Zoning

LocalHousingSolutions.org includes a range of ideas to help cities, towns, and counties in implementing their local housing strategies.

**Brief: Increasing the affordability of rental housing**

There are many approaches that cities, towns, and counties can use to increase the availability of affordable rental housing. In fact, the majority of policy tools in the Housing Policy Library work to advance this very goal. This brief describes how policies in each of the four main categories in the Housing Policy Library can be used to address rental affordability challenges. [Read the brief.]

**Brief: Increasing access to sustainable homeownership**

Local jurisdictions may want to provide assistance that helps low- and moderate-income households become homeowners, and enables existing owners to stay in their own homes, for several reasons. When buyers have access to safe and sustainable mortgage products, homeownership presents a way to accumulate savings which, along with any price appreciation can be the basis for passing wealth down to future generations. This brief describes several tactics for increasing such access. [Read the brief.]

**Selected local housing policies**

- Zoning changes to facilitate the use of lower-cost housing types
- Zoning changes to allow for higher residential density
- Inclusionary zoning
- Density bonuses

**Related resources**

- See a list of selected external links related to zoning
- Video: Why doesn’t the housing market produce the housing we need?
- Video: What can communities do to make housing markets work again?
- Why doesn’t the housing market produce the housing we need?
- Increasing the affordability of rental housing
- Expanding access to public transit
- Affirmatively furthering fair housing