

Housing & Environmental Justice: Housing Policies to Achieve Climate Equity





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A Climate Resilient Future - How do we get here?

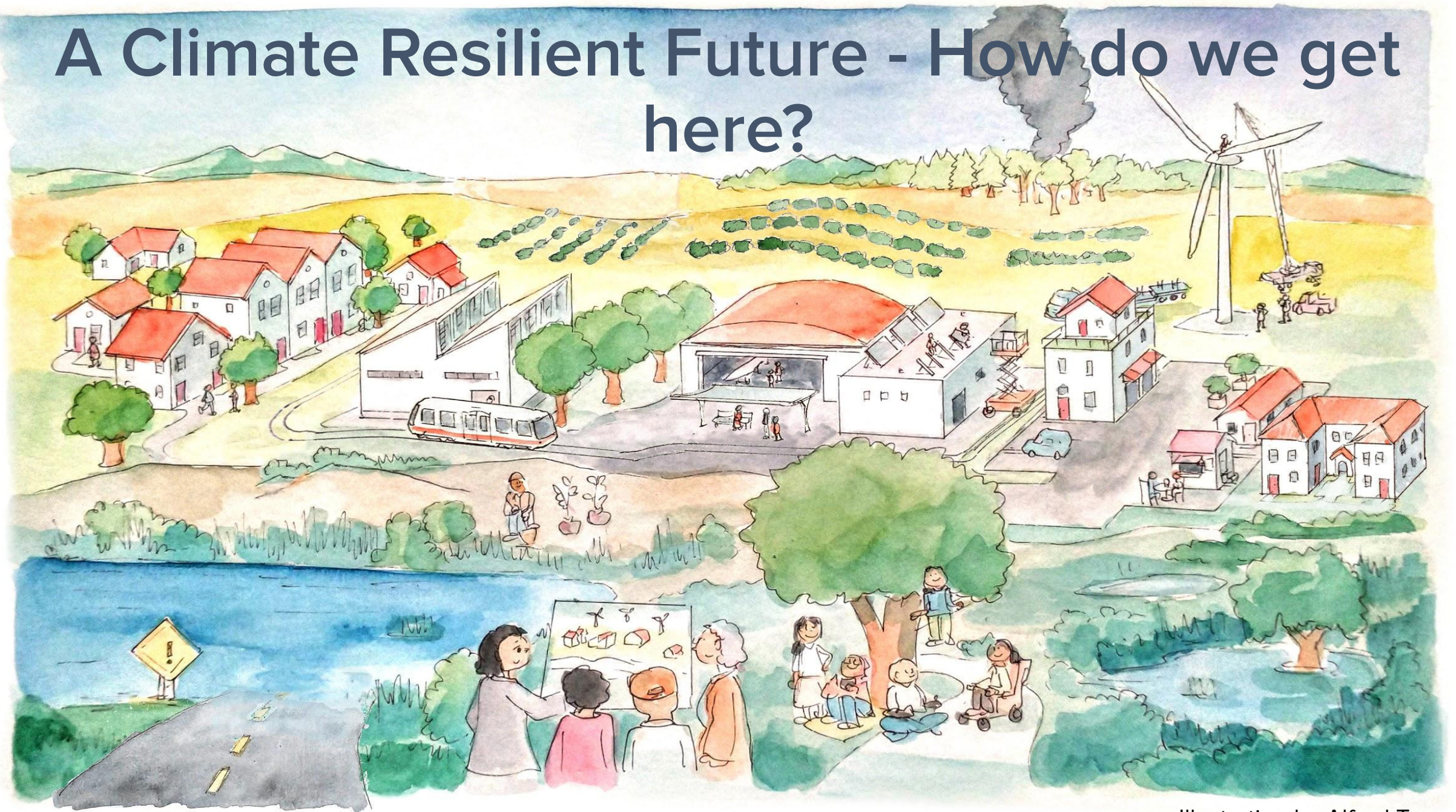
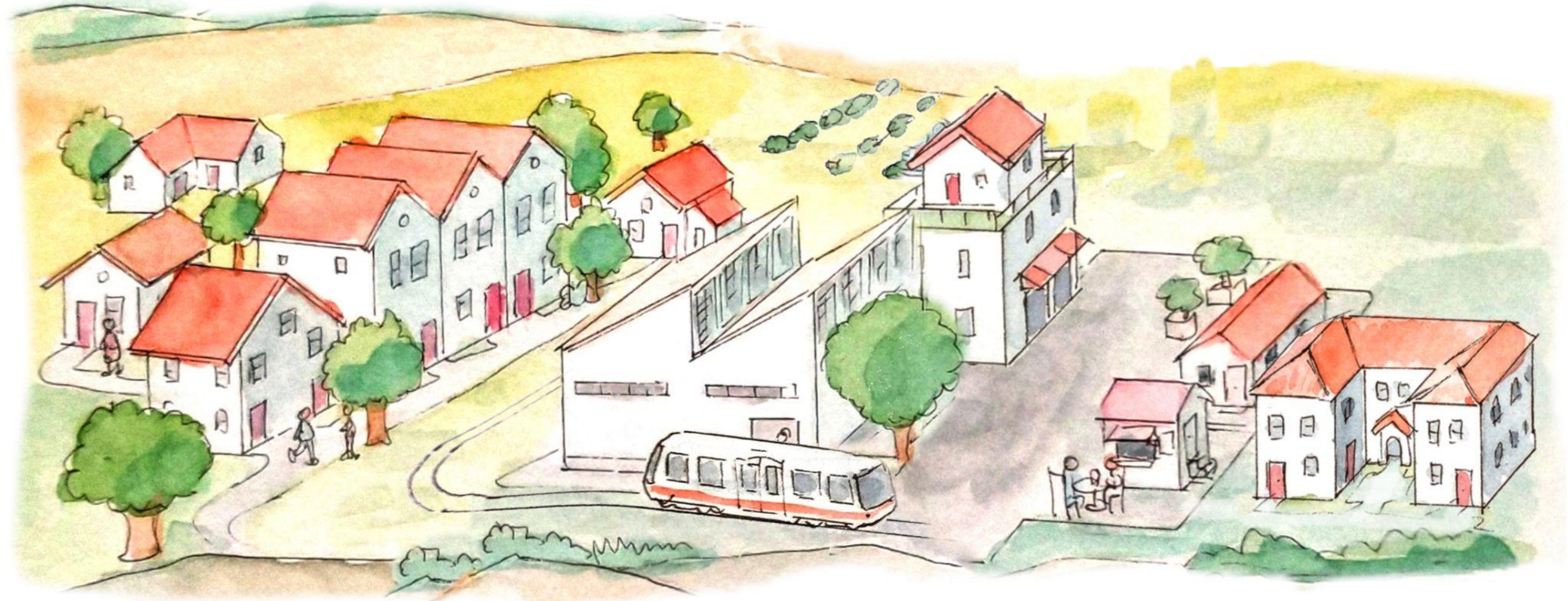
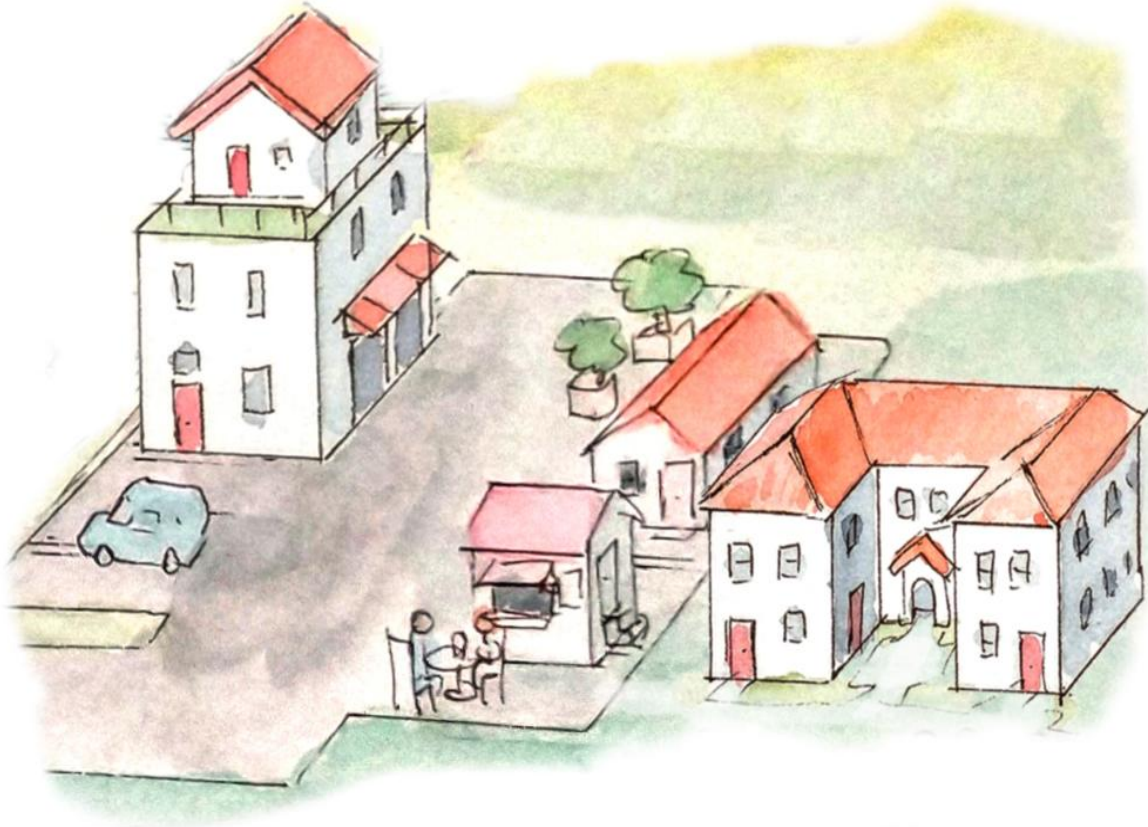


Illustration by Alfred Twu.

WHY HOUSING IS A CLIMATE SOLUTION



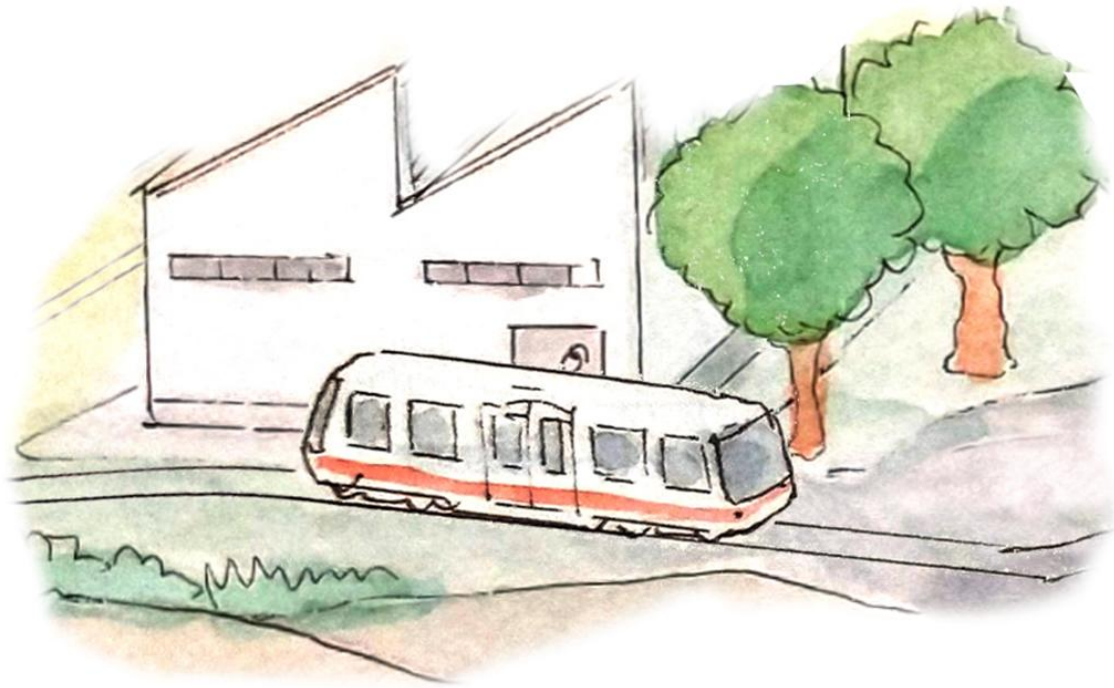
EQUITABLY ADDRESSING THE CALIFORNIA HOUSING CRISIS



Housing Shortage

- From 2009 to 2014, California added 544,000 households but only 467,000 net housing units.
- From 2011-2017 the Bay Area created 4.3 jobs for every new home
- Scarcity reduced homes affordable below median income by 25%
- There's a lack of affordable housing funds

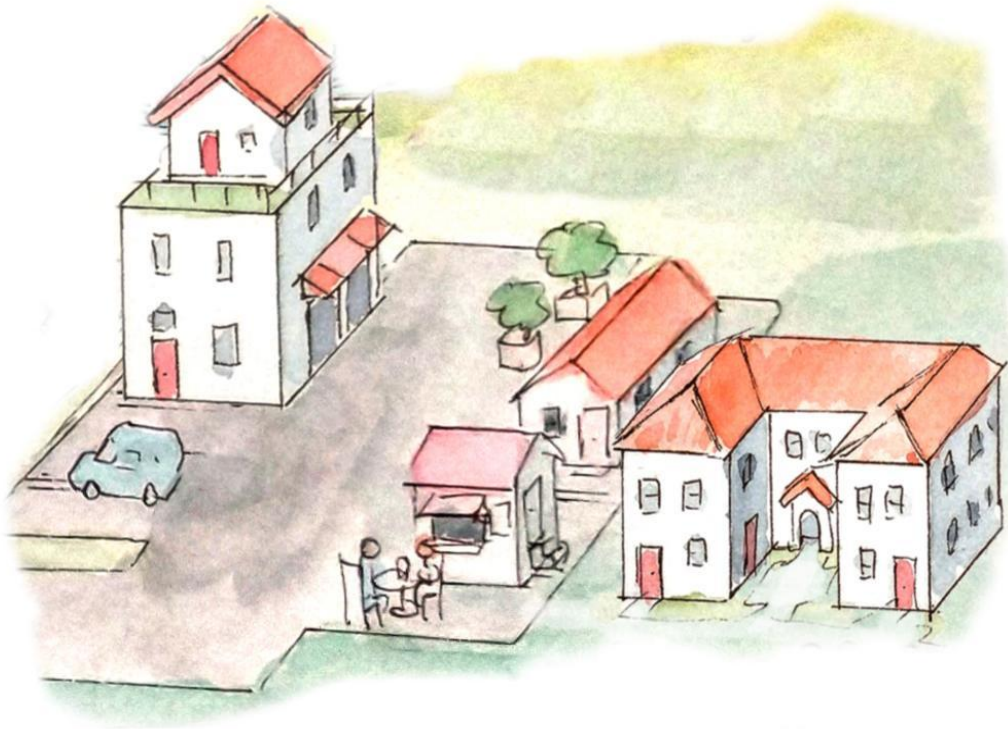
Why does where we build matter?



Transportation

- In the US - transportation is 30% of GHG emissions
- In California - transportation is 50% of GHG emissions
- Shifting to growth within cities could reduce equivalent of 400k cars

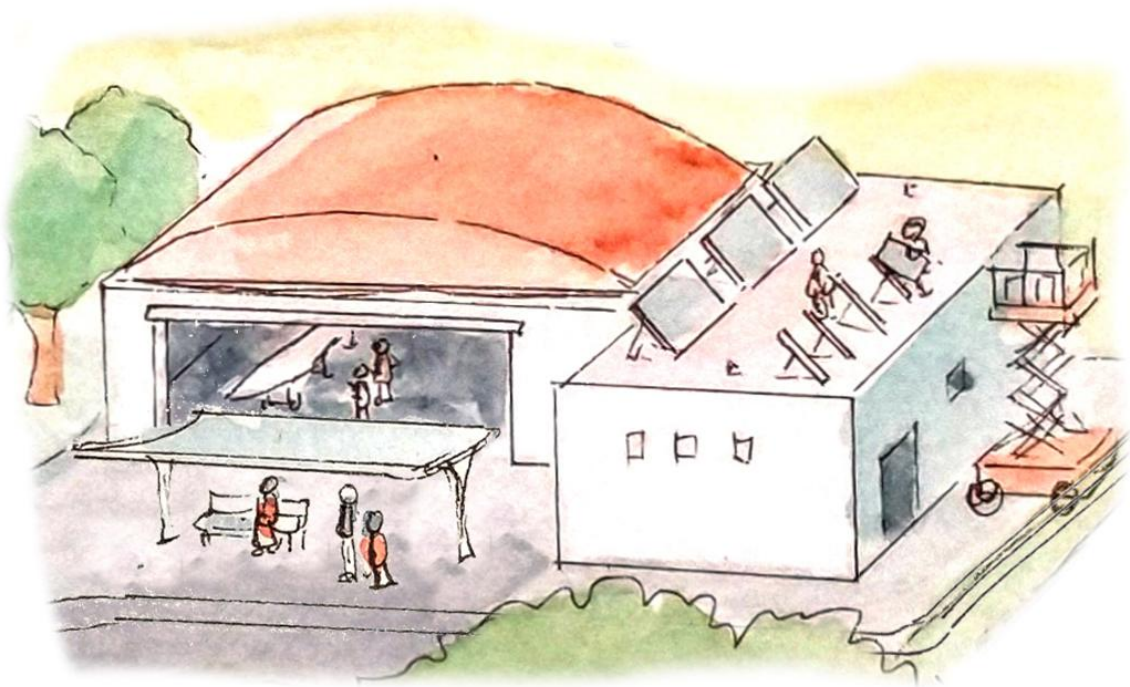
Why does where we build matter?



Denser Forms of Development Can Reduce

- Dependence on personal vehicles
- Travel time and costs
- Consumption of oil and gasoline
- GHG emissions and VMT

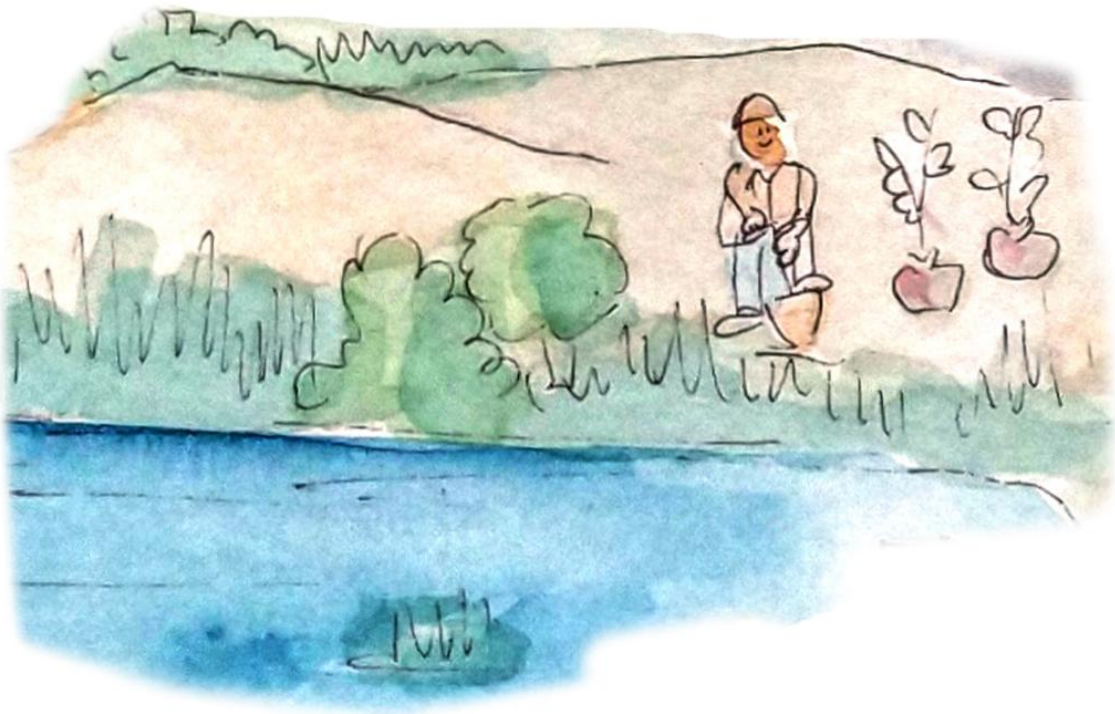
How Can Building New Homes Reduce Emissions?



Where and What Type of Housing We Build Matters

- New standard have more sustainable construction and operations
- Single family suburban home produces 3x yearly emissions as an urban home

Water as a Shared Resource



Reducing per capita water use

- The Bay Area could add 2.2 million homes through modest improvements in water efficiency and more compact land use.
- Changes in landscaping could cut water use close to 50% for an average home.

Benefits of Protecting Open Space and Urban Green Space



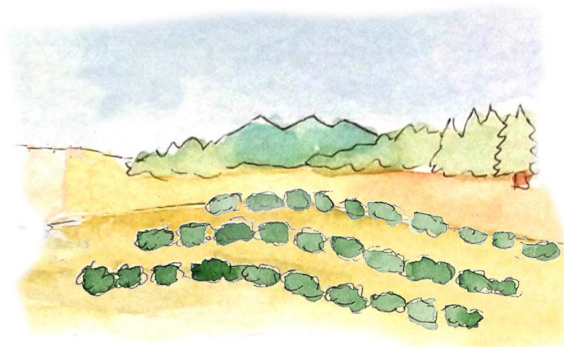
We urgently need more homes

- Need is estimated at close to 1/2 million homes over the next 8 years

But...

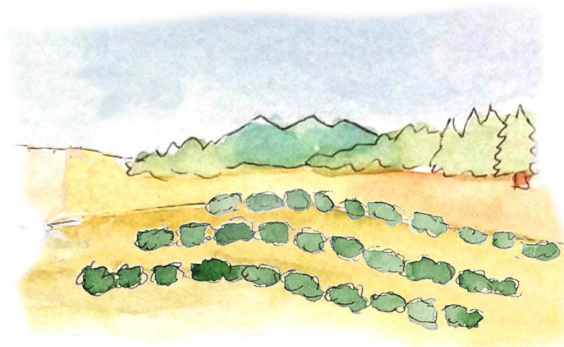
- Building homes away from city centers on open space exacerbates flood and wildfire risk

Benefits of Protecting Open Space and Urban Green Space



- Reduces the size & number of wildfires
- Builds wildfire resilience
- Protects nearshore communities and infrastructure from flooding & sea level rise

Benefits of Protecting Open Space and Urban Green Space



- Provides recreational opportunities
- Enhances wildlife habitat
- Building housing near transit supports more housing and urban green space

Do Cities Have Enough Space?



- Yes, we have plenty of space
- CA could build 4 million more homes in existing infill - but only if we change how and where we build
- How cities and counties build housing and plan for growth can make a huge impact on climate change.

A Climate Resilient Future - What Is Missing?



Illustration by Alfred Twu.

Breakout Groups

Discussion Question:

What are the fears and political barriers you see in your community to make your neighborhood denser when we are in a housing crisis? What are innovative policies and actions we can take to move beyond the fears and barriers that can build an equitable and sustainable community?



Report Out / Wrap Up



Illustration by Alfred Twu.