
MORRIS HOUSING PLAN

FEBRUARY 11TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING



NHCOG
— Northwest Hills —
Council of Governments

AGENDA

1. Review Housing Webinar topics & dates
 - Proposal for short video on affordable housing in NWCT
2. Plan for 1st Public Forum on Housing Plan
3. Morris Housing Authority Meeting
4. Review Housing Needs Assessment
5. Discuss worker housing survey
6. Next meeting date & Next steps



UPCOMING HOUSING WEBINARS

FOR NWCT'S SMALL TOWNS

- **How is Affordable Housing Funded in NWCT's small towns?**
 - Thursday, February 18th at 7pm via Zoom
 - Guest presenter: David Berto, President, Housing Enterprises
- **How much Affordable Housing Do we Need? What is our town's "fair share"?**
 - Wednesday, February 24th at 7pm via Zoom
 - Guest presenter: Sam Giffin, Policy and Data Analyst, Open Communities Alliance
- **Why Does Our Town's Housing Not Meet the Needs of Seniors and Young People?**
 - Thursday, March 4th at 7pm via Zoom
 - Guest presenter: Sean Ghio, Policy Director, Partnership for Strong Communities
- All webinars will be **recorded and available** from your Housing Plan project webpage, NHCOC's YouTube Channel, and anywhere else you wish to post them.

SHORT VIDEO ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN NWCT'S SMALL TOWNS

- **Timeline: Feb/March 2021**
- **Cost: \$4,500** (about \$600 per town that currently has a housing plan grant from the Dept. of Housing)
- **Use/Audience:** This professionally produced short video can be shown during public meetings in the towns creating municipal housing plans to show residents what affordable housing looks like in neighboring towns and hear from the local housing organizations that created and maintain them.
- **Filmmaker:** Theodore Perotti, Pig Iron Films

Possible locations to film:

- **Cornwall-** Bonnie Brook, Kugeman Village, Cornwall Housing Corporation
- **Kent-** Stuart Farm, Kent Affordable Housing
- **Litchfield-** various sites, Litchfield Housing Trust
- **Salisbury-** Sarum Village, Salisbury Housing Committee
- **Norfolk-** Village Center housing, Norfolk Foundation for Living
- **Washington-** Washington Community Housing Trust

Possible interview question topics:

- Project history- donated land?
- How do you think this housing has benefited the community?
- Why do you volunteer your time on your local housing non-profit?
- Length of waiting list
- Who lives there

PLANNING FOR 1ST COMMUNITY FORUM

ON THE HOUSING PLAN

Morris Community Forum

Why are we developing a Morris Affordable Housing Plan?

Please join us...

to hear more about the Housing Plan we are developing, get your questions answered, and provide any feedback you might have.

March 15 or 24? at 7-8:30 pm VIA Zoom (link info below)

AGENDA

- 1. Why are we developing a town affordable housing plan?**
Review why, who's on the steering committee, how do we define affordable housing (10 min)
(Jocelyn or Tom?)
- 2. What types of housing does Morris need?**
Review of Morris Housing Needs Data Analysis (10 min.)
(Jocelyn Ayer, Northwest Hills Council of Governments)
- 3. What do Morris residents and workers say about housing needs?**
Review summary results from Resident Housing needs survey (5 min)
(Jocelyn can do this or someone else from the Committee- Jocelyn will prepare summary)
Maybe Kristen could do this and also mention any housing needs she sees in her role with the town?
- 4. Who owns, and manages the affordable housing we have now?**
Morris Housing Authority- overview of Eldridge Senior Housing (10 mi)
(Jim Simancelli, Morris Housing Authority?)
- 5. Questions and Comments from Participants**
Participants can ask questions; we could do some interactive polling questions as well
- 6. What are the next steps in the Housing Plan process? How can I get more information?**

- Review forum invite flyer
- Decide on date
- Agenda & Speakers
- Discuss Outreach- how do we advertise the meeting and best get residents to attend?
 - Send out FAQs handout with meeting invite? Put a few FAQs on Facebook each week leading up to meeting?

REVIEW HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Morris Housing Needs Assessment

February 2021

Prepared by: Jocelyn Ayer, Northwest Hills Council of Governments

RESIDENT HOUSING SURVEY

FROM 83 TO 138 RESPONSES

Resident Housing Needs Survey

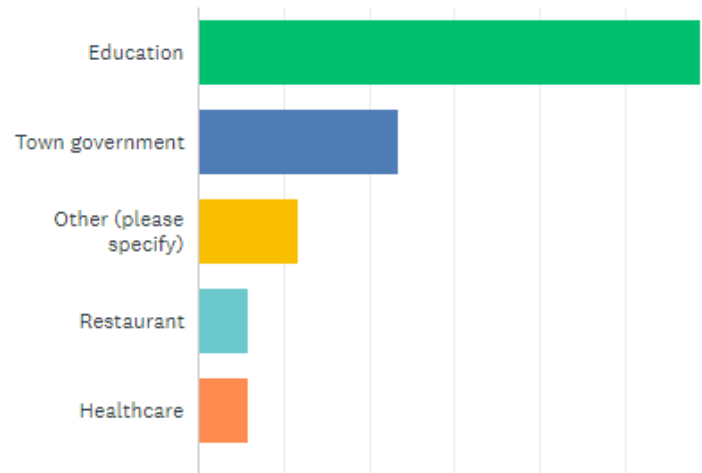
- Goals- start to engage residents in process, hear what they think the needs are + specific needs of their family
- **138 responses to date**
 - Review responses- highlights:
 - 21% have experienced barriers to finding the type of housing they would like in Morris
 - 48% think town needs “downsize” options
 - 38% think town needs first-time homebuyer options
 - 31% think town needs rental options
 - 46% think cost of housing effects young families
- Comment about expanded senior housing on land for sale adjacent to Eldridge Senior Housing

WORKER SURVEY

17 RESPONSES TO DATE

What best describes the type of job you have in town? (check all that apply)

Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Education	58.82%	10
Town government	23.53%	4
Other (please specify) Responses	11.76%	2
Restaurant	5.88%	1
Healthcare	5.88%	1
Retail/sales	0.00%	0
Agriculture/farming	0.00%	0
Finance/banking	0.00%	0
Landscaping	0.00%	0
Arts/culture	0.00%	0
Construction/renovation	0.00%	0
Electrician/plumber/	0.00%	0
Manufacturing	0.00%	0

NEXT STEPS

- Outreach for Community Forum on Housing Plan on March 24 at 7pm via Zoom
- Outreach re: Housing Webinars for NWCT's small towns
- Next meeting date: **March 11 at 5:30pm**
 - Review draft of Housing Plan sections completed to date, including possible goals & strategies
 - Plan for 2nd forum in April?

