Hi Debbie,
I would like that attached State budget request by a statewide coalition of housing providers be agendized for endorsement by the City of Chico. Thank you,

Karl Ory

530-624-1897
Senator Holly Mitchell,  
Chair, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review  
State Capitol, Room 5080  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Governor Gavin Newsom  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Phil Ting  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget  
State Capitol, Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: $1 Billion Budget Request for Disaster Housing Relief and Recovery

In light of the enormous damage our communities have experienced from natural disasters since 2017, and the increasing frequency and intensity of these climate-related events, we strongly urge you to proactively commit $1 billion in one-time funding needed to rehouse the neediest residents, to rebuild, and to minimize such disasters in the future.

California’s recent disasters have been unprecedented and catastrophic. In 2019, over 6,872 fires were recorded with an estimated 253,321 acres of burned land, destruction of 732 structures, and three fatalities. The wildfires of 2017-18 destroyed 28,000 homes in Butte, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Colusa, Lake, Mendocino, Glenn, Shasta, Trinity, Napa, and Sonoma Counties with a half trillion dollars in economic losses, more than the combined losses of Hurricanes Harvey, Katrina, and Sandy. The deadly Camp Fire alone wiped out the entire town of Paradise, killed 85 people, and resulted in $16.5 billion in
losses — the deadliest fire in California history and the most expensive natural disaster in the world in 2018. Fires, as well as other natural disasters related to climate change, have become the new normal and disproportionately affect low-income people of color — Native Americans are six times more vulnerable and African Americans and Hispanics are 50% more vulnerable.

**Federal disaster funding is insufficient, unreliable, and inflexible.** The Federal government has traditionally been the major source of financial support for emergency assistance and long-term recovery. However, Congress only appropriated $124 million in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for California in FY 2018, far less than needed to rebuild, repair, and replace lost housing and infrastructure. The recent experience of California wildfires points to significant federal underfunding due to methodological problems, the unpredictability of federal support, and inflexible program design.

**California needs its own disaster housing funds.** Reliance solely on undependable, bureaucratic, and scarce Federal funds is risky and not enough. Moreover, existing State housing assistance programs are ill-prepared to respond quickly and comprehensively:
- They are categorical, focusing on housing only for rent or only for purchase or only for special-needs populations or only for certain sites with high amenities.
- They mostly fund permanent, year-round housing, not emergency and transitional housing.
- They only partially fund projects, must be combined with other funding sources, and can take 4-5 years or more from application, to award, to construction, to occupancy.
- Program thresholds and scoring criteria greatly disadvantage communities that have been seriously damaged by natural disasters and have fewer site amenities.
- None of the current State budget proposals for emergency aid and long-term recovery provide the kinds of assistance needed to address the full range of housing needs.

We propose a three-pronged approach to address the housing crisis in these communities. A comprehensive approach is needed to provide both short-term housing relief and long-term recovery for lower-income residents and reduce the vulnerabilities of existing and future housing growth:

- **Flexible Block Grants — $600 Million:** One-time funding for grants to cities, counties, tribes, and nonprofit organizations to supplement federal CDBG-DR funds needed for the acquisition, rehabilitation, and new construction of emergency and permanent housing and rental and relocation assistance.

- **Bridge Funds — $300 Million:** One-time funding for short-term loans by Community Development Financial Institutions to nonprofit and public affordable housing developers for acquisition, predevelopment, and construction of replacement homes to be replenished by CDBG-DR when funds become available.

- **Housing and Climate Resiliency Grants — $100 million:** One-time funding for resiliency planning grants to cities, counties, and tribes to fortify and protect existing homes, mitigate threats to new homes, and preserve and increase supplies of homes that are both climate-resilient and affordable to lower-income residents.

When California voters in 2018 approved $6 billion in Propositions 1 and 2 for housing and homelessness, the intent was to address historic shortages in affordable housing supplies and produce new homes in volume. The recent fires have greatly exacerbated what had already been a catastrophic supply problem. In fact, we lost almost as many homes as we’re building. **Disaster Housing Relief and Recovery Funds are critically needed to restore and rebuild decent and affordable homes that have been lost, while we build out the total supply of affordable and resilient homes in California.**

Thank you for your commitment to affordable housing, community sustainability, and climate resilience.
Training Agenda

Day 1: January 7, 2020
Attendees: Amanda Strand, Crystal Peppas, James Bennett, Jesse Alexander, Michelle Pease, Sam Harrison, Skyler Lipski, Debbie Presson, Ron Collins, Josh Marquis
Location: 411 Main Street, Chico, Ca 95928

9:00 a.m. Training begins at City's training room
• Introductions: name, position, website responsibilities.
• Overview of site redesign process and sandbox

9:15 a.m. Basic CMS training (for Contributors, Editors, Site/System Admins)
• Understanding the new content management system and how to:
  login/manage account, view content zones, create overview/posts/pods,
  edit content, and use the support tab/access the knowledge base
• Introductory training on how to manage content

12:00 p.m. Break for Lunch

Only people who will need full access (site/system admin permissions) to the site should attend the afternoon portion.
Attendees: Ron Collins, Josh Marquis
Location: 411 Main Street, Chico, Ca 95928

1:00 p.m. Advanced training (for Site/System Admins)
• How to: manage navigation terms, post types, and users (roles)
• More thorough training on managing content
• Training on standard template & layout options
• Training on homepage

2:30 p.m. Day 1 wrap up

Day 2: January 8, 2020
Attendees: Everyone who attended either session yesterday
Location: 411 Main Street, Chico, Ca 95928

9:00 a.m. Recap
• Questions from yesterday's training

10:00 a.m. Curation Kickoff
• Start the curation process and get the site ready for launch

11:00 a.m. Training wrap up
• Final questions, support system/knowledge base reminder
Post training

**Content curation**
City of Chico Staff to be heavily involved in content curation and editing; DD team will be available through support system.

Role descriptions

**Contributor**
The Contributor role can create content and edit their own content, but their additions and/or changes will not go live until approved for publication. Notification emails are sent to site approvers where they can edit or approve each post. Cannot edit navigation and cannot edit post types.

**Editor**
Can create posts and make edits to any post on the site. A notification email goes to approvers, but content / changes go live immediately. Editors cannot make changes to the navigation of the site, nor edit post types.

**Site Admin**
Can add/remove users, approve and publish pending content, add/edit site navigation, manage post types, create and see all content and post types.

**System Admin**
All permissions of the Site Admin role, plus a few more including the ability to synchronize Mailchimp groups, etc. Cannot be edited or deleted by any other user except another system administrator. Sees system logs and can initiate a security lockdown as well as use Backup / Restore to download a copy of the site database.