

# Proclamation

## Declaring May 2026 as Housing Month in the City of Hendersonville

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hendersonville recognizes that access to safe, stable, and affordable housing is a fundamental need for all residents and a cornerstone of a thriving and sustainable community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hendersonville has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to addressing housing challenges through strategic planning, community engagement, and partnerships; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has actively pursued funding and partnerships to support affordable housing, including the acceptance of a \$750,000 CDBG grant in 2021, for the rehabilitation of homes in the Ashe Street neighborhood, the acceptance of a \$1,312,710 and the allocation of \$800,000 to the Apple Ridge project being developed by Housing Assistance Corporation in 2022, to support affordable housing development; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has engaged in extensive community outreach and collaboration, including hosting a Housing Summit on May 16, 2024, with over 200 attendees, and conducting listening sessions with diverse community groups such as the business community, elderly and veterans, African American community, nonprofit organizations, and the Hispanic Latinx community to ensure that housing solutions reflect the needs and values of all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hendersonville has prioritized the development of a Strategic Housing Plan, supported by a \$100,000 grant from the Dogwood Health Trust, and informed by a comprehensive Housing Needs Assessment completed by the Development Finance Initiative in 2024, which identified a critical need for 2,200 affordable housing units within the City to meet the demands of low- to moderate-income households; and

**WHEREAS**, the Strategic Housing Plan outlines key objectives to address housing challenges, including increasing opportunities for homeownership, prioritizing permanently affordable housing for households earning up to 80% of the area median income, integrating housing solutions into neighborhoods to preserve community character, and supporting residents' ability to age in place; and

**WHEREAS**, the City recognizes the importance of reducing barriers to housing supply, preserving and improving the quality of existing affordable housing stock, and fostering partnerships with businesses, nonprofits, local governments and other stakeholders to ensure that housing costs do not exceed 30% of household income; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hendersonville acknowledges the significant impact of Hurricane Helene in 2024, which exacerbated housing challenges by damaging housing stock, particularly in low-income neighborhoods, and further underscored the need for resilient housing solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council and Strategic Plan Steering Committee have worked diligently to explore innovative solutions, including the Community Land Trust model, zoning text amendments, and mixed-income housing developments, to address the housing needs of current and future residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Barbara G. Volk, Mayor of the City of Hendersonville, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as **Housing Month** in the City of Hendersonville.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED**, that during this month, the City of Hendersonville encourages all residents, businesses, and community organizations to join in recognizing the importance of affordable housing, supporting ongoing housing initiatives, and working together to create a community where everyone has a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home.

**PROCLAIMED** this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2026.

Seal

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Barbara G. Volk, Mayor  
City of Hendersonville

Attest:

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Jill Murray, City Clerk