

Erie Poised to Require All New Development to Include Affordable Housing







Do you live in or commute to Erie? Here's what you need to know...

In Brief

Inclusionary housing ordinances throughout Colorado and the country are one important tool that a local government can use to help create affordable housing. Erie is preparing to vote on such an ordinance on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at Town Hall Boardroom, 645 Holbrook Street, Erie, CO.

What is Inclusionary Housing?

A recent <u>study on inclusionary housing in the US defines</u> inclusionary as "A set of local rules or a local government initiative that encourages or requires the creation of affordable housing units, or the payment of fees for affordable housing investments when new development occurs." This definition includes impact or linkage fees that generate revenue for affordable housing. (<u>Source: Grounded Solutions Network, 2021</u>).

Where is Inclusionary Housing Working?

Inclusionary housing policies have been adopted in 734 jurisdictions in 31 states and Washington, D.C. Almost all the communities in Boulder County have some form of inclusionary housing.

How Does this Fit for Erie?

Erie has adopted a goal of 12% affordable housing (suitable for people who make 80 percent of Area Median Income and below) to be achieved by 2035. To achieve that goal, the community of Erie needs tools. This ordinance will be the first tool in that toolbox.

What if Developers Don't Want to Build Affordable Housing?

A typical inclusionary housing ordinance gives developers other options, like cash or land donations, as alternatives. This can help a community seeking large parcels of land for affordable housing. Land costs are one of the biggest reasons housing is not affordable.

What Can You do To Help?

- Show up to the Erie Town of Trustees meeting on **Tuesday, September 20, 2022**, and support the draft affordable housing ordinance.
- Ask your friends and neighbors in Erie to join you at the Erie Town of Trustees meeting.
- Write a letter in support of Erie creating tools to build more affordable housing.
- To learn more about speaking to the Town Board of Trustees and the process for approving this ordinance, email annmariejensencolorado@gmail.com.

Information Sheet authored by ECHO (East County Housing Opportunity Coalition), a grassroots 501(c)3 nonprofit focused on affordable and inclusive housing policy in Longmont, Erie, Lafayette, Louisville, and Superior, CO. https://www.echocolorado.com