Town Plan Draft - Housing

**Goal 1: Strive to achieve the municipal housing targets established by the HOME Act and create diverse, resilient, and quality housing options for residents and potential residents from all walks of life throughout the Town.**

1. When updating zoning regulations, identify further opportunities for development of a variety of housing types, for example, allowing mixed residential and commercial use, higher unit density, or unique accessory housing in certain identified districts

Owner: Planning Commission / Housing Committee

1. Support discussions that consider infrastructure investment for the development of new/improved housing stock. e.g. extending the water/wastewater infrastructure for the development and long-term viability of housing.

Owner: Planning Commission/Housing Committee

1. Continue to support the growth and mission of the Richmond Housing Committee and their strategic recommendations as they identify needs to pursue Richmond's housing goals. Empower the development and execution of a strategic housing plan.

Owner: Planning Commission/ Housing Committee

1. Encourage concentrated residential development in areas identified for growth as recommended in the Future Land Use Maps through paths such as ADUs, multi-family housing, and an increase in the allowable building height.

Owner: Planning Commission/ Housing Committee

1. Streamline the development review and permitting process and develop clearer guidelines for approving new housing units.

**Goal 2: Support the creation of housing that is more affordable and attainable for low- and moderate-income households.**

1. Create policies that encourage affordable housing development in accordance with and extend beyond state mandates, such as from the HOME Act.

1. Continue to support the existence of the mobile home park through open dialogue with residents and the park owner. Support additional affordable housing development in the park.
2. Work with and support the work of the Richmond Racial Equity group to engage with underserved communities to understand and support housing needs.
3. Create a climate that is more accepting of affordable housing as a path to creating a more resilient community that supports our businesses, schools, and future growth. Accomplished through building relationships with and educating homeowners, landowners, business owners, and town representatives.
4. Create a housing trust fund to support eligible projects or land acquisitions. The fund can be funded from such sources as donations, registration fees, small budget allocations or other mechanisms to be determined.
5. Partner with non-profit affordable housing developers such as Habitat for Humanity, Champlain Housing Trust Fund, or Cathedral Square to support the development of future community projects.

Recommend these go to other sections:

**Community Development Goal 1 or Goal 2**

5. Provide guidance to homeowners in the Special Flood Hazard Area who seek to implement flood proofing measures

6. Support, and share information about, programs and resources that assist seniors or low mobility residents remain in their homes such as HomeShare Vermont, Meals on Wheels, and Neighbor Rides

**Energy or Community Development:**

7. Support, and share information about, programs and resources that help to lower cost of home ownership such as energy conservation, weatherization, and utility assistance

**Historic Resources:**

8. Support programs and funding sources for preserving and renovating historic or older homes that can help owners maintain historic character and livability

**Utilities and Facilities:**

Invest in municipal infrastructure improvements that allow for new development such as improved and extended water/wastewater infrastructure necessary for the development of new/improved housing stock that is more affordable.