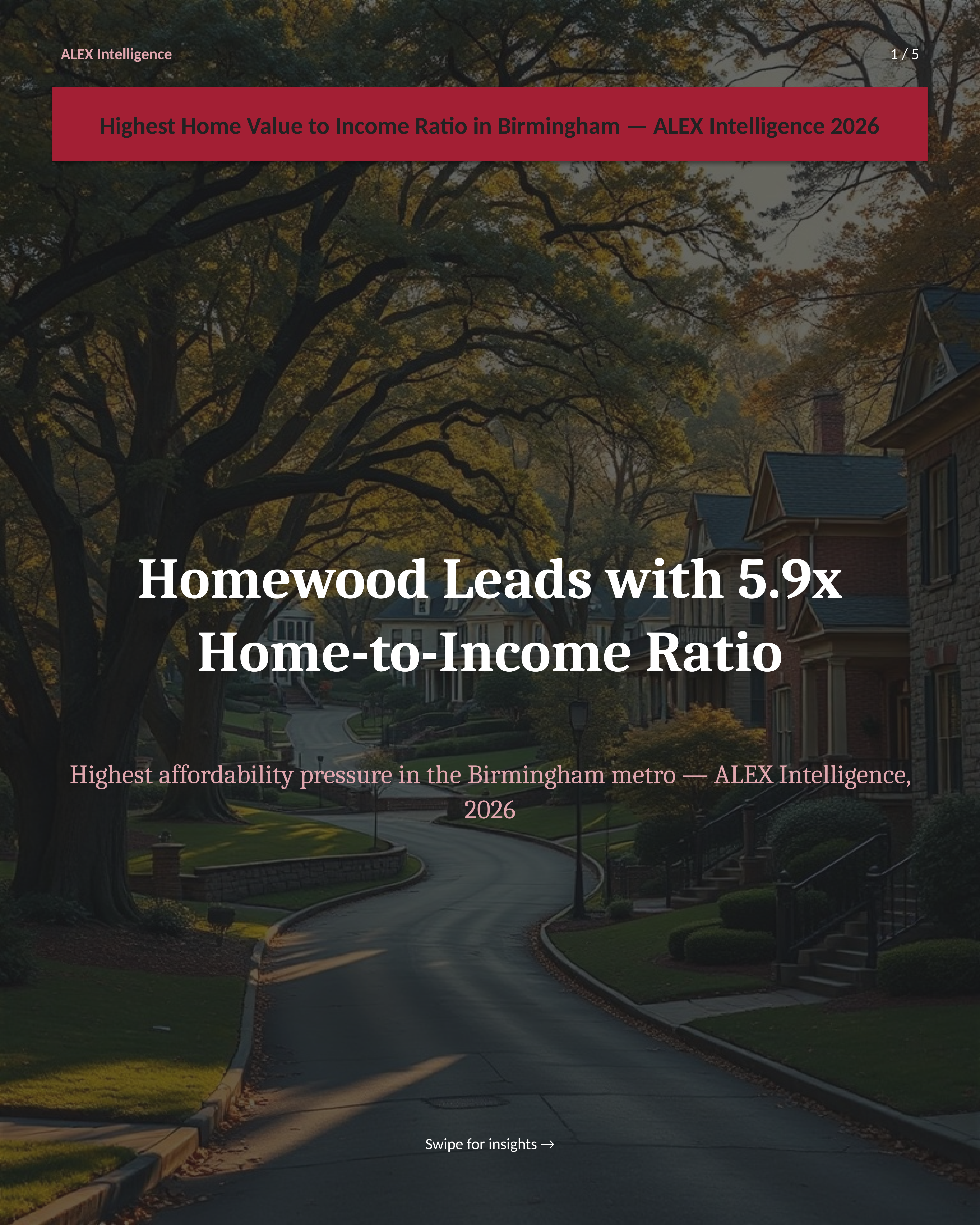

Highest Home Value to Income Ratio in Birmingham — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Homewood Leads with 5.9x Home-to-Income Ratio

Highest affordability pressure in the Birmingham metro — ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

5.9x

Home Value to Income Ratio (2024)

Homewood has the highest home value to income ratio in the Birmingham metro, meaning homes cost nearly six years of median household income.

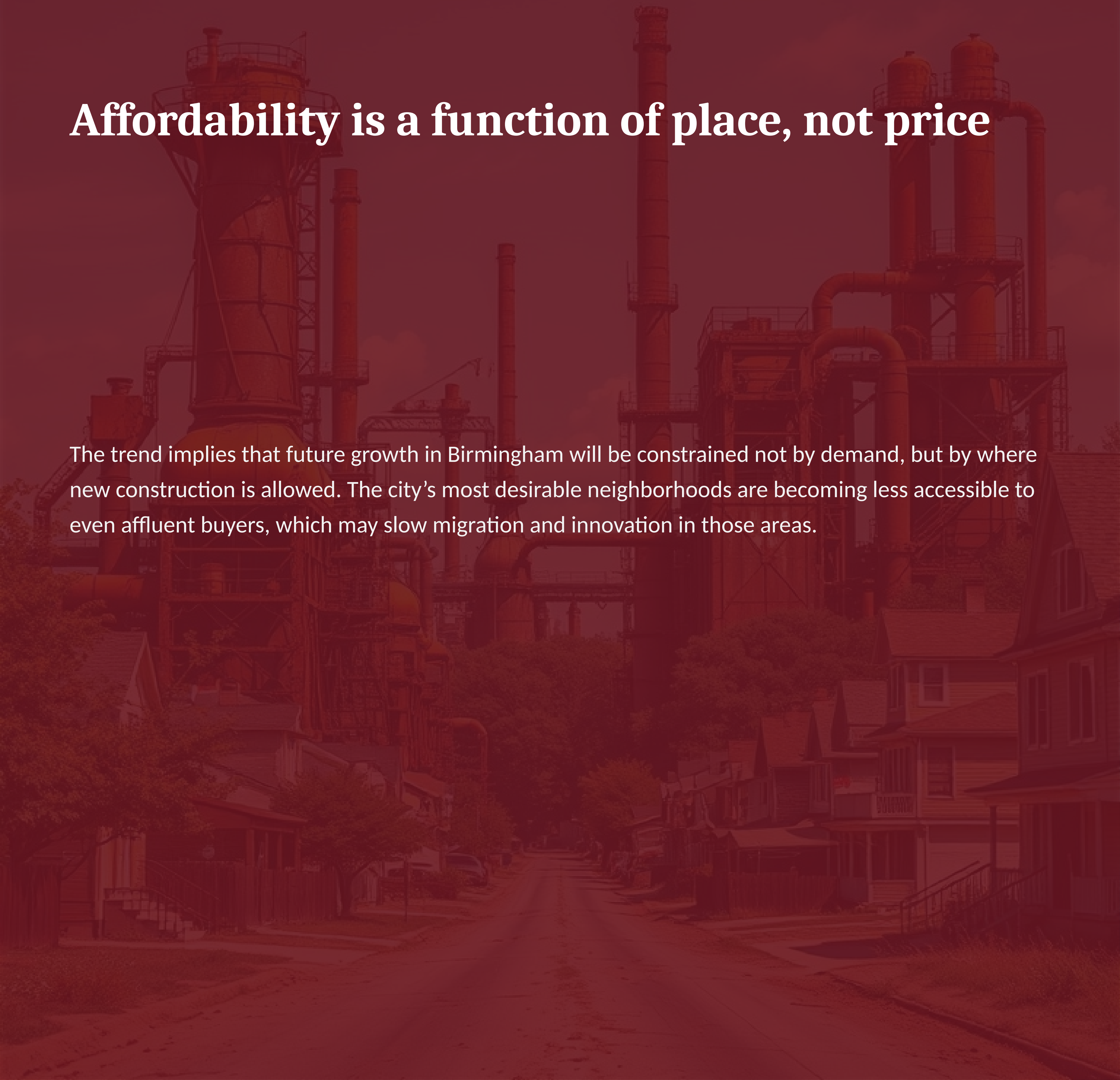
This ratio reflects a structural imbalance where housing costs outpace earnings growth, particularly in high-income enclaves like Homewood. Even as median prices stabilize, affordability pressures are intensifying in areas where incomes haven't kept pace with valuation growth. The data signals a widening gap between homeownership access and economic reality.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-21-birmingham-value-to-income-place-mkt

01

Affordability is a function of place, not price

The trend implies that future growth in Birmingham will be constrained not by demand, but by where new construction is allowed. The city’s most desirable neighborhoods are becoming less accessible to even affluent buyers, which may slow migration and innovation in those areas.



02

The 'premium' label is no longer a shield

This shift means that new investment must look beyond traditional 'best' areas. The next wave of growth will likely come from places with lower ratios—like Bessemer (3.4x)—where affordability and access still exist. The real opportunity lies not in the top-ranked cities, but in the overlooked ones.

Real Estate Strategy & Intelligence Leader. Democratized Blue Ocean Strategist & Operator.

Diane Hart Alexander, MBA, MHA

Chair & CEO, ALEX Companies

Designated Broker, Alexander Tiffany Southwest, LLC dba ALEX.realestate, et.al.

Texas License #574877-B · Broker License #565194-BB

diane@alex.realestate · +1 713.591.9902