



ADAPTABLE AND ACCESSIBLE HOUSING INCENTIVES

The City of Coquitlam's Housing Affordability Strategy (HAS) works to increase the variety, mix and type of housing options available to Coquitlam residents. This includes a number of direct actions aimed at increasing the supply of units that are affordable as well as accessible and/or adaptable.

DEVELOPER INCENTIVES:

The development application process at the City encourages securing adaptable and accessible housing units. To date these efforts have created more than 200 adaptable units.

The 2015 Housing Affordability Strategy includes accessible and adaptable units in its broad definition of housing units needed. The strategy brings forward a considerable number of policies / actions to further encourage the development of accessible, purpose-built rental units, including:

Action 1.2.2: using density transfers as an incentive for developers to build accessible units;

Action 1.2.3: considering amenity and parking reductions in exchange for accessible units;

Action 1.2.4: granting additional density in exchange for accessible units;

Action 1.2.7 and 1.2.8: waiving density bonus contributions in order to provide a direct valued incentive in exchange for accessible units; and,

Action 1.2.5: calls for the City to encourage development of innovative unit types including accessible / adaptable suites.



THE ROLE OF OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

The primary funding responsibility for accessible units rests with the Provincial government. The HAS directs the City to advocate for and promote accessible housing projects (**Action 4.1.3**) and specifically calls on the Provincial government to consider accessible housing as part of the renewal of the Riverview lands.

The City also works with Metro Vancouver to provide an **adaptable** and **accessible housing** registry.

DIRECT FUNDING

The City of Coquitlam established an Affordable Housing Reserve Fund (AHRF) as a financial tool to encourage all types of housing choices, including accessible units.

Projects designed to build accessible units can apply directly for funds from the AHRF.

WHAT IS ACCESSIBLE HOUSING?

Accessible housing refers to the construction or modification (such as through renovation or home modification) of **housing** to enable independent living for persons with disabilities.

Adaptable housing is an approach to residential design and construction in which homes can be modified at minimal cost to meet occupants' changing needs over time. By building flexibility into homes from the start, **adaptable housing** helps people stay in their own homes through out their lives, despite illness, injury and aging.

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