

06/13/2023

These remarks are my own and not from the Housing Action Committee

In 2017, the County Commission established the Housing Action Committee under the County Planning Commission.

This group reviewed ordinances and zoning rules in township and villages.

Using the 2019 Housing Analysis, HAC gained understanding of the need for housing: rentals, owner occupied, for essential workers and families. And the impact of STR on existing housing stock. Over 600 units in 2019 and with our next update of the Housing Needs Analysis, I expect that number continues to grow.

HAC developed the Housing Ready Check list and presented it to all township and village planning commissions. HAC continues to advocate for housing at public meetings and with groups active in housing development.

And HAC was tasked with working with MSHDA to become Housing Ready

Active housing projects report to HAC at our quarterly meetings.

The latest news: Housing North will lead the Regional Housing Partnership to Address Housing Needs in Northwest Michigan in Region D. through the Statewide Housing Partnership at the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). Housing North is our County link and amplified voice with MSHDA.

In looking forward to the 2024 budget, I would ask for continued support of Housing North and our Leelanau County representative, Zach Hillyer.

Recent affordable housing projects have made us all aware of the funding gap - Habitat estimates \$100,000 to \$150,000 per unit.

I would ask the Commissioners to direct the HAC to come up with a list of possible funding tools that we have encountered in our research of local communities and models in other States. Use our knowledge and staff to compile a list of options to be considered and presented to the County Commission.

Thanks for your attention,

Lois Bahle  
Village of Suttons Bay

6/12/23