



# STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** David Loya, Community Development Director

**PREPARER:** David Loya, Community Development Director

**DATE:** June 30, 2025

**TITLE:** **Single-Stair Building Reform.**

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Council review the resources provided below for the Joint Study Session discussion on single-stair building reform.

## **INTRODUCTION:**

The Council will discuss single-stair building design with the Planning Commission at the June 30, 2025, Study Session. The following resources help provide context for the discussion.

## **DISCUSSION:**

- <https://www.pew.org/en/research-and-analysis/reports/2025/02/small-single-stairway-apartment-buildings-have-strong-safety-record>
- <https://www.archpaper.com/2023/03/why-does-american-multifamily-architecture-look-so-banal-heres-one-reason/>
- <https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2024/12/5/how-single-stair-reform-can-help-unlock-incremental-housing>
- <https://legiscan.com/CA/text/AB835/id/2844410>
- <https://cd4.lacity.gov/press-releases/council-adopts-motion-to-update-building-code/>

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Single-stair design accommodates higher densities on smaller sites that fit into traditional single-family neighborhoods without significant aesthetic impacts.