



Innovations for Thriving Communities – Session Proposal Guidelines

SHA is now accepting proposals for the 12th Annual Regional Affordable Housing Summit, *Innovations for Thriving Communities*.

The 2026 summit theme focuses on the **power of innovation** to develop solutions that address affordable housing challenges across the region and the state. This is your opportunity to share your expertise, innovative strategies, and success stories with housing leaders, policymakers, and advocates.

Date & Location: October 29, 2026 – North Natomas Community Center, Sacramento, CA

Expected audience size: 175

Submission Deadline: May 15, 2026

Notification Date: June 15, 2026

Session Tracks Description (*Select the track that best fits your proposal*)

1. **Innovations in Solving Homelessness** – Approaches, programs, and partnerships for homelessness prevention, intervention, and long-term stability.
 2. **Innovations in Affordable Housing Development** – Creative design, construction, and building solutions for production and preservation.
 3. **Innovative Housing Strategies in Action** – Case studies and real-world examples of housing policy changes, narratives, and partnerships helping to increase affordable housing options for all.
 4. **Innovations in Affordable Housing Finance** – Strategies and tools to finance housing that addresses the needs of everyone from lowest-income renter households to homeowners.
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Session Types & Duration

- **Panel Discussion – 60 minutes**
 - 2–4 subject matter experts, diverse representation across sectors or agencies, audience Q&A.
- **Presentation – 45–60 minutes**
 - 1–2 presenters, audience Q&A.
- **Workshop – 75-90 minutes**

- Hands-on, interactive, with practical tools/resources. Must show evidence of active attendee engagement.
 - Best for audiences of less than 40.
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Proposal Requirements

Only complete submissions will be considered. All speakers must be identified at the time of submission with full contact information.

Required Information:

1. **Session Title** – 8–12 words, max 100 characters.
 2. **Session Track** – Select one from the list above.
 3. **Session Overview** – Include a 2–3 sentence summary addressing the affordable housing innovation you will cover and why it is timely and relevant.
 4. **Key Takeaways** – 2–3 memorable insights, tools, or skills.
 5. **Target Audience** – Who will benefit most (advocate, policy maker, developer, service provider, nonprofit organizations, city/state/county agencies) and experience level (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced).
 7. **Session Format**– Panel discussion, Presentation, or Workshop
 8. **Consent & Permissions** – Agreement to recording and copyright compliance.
 9. **Session Organizer**- Primary point of contact for questions around proposal submission. Name, title, affiliation, and email address.
 10. **Speaker Information** – Name, title, affiliation, and email address.
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Selection Process

- Proposals will be reviewed by the Summit Planning Committee.
 - Selected presenters will be notified by **June 15, 2026**.
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Submission Link: [Submit your proposal here.](#)

Questions? Contact Samie Novan, seneventplanning@gmail.com
