The theme of the Housing Forum is “Housing and Inequality.” It addresses the dual and related forces of housing unaffordability and inequalities in income, wealth and race. The housing market can be seen as a giant apparatus that generates more wealth for people owning homes and diminishing wealth for those who do not, disproportionately people of color. Further, the subsidized housing stock is clearly inadequate to accommodate the increasing numbers in need. In the City of San Diego, for example, the Section 8 waiting list has increased from 34,356 households in FY 2012 to 91,644 in 2018.

The forum will document the myriad challenges related to housing affordability and social inequality and establish a 5-year research agenda to gather critical data and support policy changes in the San Diego Region. Possible policy changes are in three areas: 1) Protection of tenants; 2) Preservation of existing affordable housing and; 3) Production of affordable housing; the so-called three Ps. The following is a tentative schedule of the day’s events.

8:30AM – 9:00AM Coffee and registration.

9:00AM – 9:15AM Welcome and introductory remarks.
Professor Sherry Ryan, Director of the School of Public Affairs &
Patricia Frosio, Director of the Institute for Innovative Governance
Professor Mounah Abdel-Samad, Social and Economic Vulnerability Initiative

9:15AM – 9:45AM How housing contributes to widening inequality.
Nico Calavita, Professor Emeritus, School of Public Affairs

9:45AM – 10:45AM What housing data tell us, and what data is missing.
Elizabeth Dickson (City of San Diego), Seth Litchney (SANDAG), Stephen Russell (San Diego Housing Federation), Bruce Appleyard (SDSU)
Moderator: Professor Sherry Ryan (SDSU)

10:45AM – 11:00AM Break

11:00AM – 12:00PM Tenant protections: Housing inequality from the perspective of community-based organizations.
Paola Martinez (ACCE), Branden Butler (Legal Aid Society of San Diego),
Estela de los Rios (CSA San Diego County)
Moderator: Professor Megan Welsh (SDSU)

12:00PM – 12:45PM Lunch and Keynote Speaker
Georgette Gomez, City Council President – City of San Diego
12:45PM – 1:15PM  The housing crisis: multiple narratives and possible solutions.  
Nico Calavita, Professor Emeritus, School of Public Affairs

1:15PM – 2:15PM  Preservation and production: the role and impact of the SD Housing Commission and the County Department of Housing & Community Development.  
Emily Jacobs (SD Housing Commission), Wendy DeWitt (SD Housing Commission), David Estrella (County Department of Housing & Community Development)  
Moderator: Patricia Frosio (SDSU)

2:15PM – 3:00PM  The role and impact of for-profit and non-profit developers.  
Andrew Malick (developer), Sue Reynolds (Community Housing Works)  
Moderator: Professor Shawn Flanigan (SDSU)

3:00PM – 3:30PM  Voices of Our City Choir

3:30PM – 4:30PM  Community-based alternatives to housing protection, preservation and production.  
Tony Rohan Samara (Urban Habitat Oakland) Jean Diaz (San Diego Community Land Trust), Noni Session (East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative)  
Moderator: Professor Anna Kim (SDSU)

4:30PM – 5:00PM  How to lessen housing inequality in San Diego. Policy, research and data needs brainstorming session with conference attendees  
Stephen Russell, Sherry Ryan and Nico Calavita

5:00PM – 5:30PM  Cocktail Reception