



DATE: March 27, 2024

TO: Members of the Planning & Zoning and Historic Resources Preservation Boards

FROM: William Waters, Director Community Sustainability

MEETING: April 3 & April 10, 2024

SUBJECT: **Ordinance 2024-05:** Consideration of an ordinance amending Chapter 23 “Land Development Regulations,” Article 2 “Administration,” Division 3 “Permits,” Section 23.2-39 “Affordable/Workforce Housing Program” to provide minor changes for clarity to the Affordable/Workforce Housing Program Tiers.

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**PROPOSAL / BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS:**

The recently adopted (10/6/2022) Ordinance 2022-12 created the City’s Affordable/Workforce Housing Program to encourage the development of affordable and/or workforce housing units within the City. The program allows several incentives, including a 15% density bonus and additionally flexibility in unit size, parking requirements and financial incentives provided that no less than 15% of the total dwelling units are deed restricted as affordable. The City Commission has subsequently directed staff to develop additional affordability buy down options. Further, in the recent implementation of the ordinance, staff has identified some minor housekeeping changes that would provide additional clarity on the program’s implementation as well as foster an increase in the number of new affordable/workforce housing units being proposed including accessory dwelling units.

The proposed ordinance would amend the recently adopted new section of the LDR in Chapter 23 of the City’s Code of Ordinances:

- Article 2, Section 23.2-39 – Affordable/Workforce Housing Program

The proposed amendments are in response to the following input received over the past year.

- The City Commission requested further opportunities to encourage the creation of affordable/workforce housing including accessory dwelling units.
- The Florida Legislature has adopted a series of policies to encourage the building of accessory dwelling units.
- The recently completed Florida Atlantic University Housing Study for Lake Worth Beach recommends several policy amendments to encourage the creation of affordable/workforce housing including accessory dwelling units.
- The LWB CRA has requested more flexibility in development more residential units on lots of record that can be deed restricted as affordable/workforce housing
- The Palm Beach County Housing Leadership Council and Palm Beach County encourage innovative approaches to improve the delivery of new affordable/workforce housing units including accessory dwelling units.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Planning and Zoning Board and Historic Resources Preservation Board recommend that the City Commission adopt Ordinance 2024-05.

**POTENTIAL MOTION:**

I move to RECOMMEND/NOT RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COMMISSION **TO ADOPT** the proposed LDR text amendments included in Ordinance 2024-05.

**Attachments**

- A. Draft Ordinance 2024-05