



Town of Bristol, Rhode Island

Department of Community Development

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April 4, 2024

TO: Planning Board
FROM: Diane M. Williamson, Director
RE: **Update to Housing Element of Comprehensive Plan**

Diane W.

For the April 11 Planning Board meeting, Jeff Davis, a planner from the consulting firm of Horsley Witten Group will make a presentation to the Board for review and discussion as we begin the project of updating the Housing Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Town received a Technical Assistance Grant from RI Housing to undertake this work and the grant is funding the project in its entirety. The grant will also fund a consultant to help the Town create a program with the Affordable Housing Fee in Lieu funds anticipated from the Bristol Yarn Mill project. That consultant will present to the Board in May to begin that phase of the project.

For this project there will also be a public meeting in May to discuss this update with the broader public and continued review with the Planning Board again in June and July.

Enclosed is the current Housing Chapter from the Comprehensive Plan to review prior the meeting next week. Also enclosed are Interview Questions to consider. We will review and discuss the Board member's thoughts in response to these as well.

Thank you!



Bristol Housing Chapter April 2024 Interview Questions

Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed to assist us in the development of the Housing Chapter of the Town of Bristol's Comprehensive Plan. Below are questions that may come up during the discussion.

1. What attracts people to live in Bristol?
2. Who is moving to Bristol? Where do they move from?
3. Why do people leave Bristol?
4. Who is moving out of Bristol? Where do they move to?
5. Have these trends changed at all in recent years? Are certain household types or populations more likely to be affected by these trends?
6. Have you noticed any changes in housing trends or needs recently?
7. Are there any types of housing (rental, ownership, single-family houses, apartments, ADUs, townhouses, duplexes, certain price points, etc.) that the community wants or needs more of?
8. Are there any changes that you would like to see in the current Town regulations and zoning as they relate to housing?
9. How would proposals for allowing different types of housing in Bristol be received by the community? Do people tend to see housing as something the Town needs to address?
10. What is the capacity for addressing housing related issues in Town? Who is thinking about housing issues and what tools do they have to address them?
11. What characteristics of the community's housing market are barriers for different populations (e.g., lack of supply, housing quality, lack of accessible units, price, etc.?) Which populations are most affected?
12. What other related factors make attaining or retaining housing challenging for these populations? (e.g., transportation, childcare, other household costs, medical issues, lack of services?)
13. If you had a magic wand, what are the top things you would do to address housing concerns in Bristol?
14. Is there anything else we should know about housing in Bristol based on your experiences and knowledge?