



Housing FAQ

City of Walnut Creek Frequently Asked Housing Questions



1. What affordable housing programs are there in the City of Walnut Creek?

There are over 500 affordable homes in the City of Walnut Creek, including both rental and ownership units. In addition, the City offers down payment assistance through the First Time Home Homebuyer Loan Program.

Affordable Rental Opportunities: The City works with developers to create affordable rental units by restricting the rents of these units so they are affordable to lower income households. Please refer to the City's list of affordable rentals or visit City's Affordable Rental Housing webpage for more information or to contact the developments for waiting and application inquiries. Please note, the City does not accept, process, or handle any applications and waiting lists.

Below Market Rate Home Ownership Opportunities: Developments located throughout the City of Walnut Creek feature below market rate (BMR) homes. Ownership BMR homes are offered at restricted sales prices to households with low to moderate incomes. Available BMRs for sale and additional information are posted on the Below Market Rate Homeownership Program webpage.

First Time Homebuyer Loan Program: The City's First Time Homebuyer Program was established in 1994. The program assists low and moderate income households with the purchase of housing within the City by giving the household a loan to assist with a portion of the down payment. Interest-free equity share loans are available to qualifying homebuyers. For more information, please see the brochure or visit the City's First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program webpage.

Rehabilitation Loan & Emergency Grant Program: The City contracts with Habitat for Humanity to provide low-interest rehabilitation loans and emergency grants to lower income Walnut Creek home-owners for the purpose of improving their Walnut Creek Home. For more information, please see the brochure.

2. Where can I find affordable housing for seniors in the City of Walnut Creek?

Four developments in the City of Walnut Creek offer affordable housing specifically for seniors:



Villa Vasconcellos is a 69-unit affordable housing apartment community located on 1515 Geary Road. It offers one-bedroom apartments for households with at least one member age 55 or older. Please contact the leasing office at (925) 465-5462.



Casa Montego is an 80-unit affordable housing apartment community located on 1485 Montego Drive. It offers studios and one-bedroom apartments for households with at least one member age 62 or older. Please contact the leasing office at (925) 944-9159.



Montego Place is a 33-unit affordable housing apartment community located on 180 La Casa Via. It offers one-bedroom apartments for households with at least one member age 62 or older. Please contact the leasing office at (925) 944-9159.



Tice Oaks Apartments is a 90-unit affordable housing apartment community located on 2150 Tice Valley Boulevard. It offers one-bedroom apartments for households with at least one member age 62 or older. Please contact the leasing office at (925) 943-1670.

3. How do I apply for a Section 8 (Housing Choice) voucher to rent in the City of Walnut Creek?

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program is administered by the Housing Authority of Contra Costa County (HACCC). For more information, contact HACCC at:

Address: 333 Estudillo Street, Martinez, CA 94553

Phone: (925) 957-1685

Website: www.contracostahousing.org

4. How do I get financial assistance for home repairs or maintenance?

The City of Walnut Creek contracts with the Habitat for Humanity to offer home repair grants and rehabilitation loans. Grants and loans are available to eligible low-income households. For more information, contact Habitat for Humanity at:

Contact: Michael Molinari
Home Rehab and Repair Hotline: (510) 803-3313
Email: homerepair@habitatebsv.org
Website: www.habitat.org

5. How do I get help with discrimination by a landlord or property management company or legal assistance?

Eden Council for Hope & Opportunity (ECHO Housing) provides fair housing support and assistance for Dublin residents. ECHO offers information regarding California law and housing discrimination. For more information, contact ECHO Housing at:

Address: 301 West 10th Street, Antioch, CA 94509 (Other locations in Hayward, Livermore, and Oakland)
Phone: (855) ASK-ECHO
Website: www.echofairhousing.org

California Department of Consumer Affairs has assists tenant landlord concerns that are not discrimination-related. For more information and to see the California Tenants Guide to Residential Tenants' and Landlords' Rights and Responsibilities, contact California Department of Consumer Affairs at:

Phone: (800) 952-5210
Website: www.dca.ca.gov

Bay Area Legal Aid assists low income Bay Area residents with free legal assistance, including legal advice and counsel, effective referrals, and legal representation. For more information, contact ECHO Housing at:

Address: Contra Costa County- 1025 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond, CA 94801
Phone: (800) 551-5554, (510) 233-9954
Website: www.baylegal.org

6. How do I get financial assistance with move-in costs or delinquent rent?

Eden Council for Hope & Opportunity (ECHO Housing) offers a Rental Assistance Program (RAP) that can assist with move-in costs or delinquent rent due to temporary financial setbacks. The RAP helps by arranging a guaranteed repayment contract between the tenant and the landlord. For more information, contact ECHO Housing at:

Address: 301 West 10th Street, Antioch, CA 94509 (Other locations in Hayward, Livermore, and Oakland)

Phone: (855) ASK-ECHO

Website: www.echofairhousing.org

Abode Services offers financial assistance through a rapid rehousing program and secures permanent homes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. For more information, contact Abode Services at:

Address: 40849 Fremont Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94538

Phone: (510) 284-2135

Website at www.abodeservices.org

Shelter, Inc. provides one-time assistance with a portion of either the move-in or stay-in costs for rental housing. For more information, contact Shelter, Inc. at:

Address: 1333 Willow Pass Road, Suite 206, Concord, CA 94520

Phone: (925) 338-1038 from 9am-4pm Monday-Friday (except holidays)

Website: www.shelterinc.org

7. What resources and assistance are there for the homeless?

Trinity Center is a non-residential program serving homeless and working poor adult men and women in Walnut Creek and Central Contra Costa County. For more information, contact Trinity Center at:

Address: 1924 Trinity Avenue, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

Phone: (925) 949-8712

Website: www.trinitycenterwc.org

Email: info@trinitycenterwc.org

Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-4pm; and Wednesday Noon-4pm

White Pony Express helps hunger and poverty in Contra Costa County through its Food Rescue, Free General Store, and White Pony Inn programs. For more information, contact White Pony Express at:

Address: 3380 Vincent Road, Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523

Phone: (925) 322-0604

Website: www.whiteponyexpress.org

Shelter, Inc. provides homeless prevention services to Contra Costa residents. Services include rental assistance, case management, and housing counseling. For more information, contact Shelter, Inc. at:

Address: 1333 Willow Pass Road, Suite 206, Concord, CA 94520

Phone: (925) 335-0698

Website: www.shelterinc.org

Email: shelter@shelterinc.org

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm

Monument Crisis Center is a community-based non-profit family resource center for Central and East Contra Costa County. Located in Concord, the Center offers nutritious food, quality resources and referrals to low-income individuals and families in order to help them become stable and secure in the community. For more information, contact Monument Crisis Center at:

Address: 1990 Market St, Concord, CA 94520

Phone: (925) 825-7751

Website: www.monumentcrisiscenter.org

Contra Costa Health Services Council on Homelessness provides assistance with showers, food, laundry, benefits enrollment, substance use disorder services and screening and referrals for housing and utility assistance. For more information, contact Contra Costa Health Services at:

Address: 50 Douglas Drive, Suite 310, Martinez, CA 94553

Phone: 211

Homeless Services Department: (925) 313-7700

Prevention and Homeless Services Phone: (925) 338-1038

General Inquiries Phone: (925) 335-0698

Contra Costa Crisis Center Homeless Hotline: 1 (800) 808-6444

Website: www.cchealth.org

The Walnut Creek Police Department's webpage has information on how the police work to address homelessness and resources for businesses, property owners, and

residents interested in solutions to homelessness. For more information please visit their website at www.walnut-creek.org/departments/public-safety/police/homeless

8. What housing programs and resources are there in the region and state?

Housing and financial assistance is also available to home buyers through regional and State programs.

Contra Costa County Mortgage Credit Certificates Program (MCC Program) is a homebuyer assistance program. The MCC provides qualified first time homebuyers with a federal income tax credit. For more information, contact Contra Costa County at:

Address: 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

Phone: (925) 674-7885

Website: www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/4768/Mortgage-Credit-Certificate-Program

The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) works to serve California veterans and their families. CalVet Home Loans helps to meet veterans' home financing needs. For more information, contact Calvet Home Loans at:

Phone: (866) 653-2510

Website: www.calvet.ca.gov/HomeLoans

California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) offers a variety of loan programs to help you purchase a home in California. For more information, contact CalHFA at:

Phone: (877) 922-5432

Website: www.calhfa.ca.gov

9. Where can I access a copy of the City's Housing Element?

The Housing Element is a component of the City's General Plan, a comprehensive, long-term plan for the physical development of the City. The Housing Element addresses the existing and projected housing needs for all economic segments of the community, and is the only component of the General Plan that is subject to State review and certification. The City's Housing Element was last updated in 2014 for the 2015 to 2023 planning period. See a copy of the adopted City of Walnut Creek Housing Element on the City website at www.walnut-creek.org/departments-services/planning-zoning/landscaping/housing-programs.