



**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH REGARDING
LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING
2025-10**

WHEREAS, the Town of West Greenwich recognizes the need for more low and moderate income housing in town; and

WHEREAS, the Town of West Greenwich has a state approved affordable housing plan from 2005 and is currently in the process of updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan, which is on track for submission in early 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Town of West Greenwich is making significant progress to increase our affordable housing stock from 1.7% to 10.6% via two comprehensive permits that are deep into the planning stages; and

WHEREAS, these two comprehensive permit projects will increase the Town's total population by 10% and have significant financial and environmental impacts to the Town; and

WHEREAS, any additional comprehensive permit projects beyond those currently in the pipeline will have devastating effects on the Town's rural character, provision of public safety and other services, environment, and budget; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to the Rhode Island Low and Moderate Income Housing Act have significantly constrained municipal authority on comprehensive permit applications, and the required findings for such applications give less discretion to local review boards than they have for conventional development applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council respectfully requests the Rhode Island General Assembly and the Governor reinstate "Required findings for denial" in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Act, at Title 45, Chapter 53, Section 4 of the Rhode Island General Laws, and to enact a law providing that for purposes of calculating a municipality's progress toward the 10% affordable housing goal, affordable units shall be counted at the issuance of a building permit. This will help cities and towns reduce the adverse impact of receiving an overabundance of comprehensive permits in a short period of time, which will allow thoughtful decisions that will benefit all of our residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council respectfully requests the respective City and Town Councils of Rhode Island join in our request to have the General Assembly enact legislation to restore "Required findings for denial" and to count affordable units when a building permit is issued.

Passed as a Resolution of the West Greenwich Town Council this 10th day of December, 2025.

ATTEST:

Kelly M. Laiho
Town Clerk



Mark D. Boyer, President
West Greenwich Town Council