What is the Sonoma County Visitability Project?
The SCVP is a group of housing and accessibility advocates, real estate agents, developers, and elected officials committed to increasing the supply of “visitable” new houses, apartments, duplexes and other privately funded housing developments in Sonoma County. Through collaboration, education and public media campaigns SCVP promotes voluntary inclusion of the few basic, inexpensive structural features that make a home visitable, and more livable, for everyone.

What You Can Do
From the very beginning of planning for a new house or apartment complex, the three features of Visitability should be included. If you are looking for housing for yourself ask your agent if the properties you are considering have Visitability features.

Why now?
Sonoma County is facing an unprecedented need for housing. The already scarce housing situation was made much worse by the fires of October, 2017. Now is an opportune time to build age-friendly housing.

For more information, please contact:
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Visitability can make life easier for everyone
the ability to visit or to be visited

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A project of:
Disability Services & Legal Center
521 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
(707) 528-2745, MyDSL.C.org
Make Your New Home Have Visitability and enjoy these benefits...

What’s Visitability?
Visitability is a housing movement that seeks to change home construction practices so that virtually all new homes offer a few specific features that make the home easier, safer and more convenient for all people to visit or live in.

The Visitable Home features:
1 One zero step entrance at the front, side, rear, or through the garage
2 Wider interior doorways on the main floor have at least 32 inches of clear passage space
3 A half or full bathroom with basic maneuvering space on the main floor

CONVENIENCE
Moving in large furniture, luggage, or a stroller all becomes a snap. Sprained ankle? No problem!

HOSPITALITY
Enjoy the ease of including family and friends with mobility limitations for celebrations and special occasions.

FLEXIBILITY
Be ready for all of life’s seasons with grace, ease and the ability to stay in one’s home. Growing older shouldn’t have to mean moving.

AFFORDABILITY
Visitability’s 3 features cost very little extra—less than 1% of construction costs—and considerably less expensive than retrofitting homes with no access.

MARKETABILITY
Build a house with features that home buyers and renters want, without losing curb appeal.

Does a Visitable Home Look Different?
Visitability features, built into the design, don’t have to be obtrusive. In fact, they are barely noticeable!

Visitable houses can be constructed with a basement, crawl space, or on a slab. They can be built on lots with a variety of terrains.

A zero-step entrance (at the front, side, rear, or through the garage) can usually be achieved with gentle grading so that the walkway meets the entrance.

Helpful Resources
Visitability
https://visitability.org

IDEA Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access World
http://www.udeworld.com/visitability.html

USC Home Modification
http://www.homemods.org/