusionary barriers to home building across California. In addition, we support and campaign for initiatives to create inclusive, vibrant communities for everyone.

**Our Strategy:** champion world-changing policy ideas that inspire and grow our movement, building the power and momentum we need to pass transformative housing legislation. Simultaneously, pass incremental but important bills to accelerate home building now.

“California YIMBY has completely changed the housing dynamic in the Capitol. Legislators regularly ask where the organization is on housing bills. California YIMBY is an essential partner in our work to enact a pro-housing agenda.”

Scott Wiener
State Senator
Together, we helped pass 8 bills, enabling 1.5M+ market-feasible homes*

**SB 167**
2017

Sen. Skinner
Requires local governments to approve zoning-compliant housing

**AB 2923**
2018

Asm. Chiu
Allows BART to build 20,000 homes on parking lots

**SB 330**
2019

Sen. Skinner
Accelerates housing construction and limits fees

**AB 68**
2019

Asm. Ting
Legalizes 3-unit homes everywhere in California

**AB 881**
2019

Asm. Bloom
Removes owner-occupancy requirement for ADUs

**AB 725**
2020

Asm. Wicks
Increases 4-plex zoning

**AB 1851**
2020

Asm. Wicks
Reduces parking requirements for houses of worship

**AB 3182**
2020

Asm. Ting
Ends HOA bans on renters

*According to a UCLA study, recent ADU laws will permit the construction of 1.5M new ADUs, given current costs and rent. Link: https://www.lewis.ucla.edu/research/market-potential-fourplexes/

Gov. Jerry Brown is joined by elected officials for the signing of legislation to address the state’s housing crisis, including SB 167. (Photo: Gary Reyes/ Bay Area News Group)
We campaign for vibrant, inclusive, and just communities

**Prop 1**
2018

$4 billion for homes for veterans, seniors, and families

**Prop 2**
2018

$2 billion for permanent, supportive housing for the mentally ill and homeless

**AB 686**
2018

Asm. Santiago
Codified Obama’s Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule before Trump’s repeal

**SB 946**
2018

Sen. Lara
Decriminalized street vending, encouraging entrepreneurship and access to goods

**AB 1482**
2019

Asm. Chiu
Caps rent increases to keep housing affordable, and protects renters from eviction

**Prop 15**
2020

“Schools and Communities First” reclaims $12 billion dollars every year for education and essential services

**Prop 16**
2020

Ends California’s ban on affirmative action and restores opportunity for all

Attendees at a Prop 15 signature gathering training and walking tour to inform people about property tax disparities and the harms they impose on our communities.
How we did it:
We hired a great team and built a machine to pass legislation


Research Solutions
Educate and Inform
Spearhead a Powerful Movement
Build a Winning Coalition
Elect YIMBY Candidates
A powerful and diverse coalition lobbies legislators in the capitol and in their districts

**Home Building Alliance (HBA)**
- Led by our lobbying team, the HBA consists of business groups, policy shops, and other influential organizations in Sacramento who move votes.
- Launched in 2020, we continue to expand our membership and support for housing in the Capitol.

**Grassroots Coalition**
- Located throughout California, these partners include local YIMBY, racial and economic justice, environmental, and transit advocacy organizations.
- Together, we change how voters and elected officials think about housing at the regional and state levels.

Select coalition partners

- BAYAREA COUNCIL
- SILICON VALLEY LEADERSHIP GROUP
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- OCPAC
- POVERTY ALLEVIATION COALITION
- CalChamber
- BAY AREA HOUSING EQUITY FOR ALL
- CBIA
- ACORN
- SPUR
- THE TWO HUNDRED
- THE CENTER FOR HOUSING INNOVATION
- UC BERKELEY
Building a California-sized movement

Led by Obama campaign veteran Konstantin Hatcher, our organizing program grows and supports YIMBY groups across California. These YIMBY volunteers advocate at the local and state levels.

Sacramento lobbying muscle alone cannot overcome widespread local opposition to legislative change. Our local volunteers convert their neighbors into YIMBYs and demonstrate to legislators that saying YES to housing is beneficial to their reelection prospects.

Our YIMBY Teams, digital program, and 80,000+ members across the state drive hundreds of in-person events and thousands of advocacy actions each year.

80,000+ members across California
We Educate and Inform

Our education and outreach efforts reach hundreds of thousands of Californians with information about the housing shortage and affordability crisis — and how to solve it.

Our Education Toolkit

Media Relations
Our efforts to end the housing crisis have been **featured in over 300 news outlets** across the state and around the country.

The Homework
Our bi-monthly newsletter delivers **synthesized, cutting-edge housing policy research** and curated news clips to an elite list of 1,200 reporters and legislative staff in Sacramento, along with our most active grassroots members.

Expert Panels/Events
Our monthly expert panels explore the **intersection of housing with other pressing issues**, including racial equity, climate change, and transportation.

Polling shows that an overwhelming majority of Californians support California YIMBY’s approach to solving the housing crisis.

---

**The Sacramento Bee**
On housing, as with coronavirus and climate change, California must follow the evidence

**The Mercury News**
2020 may be a good time to build a granny flat in California

**The New York Times**
California Has a Housing Crisis. The Answer Is More Housing.

**Curbed**
YIMBY in action: How pro-housing policies became a political rallying cry

**Mother Jones**
Everyone Agrees California Has a Housing Crisis. Trying to Fix It Has Become a Battle.
Legislators want to partner with us and we’re electing pro-housing candidates

The California YIMBY Victory Fund, our Political Action Committee (PAC), helped elect housing champions Asm. Buffy Wicks and Sen. Anna Caballero in 2018. The PAC also permits us to demonstrate to legislators that we’ll have their backs if they take heat for voting for our legislation.

We’ve either sponsored or acted as a lead advocate for 8 bills with 6 legislators. Legislators want to work with us because we deliver policy expertise and votes.

“Housing is not an ‘issue’ in California, we are in a crisis. All of us as legislators have a responsibility to find solutions and say, Yes In My Back Yard.”

Lena Gonzalez
State Senator
Doubling-down on remote engagement

We launched a new virtual event program in Spring 2020 to continue to strengthen and grow the YIMBY movement during the COVID-19 pandemic, and build relationships with influential legislators and administration officials.

Expanding our virtual events enabled us to reach new audiences who may not have engaged with us at in-person events. Beyond Zoom engagement, we increased our reach by streaming to Facebook Live, Twitter, and YouTube.

Select Speakers

- Rob Rivas
  Assemblymember
- Tia Boatman Patterson
  Executive Director, CA Housing Finance Agency
- Warren Logan
  Policy Dir. of Mobility & Inter Agency Relations, Oakland
- Richard Rothstein
  Author, Color of Law
- Adam Briones
  Director, Economic Equity
  Greenlining Institute
- Lena Gonzalez
  State Senator
- Warne Logan
  Policy Dir. of Mobility & Inter Agency Relations, Oakland
- Rob Rivas
  Assemblymember
- Tia Boatman Patterson
  Executive Director, CA Housing Finance Agency

The Results*

- 13 Statewide Education Events
- 71 Speakers
- 4,381 Participants
- 1,147 New Activists

2 Virtual Lobby Day Events that led to increased support for our priority bills

Our digital advocacy efforts have lead to 10,000+ actions including phone calls and emails to legislators.

We hosted the largest virtual lobby day of any housing organization this year.

*accurate as of September 1, 2020
In partnership with Sen. Scott Wiener, we proposed ambitious legislation (SB 827 and SB 50) to legalize multi-family housing near jobs and transit, bringing more naturally affordable housing to every community in California.

While these bills did not become law, they redefined the scale of the policy response needed to end our housing shortage and inspired reforms from New Zealand to Virginia.

When combined with housing approval streamlining and fee reduction bills, **SB 827 or SB 50 would have ended the housing shortage in California**, allowing the construction of 3.4M market-feasible homes in the Bay Area alone.

We continue to build momentum. These ideas expanded the horizon of politically acceptable housing policy solutions, creating space for us to pass ambitious ADU legislation and positioning us for future victories.
Enabled 1.5M new homes by passing major ADU legislation

We partnered with Asm. Phil Ting (author of AB 68) and Asm. Richard Bloom (author of AB 881) to create a booming accessory dwelling unit (ADU) market, spawning new companies and expanding access to an estimated 1.5M new homes for Californians.

**AB 68 and AB 881** removed the biggest regulatory barriers to scaling the ADU market by:

- Standardizing set-back requirements statewide
- Prohibiting local rules that require the owner to live on the premises
- Permitting 1 backyard cottage and 1 attached ADU on each eligible parcel

*The passage of AB 68 and AB 881 inspired James Connolley, Co-founder and CEO of Habitat ADU, to launch his business and helped John Geary, Co-founder of Abodu, build significantly more new backyard homes.*

"Renters deserve access to high-opportunity neighborhoods. I was proud to partner with California YIMBY to enable the construction of 1.5M ADUs, including in areas with good schools, good jobs, and life-enhancing amenities."

Phil Ting
Assemblymember
Accelerated approval of new homes by outlawing common NIMBY tactics

Housing has a collective action problem—local governments and Not In My Back Yard (NIMBY) activists don’t want new housing built in their area, but they support housing “somewhere more appropriate.” These self-interested actors use every legal avenue available to block housing construction. We were proud to work with Senator Nancy Skinner to limit local obstruction. Her legislation:

- **Imposes significant fines** on cities that capriciously deny permits for zoning-compliant housing (SB 167)
- **Raises the evidentiary standard** for permit denials (SB 167)
- **Makes common NIMBY exclusionary tactics illegal** (SB 330):
  - Bans local housing moratoria
  - Limits the number of approval hearings allowed
  - Outlaws imposing new fees for housing in the approval process

“NIMBY pressure has caused California local governments to block new housing for decades. California YIMBY is the first statewide organization to effectively counter that narrative and pass legislation that has expedited new home building and brought down housing costs throughout California.”

San Francisco Chronicle

‘There’s no stopping it’: Bay Area cities reluctantly approve housing in face of state laws

Nancy Skinner
State Senator
Obsolete parking lots will become vibrant communities

Transit, climate, and housing policy are inextricably linked. AB 2923 (authored by Asm. David Chiu) and AB 1851 (authored by Asm. Buffy Wicks) are great examples of win-win-win policies.

- BART now has the authority to build high-density homes on acres of parking lots. We expect this policy to create 20,000 homes and 4.5M ft² of commercial space. (AB 2923)

- Religious institutions may significantly reduce parking when building homes on their land. (AB 1851)
Restored pathways to economic opportunity

We sponsored legislation authored by Asm. Wicks and Asm. Ting in 2020 to mitigate exclusionary NIMBY policies that deny renters and low-income people equal access to upward economic mobility:

- Cities are now required to zone for 4-plexes in many moderate and above-moderate income areas (AB 725).
- Homeowners associations are no longer allowed to ban renters from their communities and their high-performing school districts (AB 3182).

“I will always show up for housing. It’s a critical social justice issue, and I appreciate having California YIMBY as a strong partner in Sacramento.”

Buffy Wicks
Assemblymember
Our Leadership

Kim-Mai Cutler
Partner, Initialized Capital

Nat Friedman
CEO, GitHub

Zack Rosen
CEO, Pantheon

Our Board

Brian Hanlon
CEO & Co-founder

Melissa Breach
COO & SVP

Konstantin Hatcher
Organizing Director
In 2008, my mom was able to scrape enough money together to buy our home in Lincoln Heights, but after a car accident in 2009 and prolonged health complications, we were evicted right before Christmas in 2012. We lost many of our belongings, and in many ways we had to start over.

Since then, we’ve had to move four times, twice because the landlords sold the overvalued homes we were renting. My mom and I still live together, but we are anxious every day about being displaced again. We fix stuff around the house and swallow the cost because we are afraid our landlord might decide we are a burden and ask us to leave, which is especially stressful during a pandemic.

This spring, I graduated with a Master of Urban Planning from USC Price — I want to be a voice in a field that is predominantly white and male. I’m motivated to find solutions to California’s housing crisis and am proud to have contributed to California YIMBY’s Women of Color Report. I believe that we can build more homes in our neighborhoods without displacing long term residents with community-driven design and authentic engagement.

More than anything, I want to live in a California where people like me can afford to be homeowners in the communities we call home.

Victoria Urenia
Masters of Urban Planning, USC
California YIMBY Women of Color Report Collaborator
On most days, I wake up at 4:00 am to drive from Sacramento to the South Bay Area and return home at around 9 or 10 pm. I can’t afford to live near my job, and super commuting has brought my life to a standstill.

I am currently in the Marine Corps Reserves and have to complete just 3 more classes to transfer to a four-year university. But, to afford to live in Sacramento, I needed to take one of the only well-paying jobs available to me: working security at a South Bay technology company.

Many of my coworkers commute from Los Banos, Salinas, and Fresno. One used to commute nearly 400 miles from San Bernardino. They all have families, but they have to sleep in their cars four to five days a week.

The people who live in the South Bay Area have made sleeping in cars illegal. I used to have to sleep in my car when it was unsafe for me to drive the long hours home—I feared being fined every day. They are unwilling to acknowledge that people who work in their communities are being forced to live in their cars.

And what are we supposed to do? We can’t build in the Bay Area, we can’t build in the Central Valley, we can’t build anywhere in California. All of the well-paying jobs are in the Bay Area, and our rents just keep rising in the Central Valley. More people are forced to drive every day and our commutes just keep getting longer. There is no place for us to live.
JOIN US TO END THE HOUSING SHORTAGE & BUILD A CALIFORNIA FOR EVERYONE.
cayimby.org