

June 8, 2019  
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Dear Mayor Arreguin:

I am concerned about housing. The growing US wealth gap is nowhere more obvious than in the bay area. Combined with our fraying safety net people are losing such basic aspects of human dignity as health care and housing. Despite efforts recent reports find the problem increasing with Alameda particularly shocking. What I see is increasing numbers of people forced to sleep outside where I catch the Amtrak in Berkeley, the anguish of a newly homeless man at Berkeley Espresso and the hints that businesses such as the Oakland Home Depot may pull out. What I hear about is squabbling between levels of government and rampant nimbyism from the challenges to navigation centers to opposition to SB50. All levels of government should coordinate and no neighborhood or city should be able to halt progress in dealing rapidly with this growing crisis. *Thank you for coordinating with the other Mayors of Alameda to urge county action.*

I am very proud to be a Berkeley resident and a large part of that derives from our sensible progressive policies.

Sincerely,  
Eric Babson