



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 29, 2018

### **Work Session**

Continued Discussion of Housing Component of the Draft Housing and Economic Development Strategic Plan

### **Recommended Council Action**

None – discussion only

### **Context with Key Issues**

The City Council, having reviewed the housing components of the strategic plan and the preliminary recommendations included in the draft, will be focusing on refining the following elements of the plan and identifying priorities:

- Vision Statement: A Livable Community for All
- Housing Affordability Goal
- Strategy
- Objectives

The draft text presented to the Council during the October 17 work session is included as an attachment and will serve as a starting point for the discussion.

### **Council Priority**

“A Livable Community for All” with the goal of ensuring that a range of safe, quality, and stable housing options are available for residents of varying incomes.

“Community Development for an Improved and Equitable Quality of Life” with the goal of planning and preparing for development in the City and region which maintains the special character and diversity of Takoma Park.

### **Environmental Considerations**

We believe the recommendations included in the draft Strategic Plan, once finalized and adopted by the Council, will identify opportunities for improving the environment, including saving energy and improving water quality as part of redevelopment, and minimizing transportation distances to goods and services.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

The initial cost of working on these efforts could be substantial for the City, including additional personnel, contracts for services and use of funds from the Housing Reserve to leverage projects. In the long run, these efforts are needed to build a strong economic base for Takoma Park which in turn will provide funds for the City services needed for an improved and equitable quality of life in the community.

## **Racial Equity Considerations**

We believe the recommendations included in the draft Strategic Plan, once finalized and adopted by the Council, will identify opportunities that will positively impact people of color, including immigrants and refugees.

## **Attachments and Links**

- Draft Vision Statement, Goal, Strategy and Objectives
- [Project Page: Housing and Economic Development Strategic Plan](#)
- [Draft Strategic Plan \(October 15, 2017\)](#)
- [Presentation: Housing Overview Mullin & Lonergan \(February 26, 2018\)](#)
- [Presentation: Overview of Housing Recommendations \(October 3, 2018\)](#)
- [Presentation: Vision Statement, Goals, Strategy and Objectives \(October 17, 2018\)](#)

**City of Takoma Park Maryland**  
**HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN**  
Draft Vision Statement, Goal, Strategy and Objectives  
October 29, 2018 Work Session Discussion

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**VISION: A LIVABLE COMMUNITY FOR ALL**

The Takoma Park City Council is committed to the creation and preservation of a community that:

- Protects the rights of all residents;
- Provides opportunities to all regardless of age, race, ethnicity, citizenship status, or ability;
- Maintains and enhances the physical characteristics of its residential and commercial neighborhoods; and
- Is sustainable, accessible, and affordable all across socioeconomic groups.

**GOAL**

To ensure that a range of safe, quality, affordable and stable housing options and opportunities are available to all residents in neighborhoods throughout the community.

**STRATEGY**

The City Council supports a coordinated housing strategy which encourages the development and preservation of a diverse range of housing that is affordable for residents across all income levels and in all neighborhoods, and facilitates public and private investment in the development of character-rich, walkable neighborhoods which appeal to a broad range of residents including young adults, first time homeowners, families with children, seniors seeking to age in the community, and individuals with disabilities.

**OBJECTIVES**

This strategy supports public and private actions which:

- Create rental and homeownership opportunities in neighborhoods throughout the community;
- Maintain the long term affordability and physical condition of the existing housing stock;
- Offer a variety of housing types for a diverse demographic;
- Facilitate moderate and higher density infill development and mixed use residential redevelopment;
- Address the day to day needs of renters and homeowners, and protect the rights of landlords and tenants; and
- Advocate for local, county and state decisions, policies, legislation, regulations and funding in support of these objectives.

## **ACTIONS**

Substantive actions which, when partnered with existing policies and programming modifications, have the potential to advance identified objectives over time:

- Community Land Trust
- Housing Fund
- Infill Development and Mixed Use Redevelopment
- Ongoing Programming
- Advocacy