

Dane County Regional Housing Strategy (RHS) FACT SHEET



Background

Dane County, its municipalities, and private and non-profit housing stakeholders have been working to address the shortage of affordable and workforce housing for many years. There are now 14 municipalities engaged in affordable/workforce housing efforts, and more getting started. Yet, we still face an extreme housing shortage. Currently, there are 13,050 renter households and 3,490 homeowners who earn 50% of the area median income (AMI) and below, that are extremely cost-burdened, paying more than 50% of their monthly income on housing. In addition, between 2010 and 2017 we under-produced 11,000 housing units relative to growth (DC Housing Needs Assessment, 2019).

Purpose

The purpose of developing the Dane County Regional Housing Strategy (RHS) is to build on local efforts, assess the ongoing challenges, and work together to help expedite the development and preservation of affordable/workforce housing.

The Regional Housing Strategy initiative recognizes the work already being done, and supports the autonomy of each municipality to learn about and address the housing shortage in the way that best reflects their community. At the same time, the RHS recognizes that housing is regional in nature, and by working together we can identify and leverage opportunities and innovate solutions, beyond what one community can do alone.

RHS Advisory Committee – You’re invited!

The Regional Housing Strategy (RHS) Advisory Committee will oversee the Dane County Regional Housing Strategy process and determine priorities and key strategies for the region. All Dane County municipalities are invited to participate and serve on the RHS Advisory Committee including cities, towns and villages. Non-profit housing organizations, private sector stakeholders and regional partners will also be invited to participate.

How?

Through a strategic planning process, the RHS Advisory Committee will develop a detailed understanding of the housing crisis from a regional

Current Community Partners and Sponsors

Baker Tilly
Cinnaire
Dane County Cities and Villages Association
DeForest
Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago
Fitchburg
Gorman and Co.
Madison
MadRep
MABA
McFarland
Middleton
Madison Gas & Electric Realtors Assoc., South Central WI
Slipstream
Stoughton
Summit Credit Union
United Way of Dane County
Urban League
Waunakee
WHEDA

perspective. The RHS will include a regional housing study, and an inventory and assessment of programs, resources and land use tools currently used to develop and preserve affordable/workforce housing. The housing study will have a supply gap analysis for each municipality. A separate analysis for senior housing, residents of color and disabled will also be included. Based on this work, the RHS Advisory Committee will develop a vision for housing, and identify key regional priorities to work on, and work towards together.

Outcomes

- A vision for the future of housing in Dane County for the next 10-20 years
- Greater understanding of regional nature of housing and the connection between jobs, employers, workforce and transportation, to help inform local policy
- Senior housing demand for each income group, by municipality
- Knowledge of best practices and alternative housing models
- Awareness of factors that contribute to housing instability, and strategies to reduce it
- Housing demand for each income group, by municipality
- Regional Housing Guide and a roadmap with key regional priorities

Possible Recommendations?

- Pursue a regional marketing campaign to help educate residents about the housing shortage, and possible solutions
- ID top zoning requirements that increase housing costs, and pursue strategies to update them
- Hold an annual educational workshop designed for Plan Commission members and local officials on affordable housing for cities, towns and villages
- Partner with regional workforce stakeholders to help expand the supply of construction labor
- Improve regional communication to increase access to housing and homeownership
- ID private sector stakeholders and partner to increase investment for:
 - Re-hab or energy efficiency upgrades in single and multi-family, and within rural hamlets
 - Equalizing housing opportunities for Dane County residents of color
- Support increased density in residential districts/subdivisions to reduce the housing shortage
- Track housing development and preservation to help assess regional progress, policies

When? Kick Off – July 27, 2022 Alliant Energy Center, 6:30-8:30 pm! All meetings 4th Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 pm. See <https://plandev.countyofdane.com/RHS> for more information.

Partner Sponsor Opportunities – Please join us!

Community Partners Sponsors are public, private, non-profit entities or individuals who express their interest in and support of the Dane County Regional Housing Strategy, and pledge their support through a sponsorship donation, or in-kind contribution.

To become a RHS Partner Sponsor go to: <https://plandev.countyofdane.com/RHS>, or contact Olivia Parry at parry@countyofdane.com.