



Town of Old Saybrook

Affordable Housing Plan: Executive Summary

Old Saybrook Board of Selectmen

Adopted July 13, 2021

Introduction

Overview:

Old Saybrook's Affordable Housing Plan is designed to capitalize on its current development trends that see an expansion of multi-family dwellings projects while also considering ways to bridge the pathway to ownership of the town's historic homes. The plan further seeks to address affordability and recognizes that a significant portion of the municipality's renters are severely cost burdened. Public participation proved that the community acknowledges the important impact that affordability will have on growth and that much of the available housing is not adequate for long-term vitality. The plan offers recommendations that would focus on increasing homeownership through CHFA loans and increasing ADUs by 20% over the next five years. The municipality is hoping that their plan's recommendations will also help attract younger residents to the aging community.

Local Recommendations:

- Establish a Housing Task Force Among Municipal Staff
- Promote ADUs as a concept
- Consider incentives for affordable accessory apartments
- Allow for middle-density housing as large home retrofits and promote ownership
- Promote Planned Residential Developments and Multi-Family Options
- Consider development potential of surplus municipally-owned land
- Pursue partnerships

Regional Housing Plan Alignment:

The RHP's regional recommendations will function to support many of the local efforts outlined in Old Saybrook's Affordable Housing Plan. The recommended creation of a Regional Housing Commission could work to either function as the municipality's established local Housing Committee or provide crucial information to further their goals. Old Saybrook also seeks to build partnerships with local advocates and the regional entity could help create many of those desired connections. Finally, the Regional Toolkit would provide a plethora of necessary information that would support the development of municipality owned land by offering case studies and best practices.

Town of Old Saybrook Affordable Housing Plan