City of Seattle Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND LIVABILITY AGENDA



Investing in our communities





Seattle's housing reality

2,942 people are living without shelter in Seattle.



Average rent for a 1-bedroom apartment in Seattle **increased 29%** in the last five years.

Over 45,000 Seattle households pay **over half of their income** on housing.





What is the goal?



In the next 10 years...

30,000 new market-rate housing units

- Increase supply of housing to meet growing demand
- Continue growth in urban centers
- Reduce permitting barriers
- Maximize efficient construction methods
- Provide incentives for family-sized housing

20,000 affordable housing units

- Net new rent/income restricted units
- Includes new construction and acquisition rehab
- About 3x current production
- New and expanded public and private resources
- Funding programs primarily serve ≤ 60% AMI households
- Incentive programs primarily serve 60% to 80% AMI households



5

HALA in action









Promote efficient and innovative development





Mandatory Housing Affordability What is MHA and how does it work?



What is MHA?



- All new multifamily and commercial development must build or pay into a fund for affordable housing.
- Provides additional development capacity to partially offset the cost of these requirements. (Zoning changes)
- ✓ A state-approved approach other local cities have used.



MHA & affordability



Market Rents and Affordable MHA Rents 1 bedroom unit.



A citywide program







Putting MHA in Place: Zoning & urban village boundary changes



What is an urban village?









What is zoning?





MHA zone changes - typical





Average net unit size

Parking spaces provided

Total units

650

14

5

Average net unit size

Parking spaces provided

Total units

650

14

0

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SF below grade

Total units

Average net unit size

Parking spaces provided

7,000

51 (10 below)

650

12

MHA zone changes – other



- \checkmark Boundaries for expanding urban villages
- ✓ Local input and community preference
- ✓ Changes in single-family zoned areas



Principles to Guide MHA Implementation How the MHA Principles inform the draft zoning maps



MHA Principles



Based on community input.

Online

Consider locating more housing near parks, schools and other community assets.

Focus Groups & Community Meetings

Principle: Housing Options



A wide variety of housing sizes, including family-sized units.



Beacon Hill Survey: Encourage affordable family-sized homes 80% agree or strongly agree



Principle: Transitions



Plan for transitions between higher- and lower-scale zones as additional development capacity is accommodated.





Example: Assets and Infrastructure

Assets and infrastructure

 Consider locating more housing near neighborhood assets and infrastructure such as parks, schools, and transit.





Beacon Hill Survey:

Encourage housing development close to light rail. **68%** agree or strongly agree. Encourage affordable housing close to light rail. **70%** agree or strongly agree.



Principle: Neighborhood Urban Design



Neighborhood Urban Design

- Consider local urban design priorities when zoning changes are made.



Beacon Hill Survey:

Encourage additional eyes on the street through community programs, the design of new buildings and other means. **80%** agree or strongly agree.



Principle: Expansion Areas



Urban Village Expansion

- Seattle 2035 Plan
- 10 minute walk to transit
- Urban Villages:
 - Services & business
 - Amenities (i.e. Libraries, parks)
 - Transit connections
 - Walk & bike friendly

Beacon Hill Survey:

Expand the Urban Village to reflect an average 10 minute walk distance.

21% Not agree or disagree 55% Agree or strongly agree





Reading the MHA maps Zoning changes to implement Mandatory Housing Affordability (MHA)



Shaded areas have MHA





Residential Small Lot (RSL)

Multifamily (LR/MR/HR)

Neighborhood Commercial (NC)



Commercial (C)

existing | draft proposal



Current zoning: Single Family 5000 Draft proposal: Residential Small Lot (RSL)

SF 5000 | RSL (M)



Hatched areas



- Change from one zoning type to another (e.g., Multi-family to Neighborhood Commercial)
- A change other than a typical amount (e.g. Single Family to Lowrise 1)





Your feedback



Does the draft map match the principles?

Zone changes

Is the **location**, and **scale** of the draft zone change reasonable to implement MHA affordable housing in this neighborhood?

Single Family rezone areas

Is the **Residential Small Lot (RSL) zone** proposed in appropriate places?

Urban Village expansion areas

Does the draft boundary expansion match an approximate **10-minute walk** to the transit hub, and reflect **local factors**?



Timeline for review







thank you.

www.seattle.gov/hala



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