

The background of the entire page is a stylized, semi-transparent American flag. The stars are a light blue color, and the stripes are a darker blue, creating a subtle, patriotic backdrop for the white text.

# OUR HOMES, OUR VOTES: 2020

DEMOCRATIC DEBATE WATCH GUIDE  
NOVEMBER 20, 2019

[ourhomes-ourvotes.org](http://ourhomes-ourvotes.org)



## Former Vice President Joe Biden

**Who They Are:** Joe Biden served as Vice President under President Obama, and previously served as a Senator from Delaware for over three decades.

### Vice President Joe Biden's Affordable Housing Plan:

- Sets a national goal of ensuring 100% of formerly incarcerated individuals have housing when they are released from prison
- Requires HUD only contract with entities willing to house individuals who are formerly incarcerated
- Increases funding for transitional housing for formerly incarcerated individuals

Learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/y632a4cx>



## Senator Cory Booker

**Who They Are:** Cory Booker is the junior Senator from New Jersey, and former Mayor of Newark.

### Senator Booker's Affordable Housing Plan:

- Provides \$40 billion in annual funding for the national Housing Trust Fund to build, rehabilitate, and operate rental housing for extremely low-income families
- Establishes a refundable renters tax credit to give relief to families who spend more than 30% of their before-tax income on rent. This credit would refund the difference between the 30% threshold and the neighborhood fair market rent
- Encourages states and local communities to develop new inclusive zoning policies, programs, or regulatory initiative to create more affordable housing supply

Learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5bcwy53>



## Mayor Pete Buttigieg

**Who They Are:** Pete Buttigieg is the mayor of South Bend, Indiana, and a former intelligence officer in the Navy Reserve.

### Mayor Pete Buttigieg's Affordable Housing Plan Includes:

- Ending homelessness for families with children
- Funding national investments in affordable housing construction.
- Expanding federal protections for tenants against eviction.
- Providing a new "Homeownership Fund" pilot to cities to support residents with less than the area median income or residents of any historically redlined or racially-segregated area.

Learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/yy7hy7em>



## Representative Tulsi Gabbard

**Who They Are:** Tulsi Gabbard is the current representative for Hawaii's 2nd Congressional district.

**Representative Tulsi Gabbard has not released an Affordable Housing Plan.**





## Senator Kamala Harris

**Who They Are:** Kamala Harris is the junior Senator from California, where she previously served as Attorney General.

### Senator Kamala Harris' Affordable Housing Plan:

- Creates a fully refundable monthly tax credit for taxpayers earning less than \$125,000 that covers a share of the difference between 30% of income and rent, capped at 100% of Small Area Fair Market Rent
- Forms a federal grant program through HUD to address the racial wealth gap
- Invests \$100 billion in HUD grants to help black people buy homes in historically redlined communities
- Provides down payment and closing cost assistance up to \$25,000

Learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5wbklqz>



## Senator Amy Klobuchar

**Who They Are:** Amy Klobuchar is the senior Senator from Minnesota, and former County Attorney for Hennepin County.

### Senator Amy Klobuchar's Affordable Housing Plan:

- Increases investments in rural rental assistance programs and increase investments in rural housing supply, which includes expanding affordable housing programs serving Native Americans.
- Makes the Housing Choice Voucher program available to all qualifying households with children.
- Expands the pilot of mobility housing vouchers that allows families to use their vouchers in higher opportunity neighborhoods.

Learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/yynnsca4>



## Senator Bernie Sanders

**Who They Are:** Bernie Sanders is the junior Senator from Vermont, and ran a hard-fought campaign for the Democratic nomination for president in 2016.

### Senator Bernie Sanders' Affordable Housing Plan:

- Invests \$1.48 trillion over 10 years in the national Housing Trust Fund to build 7.4 million units, and puts more resources into maintaining and expanding public housing stock
- Makes the Housing Choice Voucher program available to all qualifying households with children.
- Expands the pilot of mobility housing vouchers that allows families to use their vouchers in higher opportunity neighborhoods.
- Increases funding for the Indian Block Housing Grant Program to \$3 billion to build, preserve, and rehabilitate affordable housing in Indian country.

Learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3dfdzhm>



## Tom Steyer

**Who They Are:** Tom Steyer is an environmentalist, philanthropist, and founder of the hedge fund Farallon Capital.

Tom Steyer has not released an Affordable Housing Plan.



# Senator Elizabeth Warren

**Who They Are:** Elizabeth Warren is the senior Senator from Massachusetts, and was a driving force behind the founding of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).

## Senator Elizabeth Warren's Affordable Housing Plan:

- Expands the national Housing Trust Fund and provides \$500 billion over 10 years to build, preserve and operate rental homes affordable to families with the greatest needs. Independent analysis shows these investments would reduce rents across-the-board by 10 percent.
- Creates new incentives to encourage local governments to address regulatory and zoning barriers that drive up housing costs and restrict the ability of the private sector to build more affordable rental homes for the middle class.
- Expands the Fair Housing Act to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or veteran status, and source of income.

**Learn more here:** <https://tinyurl.com/y3ocyps8>



# Andrew Yang

**Who They Are:** Andrew Yang is a tech entrepreneur and the founder of Venture for America.

## Andrew Yang's Affordable Housing Plan:

- Works with localities to relax zoning ordinances for the purpose of increasing the development of affordable housing.
- Encourages the building of new innovative housing options like micro-apartments and communal living for people in high-density urban areas.

**Learn more here:** <https://tinyurl.com/y27xlwta>