

SERVING THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF DISADVANTAGED & LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES



- * 78 percent of AHSC-funded affordable housing developments will directly benefit disadvantaged communities (DACs).
- * 93 percent of total AHSC funds will directly benefit “low-income communities” as defined by AB 1550.

About AHSC’s benefits for disadvantaged and low-income communities

AHSC is designed to fund developments that directly benefit low-income and disadvantaged communities. At least 50 percent of AHSC-funded developments are required to benefit or be located within disadvantaged communities (DACs),¹ and AB 1550 imposes additional requirements for benefiting “low-income communities.” AHSC has far exceeded these requirements in each of its funding rounds.²

How AHSC achieves this policy goal

- **Benefitting DACs:** 60 out of 77 (78 percent) of AHSC-funded affordable housing developments—or 78 percent of total AHSC funds—will either be located in or directly benefit DACs.
- **Benefitting Low-Income Communities:** 63 out of 77 (82 percent) of AHSC-funded affordable housing developments—or 93 percent of total AHSC funds—will either be located in or directly benefit “low-income communities” as defined by AB 1550.
- **Responsive Community Engagement:** All 19 awarded developments from the most recent round of funding demonstrated

a community engagement process that informed their design—including public workshops, focus groups, community meetings, and surveys. AHSC also directly incentivizes developers and local governments to listen and respond to community needs. Examples of such efforts include incorporating on-site child development centers and commercial space for youth activities, on-site workforce development centers to respond to employment needs, and the use of zero-net energy technology to reduce high utility cost burdens.

¹Senate Bill 535 directs state and local agencies to make investments that benefit California’s disadvantaged communities (DACs), which are defined as census tracts that are disproportionately burdened by and vulnerable to multiple sources of pollution. Currently, 2,007 census tracts throughout California have been identified as DACs.

²Assembly Bill 1550 built upon the provisions outlined in SB 535 by including a focus on investments in low-income communities and low-income households. AB 1550 defines low-income communities as those census tracts with: (1) median household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or (2) median household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low income by California Department of Housing and Community Development’s (HCD) list of State income limits.