2021 Mayor’s Housing Action Plan

Action plan to fulfill the promise of housing as a human right commits to:

1. Double housing production over the next five years

2. End chronic homelessness in Burlington by the end of 2024

Includes 10 initiatives that establish housing production goals, policy changes, and near-term investments and resources.
Housing Production Goals

- Recognizes Burlington’s share of the regional Building Homes Together 2.0 campaign’s goal to create 5,000 housing units in next 5 years:
  - Support the creation of 1,250 new homes, including 312 (25%) permanently affordable by end of 2026
  - Support the creation of 78 new homes for formerly homeless residents (25% of the permanently affordable goal) through partnership with affordable housing developers
Resources & Services

• Invest at least $5 million of ARPA funds:
  • at least $1 million designated to initiatives to better serve the chronically homeless
  • $4 million to build new permanently affordable housing

• Fully fund Housing Trust Fund to voter-approved levels in FY2023

• Create a Special Assistant to End Homelessness position in CEDO, single point of accountability for expanded community efforts

• New investments to strengthen the Chittenden County Coordinated Entry team’s progress towards “functional zero” with a comprehensive, real-time data effort

• Invest in approx. 30 shelter pods and related infrastructure to crate a new low-barrier facility for 2022 (CEDO*)
Land Use Policy Changes

Three items that have been on Planning Dept. & Commission work plan are a big part of this effort:

• New on-campus UVM student housing opportunities through zoning changes for the former Trinity Campus

• Consider housing opportunities as part of the creation of an Innovation District in a portion of the South End Enterprise Zone

• Expand opportunities for new homes in every neighborhood in ways that reflect the character of these parts of the city through “missing middle” zoning reforms

*Shelter pods may also require a zoning amendment to be considered by the Planning Commission
Overview of Policies

• Zoning for Trinity Campus:
  • With UVM, explore potential infill for area of campus
  • Key zoning questions will include: lot coverage, setbacks and height for the Trinity Campus Overlay Zoning District

• Possible introduction in February

• Slides from UVM to Council on Jan 10:

http://go.boarddocs.com/vt/burlingtonvt/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CADJE94CAD4C
Overview of Policies

• South End Innovation District in the ELM:
  • Build on work and feedback already started with PC in fall 2021
  • Work with partner stakeholder group to explore similar questions about land uses & details of a zoning amendment
  • Explore other tools outside zoning to achieve affordability, open space, connectivity, etc goals

• Bring additional recommendations & concepts to Commission in the spring

• Background & PC Discussion from Oct 26:
  https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CityPlan/PC/Agendas
Overview of Policies

• Missing Middle Housing:
  • Identifying opportunities for zoning changes that support neighborhood/house-scale infill
  • Will also look at parking (if needed), historic standards, etc.
  • Work will be partially funded through a grant from VT Dept of Housing & Community Development
  • AARP-VT Livable Communities bringing in-kind supports: zoning code audit, conceptual lot infill, and workshop

• Project will be 12-18 months, begin late spring/early summer

• Will share recording of 1/25 Missing Middle Webinar when available