



MEDINA, WASHINGTON

AGENDA BILL

Monday, February 14, 2022

Subject: Permanent Supportive and Transitional Housing

Category: City Business\Discussion

Staff Contact: Stephanie Keyser, Planning Manager

Summary

Recently adopted E2SHB 1220 ("Bill") impacted cities in two ways: 1) it eliminated certain zoning barriers related to the provision of emergency housing and, 2) required cities to plan for affordable housing in their next Comprehensive Plan update. Tonight's discussion is focused on the first impact and is intended to familiarize you with the state statutory requirements of the Bill and proposed code amendments to bring the municipal code into compliance with State law. These code amendments have been recommended by the Planning Commission, reviewed by the City Attorney's Office, and are in line with other jurisdictions' amendments.

Under Section 3 of the Bill, all code cities, including Medina, "shall not prohibit transitional housing or permanent supportive housing in any [zoning district] in which residential dwelling units or hotels are allowed." Cities may provide "reasonable occupancy, spacing and other intensity of use," but such regulations may not prevent the siting of a sufficient number of facilities necessary to accommodate each city's projected need for such housing under RCW 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii).

While Medina does not allow hotels, residential dwellings are permitted by right in every zoning district. Thus, the City cannot prevent a transitional or permanent supportive housing unit from establishing itself in Medina, but as noted above the City may set reasonable parameters to protect public health and safety.

This topic will come back to Council in March for a public hearing and Council action through adoption of an ordinance amending the MMC.

Attachment:

Permanent Supportive and Transitional Housing Memo including **Exhibit A** - Draft Code

Budget/Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Discussion

City Manager Approval:

Proposed Council Motion: N/A

Time Estimate: 15 minutes