



Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHSa)'s Inaugural Summit Marks Beginning of New Approach to Housing Affordability across L.A. County

The independent agency unveiled a bold five-year plan to reduce the cost of affordable housing, get units built faster and tackle LA County's affordable housing crisis

Long Beach, CA; June 26, 2025 — The [Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency](#) (LACAHSa) hosted its inaugural Housing Solutions Summit today, marking a pivotal moment in the region's effort to address one of the largest social crises of our time — housing affordability. At the summit, the agency unveiled its [five-year plan](#) to make housing more affordable and prevent homelessness from happening in the first place.

LACAHSa (pronounced “La Casa”) is an independent countywide agency that was born out of years of advocacy by local organizations, housing experts, elected officials, and people who have experienced homelessness and housing instability. Its purpose is to test and scale up new ideas to make housing more affordable and prevent homelessness.

The first annual Housing Solutions Summit underscored LACAHSa's unique role as an independent agency focused solely on scalable, strategic housing solutions. This independence enables nimble coordination across LA County's municipalities, emphasizing speed, transparency, and fiscal accountability to maximize impact - a first for the region.

LACAHSa's ambitious five-year plan centers on three core strategies:

- **Affordable Housing Production:** Accelerating the development of affordable housing units by leveraging innovative financing models that can reduce construction costs by 20%, enabling faster delivery of quality homes.
- **Affordable Housing Preservation:** Protecting existing affordable housing units through preservation programs that maintain housing stability and prevent displacement.
- **Renter Protections & Homelessness Prevention:** Prioritizing prevention efforts such as rental assistance, legal aid, and stabilization programs to keep people in their homes before they face homelessness.

This comprehensive approach is supported by a stable funding source through Measure A, a half-cent countywide sales tax dedicated to homelessness services and affordable housing voted on and approved by LA County citizens. Additional funding for LACAHSa is provided by LA County loan agreements, grants, philanthropic support, and partnerships with Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).

LACAHSa's plan includes enhanced accountability with binding funding agreements and transparent public dashboards tracking expenditures and outcomes. The agency has embedded accountability directly into the funding framework, with every dollar coming with a binding funding agreement that specifies its purpose and trackability.



The summit featured engaging panels, interactive sessions, and expert discussions on the critical components of the plan. **Ezra Klein**, *New York Times* columnist and bestselling author, delivered the keynote address, providing a national perspective on housing affordability challenges and innovative policy solutions.

LACAHS Board Chair and Mayor of Long Beach, **Rex Richardson**, emphasized the urgency of the crisis and LACAHS's commitment: *"Affordable housing is not just a policy priority—it is a moral imperative. LACAHS is dedicated to driving solutions that ensure every family in LA County has a safe, stable home. This is a turning point for how we address affordable housing in the county, and we intend to deliver results that contribute to a thriving, resilient economy for everyone."*

"While the challenges before us are immense, LACAHS's five-year plan lays out a clear, actionable path to build more homes, preserve affordability, and prevent homelessness before it starts," added Interim CEO **Ryan Johnson**. *"We are committed to delivering measurable outcomes that transform lives and communities across our county for everyone to see."*

"LACAHS's five-year plan represents the kind of bold, coordinated leadership we need from the public sector to address LA County's housing crisis at scale," said **Mary Leslie**, President, Los Angeles Business Council. *"By embracing innovative financing and prioritizing prevention, production, and preservation, LACAHS is not only tackling the root causes of housing instability—it's laying the foundation for a more equitable, economically resilient region. The business community stands ready to partner in making this vision a reality."*

"The labor movement and affordable housing in Los Angeles are directly intertwined," said **Yvonne Wheeler**, President of the LA Federation for Labor. *"We're thrilled to see that LACAHS is taking a fresh approach to scale housing construction and keeping people housed, which is integral to workforce stability in the county."*

LACAHS will continue refining its five-year plan with input from regional partners, ensuring the agency remains responsive to the evolving needs of LA County's diverse communities. The agency's leadership also announced plans to expand staffing and launch a national search for a permanent CEO, underscoring its commitment to effective governance and accountability.

About LACAHS

The Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS) is a regional, intergovernmental agency established to tackle the housing crisis through bold, collaborative action. Created by California state legislation and supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and partner cities, LACAHS brings together local leaders to accelerate affordable housing production, preserve existing housing, and prevent displacement across the region. To learn more, visit lakahsa.org.

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