How to Make CASA Solutions Actionable

6 Wins for Social Equity Network

CASA presents an opportunity to create a new story for the Bay Area. By developing actionable political consensus around “the 3 Ps”—tenant protections, affordable housing preservation, and affordable housing production—CASA aims to create game-changing solutions to the housing affordability crisis.

The Work Groups have begun to discuss policy solutions. But policy solutions are only part of the equation. CASA’s success will ultimately depend on implementation of those solutions. We encourage the Committee to start thinking about implementation now to (1) ensure CASA policy solutions are guided by implementation possibilities; and (2) begin to put needed implementation systems in place, such as MTC resolutions and state legislator support. By anchoring policy ideas in implementation, CASA can move one step closer to creating actionable game-changing solutions.

We offer the below recommendations on how to implement CASA outcomes in support of this effort.

For Solutions that Require State Legislation

- Develop and advance a state-level housing package with agreed-upon protection, preservation and production solutions. The package could either (a) apply to California as a whole or (b) apply only to the Bay Area. Draft suggested legislation for recommended policies.
- Get Bay Area legislators to commit to introduce the negotiated housing package.
- Commit to advocate in a multi-stakeholder coalition of CASA participants. Develop collective advocacy strategies and priorities to advance state-level adoption of recommended tenant protection, housing preservation and affordable housing production policies as a package. To the extent necessary, bring in additional advocates and partners.

For Solutions that Require Local Legislation

- Develop and advance one or more possible housing packages with local policy solutions. Draft model legislation for recommended policies.
- Get Steering Committee members and other Bay Area legislators to commit to introduce the negotiated package.
- Commit to advocate in a multi-stakeholder coalition of CASA participants. Develop collective advocacy strategies and priorities (including jurisdictional priorities) to advance local jurisdiction adoption of recommended tenant protection, housing preservation and affordable housing production policies. To the extent necessary, bring in additional advocates and partners.

For Solutions that Require MTC Action

- Develop and advance a MTC-specific package of solutions, such as funding measures and conditioning significant transportation and infrastructure funding to localities on adoption and implementation of a suite of tenant protection, housing preservation and affordable housing production policies.
- Get MTC commissioners to commit to adopt recommended solutions.
- Commit to advocate in a multi-stakeholder coalition of CASA participants to advance and implement MTC solutions. Develop collective advocacy strategies and priorities. To the extent necessary, bring in additional advocates and partners.

Key Questions: How does CASA design a final bargain that ensures CASA participants (a) advocate for the final package(s) as a group and (b) advocate for the full package, rather than individual solutions? How does CASA ensure solutions are adopted and implemented by state and local legislators and MTC commissioners as a package? How many solutions should CASA include in each package (e.g., 2-4 big state-level solutions vs. many smaller solutions or some combination of both)?

---

1 The 6 Wins for Social Equity Network is a regional coalition of over 20 organizations working to promote social, racial, economic and environmental justice in the Bay Area. To learn more and to get involved, please contact Lynsey Gaudioso at Public Advocates (lgaudioso@publicadvocates.org) or Mashael Majid at Urban Habitat (mashael@urbanhabitat.org).