



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING RELEASES “PLANNING FOR AFFORDABILITY IN CONNECTICUT: AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN AND PROCESS GUIDEBOOK”

*New, First of Its Kind Resource Provides Framework to Help Towns -
Develop Affordable Housing Plans Now Required by State Law*

(Hartford, CT) - The Connecticut Department of Housing today announced the release of its **Planning For Affordability in Connecticut: Affordable Housing Plan and Process Guidebook** - a new guidebook to assist local governments as they begin to create affordable housing plans now required by State Statute 8-30J. The guidebook, created in partnership with tristate civic group Regional Plan Association, is intended to help towns develop their local plans by providing a framework to engage communities and provide guidance on what to include in their plans, including how to:

- Create a community values statement
- Conduct a housing needs assessment
- Evaluate local land use and zoning to identify barriers to affordable housing development
- Develop plan principles, goals and actions
- Apply best practices to implement plans

“The utilization of this new tool for decision-making delivers resources and information in an easy to use manner, so communities can make more effective decisions based on their analysis,” said **Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno**. “We must be proactive decision makers which involves anticipating events and issues. The creation and preservation of quality, sustainable homes that are affordable throughout our communities in Connecticut is a top priority.”

Known commonly as Statute 8-30J, this Connecticut State law requires towns to prepare affordable housing plans at least once every five years. Under this statute, municipalities have until July 2022 to adopt an affordable housing plan. While Statute 8-30J requires affordable housing plans to be prepared, it does not stipulate what should be included. This first of its kind guidebook aims to facilitate the process to successfully create future housing affordability across Connecticut by creating meaningful and effective local housing plans.

“Creating a local affordable housing plan is a great way for communities across the State to proactively plan for more affordability,” said **Melissa Kaplan-Macey, Vice President for State Programs and Connecticut Director, Regional Plan Association**. “We're thrilled to be working with the CT

Department of Housing to create tools that towns can use to plan for inclusive, thriving communities that meet the needs of people of all ages and incomes."

"This new guidebook will help our state's towns and cities design plans that fit their unique housing needs," said **Kiley Gosselin, Executive Director of the Partnership for Strong Communities.**

"Across the state, towns such as Salisbury and Fairfield have already experienced the benefits of planning for affordability, and this new resource will help guide municipalities through the planning process."

A link to this document can be found on the Department of Housing Website at [Affordable Housing Plan Process Guidebook.](#)

###

Connecticut Department of Housing

Aaron Turner

Aaron.Turner@ct.gov

203-610-4669

Regional Plan Association

Gloria Chin

gchin@rpa.org

917-546-4327