



Mission

The mission of the Coachella Valley Regional Housing Trust (CVRHT) is to collaborate with the public and private sectors to provide a valley wide solution for the increasing demand for workforce housing in the region.

Our Purpose

The Coachella Valley Regional Housing Trust will:

- Promote, sponsor, and advance housing accessible to the diverse population of the Coachella Valley, as approved by the Corporation;
- Engage in any other activities in furtherance of the purposes for which the Corporation is formed; and,
- Receive, invest and utilize funds and property acquired through the solicitation of contributions, donations, grants, gifts, bequests and the like for the purposes for which the Corporation is formed.

Overview

- At the recommendation of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the CVAG Human and Community Resources Committee began to address regional issues related to Workforce Housing in the Coachella Valley in January of 2007.
- In Spring 2007, a task force was created to plan a Workforce Housing Summit to bring public agencies, non-profits and the business sector together to identify regional needs relative to Workforce Housing. Recommendations that came out of this summit included plans to create a valley wide solution to workforce housing needs.
- The Workforce Housing Steering Committee (a subcommittee of CVAG's Human and Community Resources Committee) was formed in July of 2007 and was comprised of local stakeholders from non-profit developers, the Building Industry Association, city housing officials, local tribes, private advocacy groups, the Riverside County Economic Development Agency, the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership and financial institutions.
- Existing housing trusts were examined, with the goal of creating a similar regional structure, modified to meet the needs of the Coachella Valley.
- A Blue Ribbon Committee was then formed that was responsible for creating the non-profit. The Blue Ribbon Committee included members of the Steering Committee as well as major employers from throughout the Valley and other influential leaders. The Blue Ribbon Committee chose the Board of Directors, and created the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation for the organization, which were completed in May 2009.
- The Coachella Valley Regional Housing Trust (a 501(c)3, private/public partnership) was incorporated in July of 2009 and the first meeting of the organization's Board of Directors was held on August 4, 2009.

2009 Board of Directors and Officers

Government Appointed Directors:

Tom Davis, Chief Plan. & Dev. Officer, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Leticia De Lara, 4th District County Office
Ginny Foat, Councilmember, City of Palm Springs (Housing Trust Board Secretary)
Steven Hernandez, Councilmember, City of Coachella
Paul Marchand, Councilmember, City of Cathedral City
Yvonne Parks, Mayor, City of Desert Hot Springs
Lupe Ramos Watson, Councilmember, City of Indio

At-Large Directors:

Fred Bell, COO, Noble & Company (Housing Trust Board Vice Chairman)
Fred Jandt, Dean, CSUSB - Palm Desert
Steven Miller, CPA, Partner, Brabo, Carlsen & O'Brien (Housing Trust Board Treasurer)
Dick Oliphant, President, Oliphant Enterprises, Inc.
Jerry Patton, President, College of the Desert
Michael Shepherd, CEO, The Shepherd Group
Carolyn Stark, Executive Director, UCR- Palm Desert Graduate Center
Valerie Van Winkle, Senior Vice President, Canyon National Bank (Housing Trust Board Chairman)
Jeff Wattenbarger, Owner, Wattenbarger Construction
Reuel Young, Principle Architect & President, Interactive Design, Inc.

Coachella Valley Workforce Housing Summits and Workshops

- The 1st Annual Coachella Valley Workforce Housing Summit, held on May 31, 2007, included speakers from the California State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA), the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) and the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC), as well as local leaders from housing agencies and development organizations.
- A California Housing Fund Programs Workshop was held on December 6, 2007, as follow up to the Housing Summit. The Workshop brought back representatives from the state funding agencies to provide more in depth information to agencies interested in applying for funds at the State level to create workforce and affordable housing units.
- The 2nd Annual Coachella Valley Workforce Housing Summit was held June 19, 2008. The focal point of the event was the introduction of the proposed model. Results of a Wheeler's Market Intelligence housing study were presented at the Summit. Two panels of Coachella Valley government, non-profit and private business leaders discussed the effects of the housing market on workers and the barriers that exist in addressing the workforce housing needs valley wide. Supervisor Roy Wilson closed the event with a call to action for the Coachella Valley Regional Housing Trust to be created by the time of the next Summit.
- The 3rd Annual Coachella Valley Workforce Housing Summit was held on September 30, 2009 where the Coachella Valley Regional Housing Trust and its leadership were introduced to the community. The broad leadership of the newly formed Trust will provide affordable housing options for many in the Coachella Valley.

For more Information, please visit www.cvag.org or contact Amanda Keil at (760) 346-1127 or akeil@cvag.org