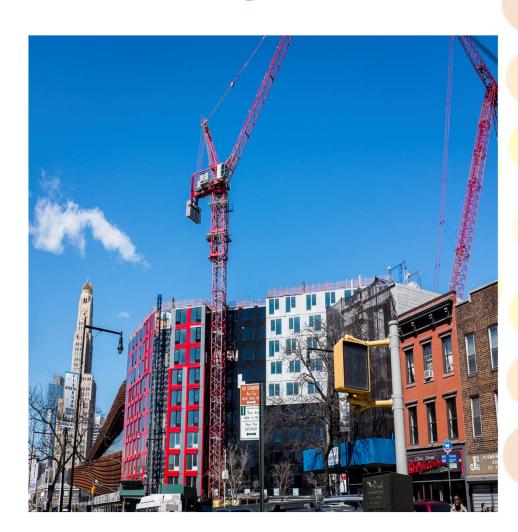


### An Appetite for Affordable Housing:

Insights from Utah's Municipal Officials

#### What is Affordable Housing?

- "Affordable housing" is understood by municipal officials to mean a variety of things.
- It can mean "low quality" or "dense" housing to more technical definitions based upon local area median income.
- This likely parallels a



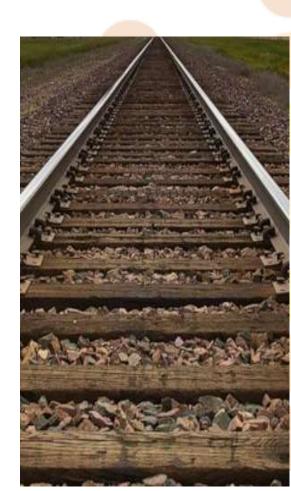
#### Municipal Officials See the Need for Affordable Housing

- Municipal officials see a shortage of diverse housing options.
- Municipal officials also appreciate the need for accessory dwelling units (71%)
- Municipal officials also recognize the need for streamlined permitting (48%)
- Municipal officials welcome zoning



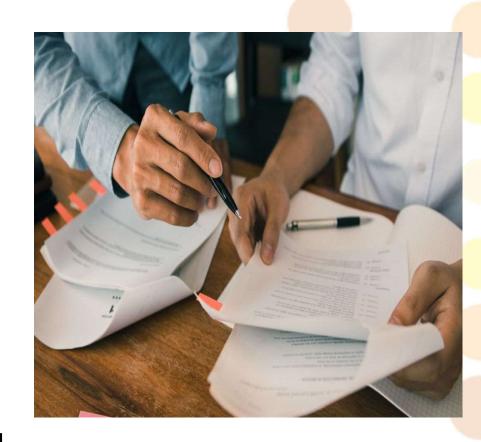
#### **Municipal Officials Oppose State Intervention**

- Municipal officials often oppose the Moderate Income Housing Plan (MIHP).
- The MIHP is sometimes perceived as heavy-handed.
- The MIHP is sometimes seen as ill-suited to less urban municipalities.
- The 26 state-prescribed policy options are less acceptable to rural communities and to those municipalities already



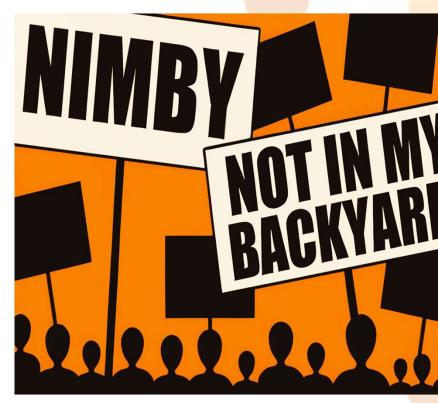
#### **How are Municipal Officials Informed?**

- Outside
   Research informs most
   municipal officials'
   preferences regarding
   housing policy (about
   75%)
- Most Municipal Officials get their information from training events and



## Significant Sources of Opposition to Affordable Housing

- Municipal officials perceive the strongest barrier to affordable housing as emanating from community opposition (54%)
- Opposition is less commonly from Elected Officials (10%)
- Opposition is even less commonly emanating from municipal staff (3%)



#### **Costs and Benefits of Affordable Housing**

 It is up to municipal leaders to effectively communicate both to communities so that a more informed dialogue can result.

 Costs: Stressed infrastructure, Changing neighborhood character, Socioeconomic integration, blocked views.

 Benefits: Better neighborhood character, More socioeconomic integration, lower aggregate housing costs, ecological friendliness, preservation of open spaces



## Effective Communication can Increase the Availability of Affordable Housing

- "The people who work in your community, including teachers, firefighters, and police officers, should have access to housing they can afford in your community. More small-lot homes, townhomes, duplexes, and apartments can create this affordable housing for your community members."
- "More housing, especially lower-cost types of housing, alleviates Utah's housing shortage and limits the rapid increase in prices/rents."
- "If we share growth across all our communities by adding more housing options with well-planned transportation and quality open space, we can keep housing costs down, reduce how much time we spend in a car, improve air quality, and preserve quality of life for more Utah families."



# Thank You!

