

**A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING SHORTCOMINGS IN THE HOUSING 2030 ELEMENT OF  
THE RHODE ISLAND STATE GUIDE PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Rhode Island State Guide Plan serves as the framework for statewide planning and policy coordination, including guidance related to housing, land use, infrastructure, environmental protection, and economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Rhode Island has recently adopted **Housing 2030** as an element of the State Guide Plan, establishing housing production goals for each of the State's thirty-nine (39) cities and towns based on an assessment of their potential for new housing growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Charlestown supports the goal of addressing housing affordability and availability across the State through thoughtful, data-driven, and locally informed strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has concerns that the Housing 2030 plan assigns municipal housing production goals using generalized assumptions that may not sufficiently account for significant local constraints, including but not limited to environmental protection requirements, drinking water supply limitations, wastewater treatment capacity, infrastructure availability, and coastal and rural land characteristics; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council is concerned that the methodology used to determine each municipality's "potential for new housing growth" lacks transparency and may not adequately reflect existing zoning, adopted comprehensive plans, voter-approved land use policies, or long-standing conservation priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that Housing 2030 does not consistently account for the fiscal and operational impacts of accelerated housing production on municipal services such as public safety, schools, roads, and emergency management; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council further notes that Housing 2030 places housing production expectations on municipalities without clearly identifying corresponding state funding commitments, infrastructure investments, or implementation mechanisms necessary to achieve those goals in a sustainable manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council is concerned that the plan's town-by-town housing targets may be interpreted or applied in ways that diminish municipal authority over land use decisions, contrary to Rhode Island's tradition of locally informed planning and governance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council believes that effective housing policy requires a collaborative partnership between the State and municipalities, grounded in respect for local conditions, capacity, and adopted plans;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Charlestown, Rhode Island, that the Town Council formally identifies and expresses concern regarding the shortcomings of the Housing 2030 element of the State Guide Plan as currently adopted; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Council urges the State of Rhode Island to revisit and refine Housing 2030 in consultation with municipalities to ensure that housing production goals are realistic, equitable, infrastructure-aware, environmentally sound, and consistent with local comprehensive planning efforts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Council encourages the development of a revised approach that emphasizes incentives, technical assistance, and state investment in infrastructure rather than prescriptive growth targets that may not be achievable for all municipalities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Secretary of Housing, Charlestown's legislative delegation, the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, and any other appropriate state officials.

**ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Charlestown, Rhode Island, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

ATTEST:

Amy Rose Weinreich, TMC  
Amy Rose Weinreich, Town Clerk

