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Community Housing Workshop Follow-up

Survey Results FINAL

04/11/2022

Thank you for participating in the Community Housing Workshop on March 24th. Below is a list of action items developed by the breakout group participants. Please choose six strategies you believe the Town should pursue to improve housing opportunities in Needham.

in Needham.	
Review and change zoning to allow for different types of housing in different parts of town (from modest single-family homes to multi-family developments)	41% (13)
	(10)
Participate in the MBTA Communities Initiative to promote by-right, multi- family housing development in proximity to transit and change zoning as needed to participate	69% (22)
Broaden Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) zoning to allow occupancy of those who are not caregivers or related to the owner	38% (12)
Incentivize the development of higher-density, multi-family housing	31% (10)
Amend height restrictions in the downtown to add density and promote project feasibility	19% (6)
Provide relief for group homes to allow unrelated adults to live together near the Town Center or Needham Heights	16% (5)
Create disincentives for knocking down homes through moratoriums or transfer fees	25% (8)
Adopt transfer or impact fees to help promote project feasibility	6% (2)
Ease zoning and permitting requirements for energy-efficient and environmentally-sustainable housing development	
Allow two-family and three-family development by-right	9% (3)
Waive application fees for affordable housing where appropriate	3% (1)
Ease parking minimums for housing	19% (6)
Allow large single-family houses to be converted to multiple units	19% (6)
Support Needham Housing Authority (NHA) plans to renovate and expand their housing units	59% (19)
Encourage rental development using state funding programs such as Low Income Housing Tax Credits to enable all units to be affordable. Waive application fees for affordable housing where appropriate	28% (9)
Provide additional opportunities for seniors to stay in the homes through means-tested tax relief or build small units for them to downsize	28% (9)

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Promote scattered-site, affordable single and two-family home development	9% (3)
Acquire and develop contiguous parcels of land to promote deeply affordable housing	22% (7)
Build multi-family housing above public parking lots/garages	9% (3)
Develop sites formerly used as public schools for multi-family housing	13% (4)
Inventory Town-owned land and identify those parcels that could be used to build more housing (including those that might need regulatory/zoning changes to make housing possible) and identify owners who would be interested in developing them	31% (10)
Undertake a comprehensive community education and public relations effort to explain housing issues	19% (6)
Provide clear housing goals and milestones that can be tracked over the next ten years	25% (8)
Provide additional Town-funded transportation options to reduce car usage and assist in the mobility of the elderly and disabled	22% (7)

Would you like to be notified of future Housing forums and workshops?

yes	100% (32)
no	0% (0)

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