

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

All three regional planning commissions which the County encompasses have prepared Housing Needs Assessments for their regions pursuant to NH RSA 35:47,II. These assessments evaluate the regional need for housing for persons and families of all income levels. In addition to identifying affordable housing needs, these studies highlight techniques and land use strategies to meet housing needs. The planning commissions work with municipalities to incorporate the finding of these Assessments in community master plans to serve as a local goal in meeting affordable housing needs.

Twenty-seven of the County's thirty-seven communities are members of the Rockingham Regional Planning Commission and these communities therefore, have representation on the Commission. Given this, the goals listed below are primarily based on the Rockingham Planning Commission's 1988 Regional Master Plan.

The Regional Master Plan's purpose is to show how the resources of the region can best be used and managed to meet the expressed needs and wishes of its residents, all of whom reside in Rockingham County. The Plan establishes overall regional goals designed to promote health, safety, and general welfare. The goals are broad statements of intent regarding how future land use and development should occur in the region. The following goals include goals as cited in the Regional Master Plan.

- * Promote the conservation, protection and sound management of the region's natural resources. (Short and Long Term Goal)
- * Plan and manage growth and development to minimize adverse impacts and maximize development benefits. (Short and Long Term Goal)
- * Encourage a balanced, diverse, safe and sanitary housing supply which meets the needs of all age and income groups in the region. (Short Term Goal)
- * Encourage the safe, convenient and efficient movement of people, goods, and services within the region. (Short and Long Term Goal)
- * Encourage the timely and orderly development of public services, facilities, and utilities necessary to support existing and anticipated development. (Short and Long Term Goal)
- * Encourage adequate passive and active recreation areas and facilities to meet the needs of the region. (Short and Long Term Goal)
- * Protect, preserve and promote the regional historical resources and culturally significant structures. (Short and Long Term Goal)
- * Promote public awareness about the importance of sound land use, planning, and resource management. (Short Term Goal)
- * Encourage regional economic development efforts to increase quality industrial and commercial development. Encourage the expansion and retention of employment opportunities for the County's residents. (Short Term Goal)
- * Encourage services to meet the needs of the County's residents, such as social services providing various assistance including shelter, meals, child and elder care services. (Short Term Goal & Long Term Goal)

It is the policy of Rockingham County that the involuntary displacement of households from their neighborhoods shall be minimized.

These goals are consistent with Rockingham County's Master Plan and Ordinances.

Any federal CDBG grant funds awarded to address any of these goals shall be expended consistent with national objectives and shall, at a minimum, provide improved housing in accordance with Section 8 standards, be used for public facility projects, employment opportunities, or feasibility studies. All CDBG funded projects, shall primarily benefit low and moderate income persons or households, and shall not benefit moderate income persons to the exclusion of low income persons.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners on May 16, 2018.

