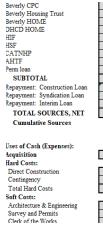
What does a housing development pro-forma look like?





And how can municipalities help create more affordable housing?



Kristin Carlson
Director of Real Estate Development
Harborlight Community Partners

Who is involved in creating affordable housing?



Today's Presentation

- Funding: What are the typical costs and sources of funding for affordable housing projects?
- Zoning: Paths to multi-family are essential to creating affordable housing
- Three Case Studies, HCP projects:
 - 2 Hardy Street, Beverly
 - Granite Street Crossing, Rockport
 - Anchor Point, Beverly
- How can municipal leaders help/hinder affordable housing?





A volunteer provides essentials to homeless residents moving into new housing in Salem



If creating **housing** is like a **car** we want to drive to a destination, we need two things to make it possible:



Funding is the gas: What makes the car keep going



Zoning is the road: How we get where we're trying to go



Affordable Housing Finance 101: Typical Sources and Uses

Sources (like Income)	Uses (Costs, or Expenses)
Local Funding: CPC, HOME, etc.	Site Acquisition
Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), allocated by DHCD	Construction Cost (Hard Cost)
State LIHTC (DHCD)	Development Expenses (Soft Costs): Architecture and Engineering, Permitting, Legal, Construction Loan Interest, Fees
State Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Funding: "Soft" Debt	Developer Overhead and Fee
Other Affordable Housing grants and programs	Capitalized Reserves (Operating, Replacement, Lease-Up)
Conventional Mortgage Debt (Perm Loan)	



Sources	Тур. %
Local Funding: CPC, HOME, etc.	5%-10%
Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), allocated by DHCD	20%- 40%
State LIHTC (DHCD)	10%
State Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Funding: "Soft" Debt	25%- 35%
Other Affordable Housing Grants and Programs	3%-10%
Conventional Mortgage Debt (Perm Loan)	25%

Harborlight Community Partners Building Homes. Strengthening Communities, Changing Lives.

A Closer Look at Typical Affordable Housing Sources: Welcome to Alphabet Soup

- Local sources are critical to any project
 - Actual funds: CPC, AHT, HOME, MassWorks, CDBG
 - Shows local participation, or "skin in the game," to State funders
- Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) are essential to most deals
 - Federal LIHTC (via IRS) is allocated by the State DHCD, 4% and 9% (funds about 20%-40% of the project, respectively)
 - "Purchased" by investors, typically banks, who can use the tax credits and also get Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) credit
 - In MA, we also have State LIHTC
 - Minimum project size of 20 units
- MA DHCD (Department of Housing and Community Development) allocates LIHTC and State "Soft" Debt
 - A dozen-plus funding programs available for affordable housing
- Perm loan is conventional debt that is paid from property operations (rents)
 - Affordable deals are typically designed to cover costs with a cushion, but not to generate the kind of cash flow found in market-rate deals.

Affordable housing finance is very different than conventional, market-rate housing

Local, State and Federal affordable housing funding sources are all constrained – and very competitive!

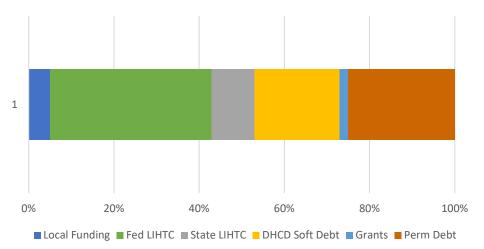
- DHCD allocates funding with an annual competitive round, the "OneStop"
- Possible, but rare to be funded the first time in
- Not unusual to take multiple years to secure all funding

Some aspects that can make a project more competitive:

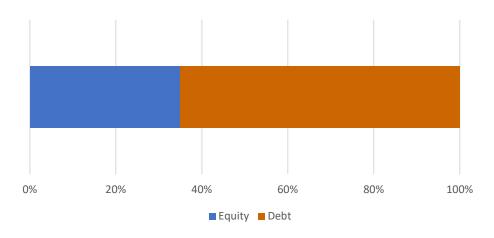
- Local funding committed, local support letters
- Family housing (if the city/town has not done affordable family housing recently)
- Readiness to proceed







Conventional Market-Rate Housing Funding
Sources



Uses	Тур. %
Site Acquisition	5%-10%
Construction Cost (Hard Cost)	60%- 70%
Development Expenses (Soft Costs): Architecture and Engineering, Permitting, Legal, Construction Loan Interest, Fees	15%- 20%
Developer Overhead and Fee	8%-12%
Capitalized Reserves (Operating, Replacement, Lease-Up)	1%-2%



A Closer Look at Typical Affordable Housing Uses

- Construction cost is the largest cost to the project
 - Varies depending on location, complexity, open shop/union
 - Can you save \$ with renovation? Not necessarily
- Land acquisition cost is key when looking at a potential project site.
 - Acquisition costs over \$45,000 per unit are hard to manage
 - We also look at environmental factors, access to utilities, access to transit and amenities
 - Land already zoned for multi-family development is always worth more
- Note on Dev OH and Fee: Are we getting rich?
 - DHCD sets limits which cannot be exceeded
 - Non-profits use the Overhead and Fees to fund future projects, other work done by the organization (first-time homebuyer programs, supportive services, etc)
 - Needed to cover Overhead on what are frequently 5+ years of predevelopment and risk before a project is funded and closed.
- What are the reserves for?
 - Lenders require Operating Reserve, at least 6 months expenses and debt service
 - Replacement Reserve: Capitalize future building work (i.e. new roof, appliances)
 - Lease-Up Reserve: Covers expenses until property is fully leased

Affordable Housing Finance Take-Aways

- Projects take multiple sources to achieve: Local, State, Federal, grants and private market, all working together
- All funders have their own project requirements that the developer must meet
 - Size
 - Population
 - Sustainability features
- It's a marathon, not a sprint: not unusual to take 5+ years to get a project funded and construction started.
- Most affordable housing funding sources are constrained and highly competitive
- Land cost (and allowed uses) are critical in determining a project's feasibility





Zoning for Affordable HousingThere are several paths, depending on location

- Multi-family by right
- 40B:
 - Each municipality must meet 10% threshold on Subsidized Housing Inventory
 - Led by developer: "friendly" 40B or not
 - Requires ZBA approval
 - Open to appeal, litigation, can create years-long delay, hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees to defend
- 40R: "Smart Growth" Zoning
 - Allows a municipality to "spot zone" an area to direct multi-family development to the best locations
 - Comes with incentive payments to the municipality
 - Led by municipality
- Sometimes, overlay districts (for example, Senior Housing overlay) or Planned Unit Development (PUD) can also be paths









More Zoning for Affordable Housing

Inclusionary Zoning
 Some municipalities have inclusionary zoning built into their zoning code

 When new market-rate multi-family housing is built, developers are required to include affordable units in the project

• Typically, a percentage of the units (10%-15%+) must be affordable

Can help meet affordability goals and spread units throughout multiple buildings
Pay attention to how affordable the units must be

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)Allows for additional small unit in an area zoned single family, i.e. the "granny flat." Creates naturally-occurring affordable housing

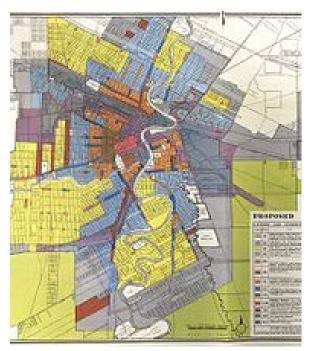
Multi-Family Zoning will be Required near Transit
 Part of the recently passed MA Economic Development Bill













Affordable Housing Zoning Take-Aways

- A path to multi-family zoning is essential to the creation of affordable housing
- 40B process is a great tool, but in some locations can be very risky to developer (both time and money) with threat of appeal after ZBA decision
 - Ironically, the threat of 40B appeal can make a project need to be *larger* in order to cover the legal costs of an appeal
- 40R allows municipalities to:
 - Decide where they want multi-family to be
 - Provides incentive payments to the city or town, both with zoning and then again at project permitting
 - Creates less risk for developer
- Inclusionary zoning is a tool to create affordable units (MHP and MACDC can help)
- ZONING IS A KEY TOOL THAT CAN HELP, OR HINDER, THE CREATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING



CASE STUDY 1 2 Hardy Street, Beverly Small But Mighty

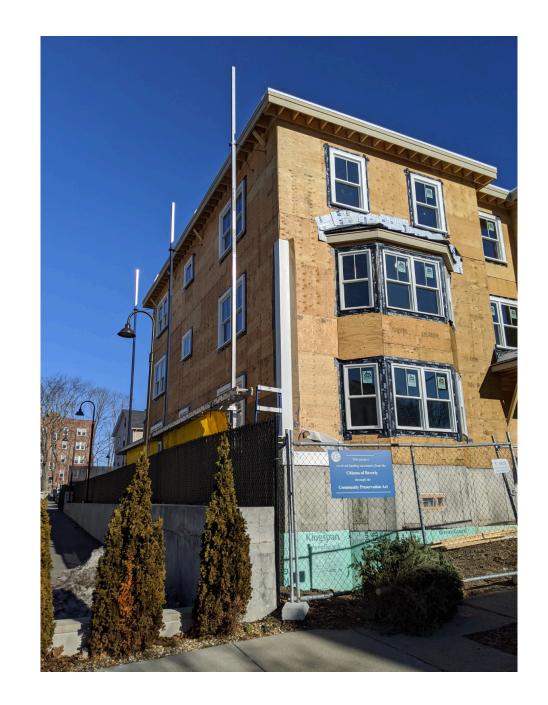
- New construction
- 6 two-bedroom family units
- 100% affordable, supported by Section 8 vouchers
- DHCD's Community Scale **Housing Initiative**





2 Hardy Street, Beverly

- 6 units, all 2-bedroom
- Family housing
- TOD (Transit-Oriented Development) in downtown Beverly, near MBTA Commuter Rail
- New construction
- Total Development Cost (TDC): \$2,315,000
- TDC/unit: \$385,833
- DHCD's Community Scale Housing Initiative (CSHI)
- Zoning: Special permit, Inclusionary zoning
- Complete and occupied



2 Hardy Street, Beverly: Community Scale Housing Initiative Financing

Sources		Uses	
Local Funding: CPC, HOME, etc.	\$595,112	Site Acquisition	\$100
Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), allocated by DHCD	\$0	Construction Cost (Hard Cost)	\$1,662,575
State LIHTC (DHCD)	\$0	Development Expenses (Soft Costs): Architecture and Engineering, Permitting, Legal, Construction Loan Interest, Fees	\$365,487
State Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Funding: "Soft" Debt	\$900,000	Developer Overhead and Fee	\$286,950
Other Affordable Housing grants and programs	\$0	Capitalized Reserves (Operating, Replacement, Lease-Up)	\$0
Conventional Mortgage Debt (Perm Loan)	\$820,000		
Total:	\$2,315,112	Total:	\$2,315,112



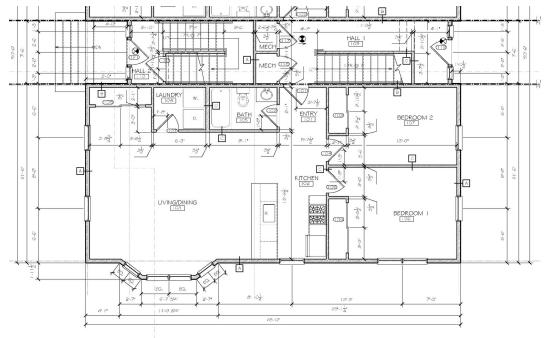
2 Hardy Street, Beverly

We are often asked by municipalities to look at small scale projects (5-20 units). 2 Hardy demonstrates what needs to be in place in order for a small-scale deal to work:

- Very low (no) acquisition cost
 - Land was donated
- Substantial local funding (\$99,185 per unit)
 - CPC, Affordable Housing Trust, Beverly and Regional HOME
- State CSHI funding available, along with project-based Section 8 vouchers
- No (minimal) zoning risk, cost
 - 2 Hardy was already permitted as part of inclusionary zoning for a larger, adjacent project







2 Hardy Street, Beverly

Small-scale projects:

- Too small for use of LIHTC limited funding sources
- More expensive to manage, higher operations costs
- Takes as much work by the non-profit to develop 6 units, as to develop 60
- The stars need to align

How did the municipality work with us?

- Clear zoning path with Inclusionary Zoning and Special Permit
- Planning department understood benefit of deeper affordability (30-50% AMI units versus 80% AMI units)
- Substantial funding (almost \$100K/unit), committed early
- Providing support letters
- Design Review Board: Design changed to flat roof to accommodate solar panels, required detailed review (could have been a stumbling block, but wasn't)







CASE STUDY 2 Granite Street Crossing Rockport Working With Neighbors

- New construction
- Mix of senior and family units
- 100% affordable
- Supportive services
- DHCD 9% LIHTC





Granite Street Crossing, Rockport

- 23 units
- Mix of:
 - Seniors 62+ (17 units)
 - Families (6 units)
- TOD, near downtown Rockport, near MBTA Commuter Rail
- Supportive services on-site
- New construction
- Total Development Cost (TDC): \$10,151,000
- TDC/unit: \$441,348
- 9% LIHTC Financing
- Zoning: 40B
- In DHCD 2021 funding round







Granite Street Crossing, Rockport: Small Project 9% LIHTC Financing

Sources		Uses	
Local Funding: CPC, HOME, etc.	\$700,000	Site Acquisition	\$470,000
Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), allocated by DHCD	\$4,761,000	Construction Cost (Hard Cost)	\$6,900,343
State LIHTC (DHCD)	\$2,690,000	Development Expenses (Soft Costs): Architecture and Engineering, Permitting, Legal, Construction Loan Interest, Fees	\$1,494,021
State Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Funding: "Soft" Debt	\$	Developer Overhead and Fee	\$1,062,936
Other Affordable Housing grants and programs - FHLB	\$500,000	Capitalized Reserves (Operating, Replacement, Lease-Up)	\$223,700
Conventional Mortgage Debt (Perm Loan)	\$1,500,000		
Total:	\$10,151,000	Total:	\$10,151,000



Granite Street Crossing, Rockport

Extensive work with neighbors and abutters to build support

- Landscaping, fencing
- Building height adjustments
- Can't make everyone happy but if we are working together, we will sure try

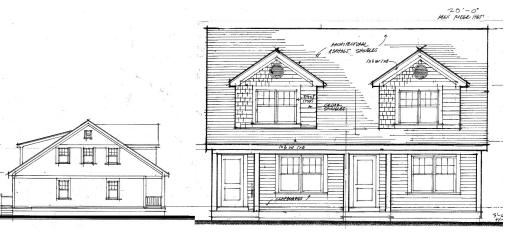
How did the municipality work with us?

- Committing local funding early
- Neighbors and abutters willing to engage productively
- Neighbors came to ZBA hearings to support the project
- 40B process did not require excessive peer review (required only for traffic engineer)
- CPC advocates for affordable housing: "When is your next affordable family project coming?"









CASE STUDY 3 Anchor Point, Beverly Regional Planning

- New construction
- 77 family units
- 100% affordable
- 20% of units for homeless families
- DHCD 9% LIHTC
- Two Phases





Anchor Point, Beverly

- 77 units (2 Phases)
- Family housing (mix of two- and threebedroom units)
- 20% of units for homeless families
- Supportive services on-site
- Central Beverly, vacant site
- New construction
- Total Development Cost (TDC): \$18,987,113
- TDC/unit: \$499,661
- 9% LIHTC Financing
- Coordinated with MassWorks street and intersection improvements
- Zoning: 40R Smart Growth Overlay
- Phase 1 funded, closing spring 2021





Anchor Point Phase 1, Beverly: 9% LIHTC Financing

Sources		Uses	
Local Funding: CPC, HOME, etc.	\$770,613	Site Acquisition	\$1,377,284
Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), allocated by DHCD	\$7,951,500	Construction Cost (Hard Cost)	\$12,600,000
State LIHTC (DHCD)	\$1,640,000	Development Expenses (Soft Costs): Architecture and Engineering, Permitting, Legal, Construction Loan Interest, Fees	\$2,998,409
State Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Funding: "Soft" Debt	\$4,325,000	Developer Overhead and Fee	\$1,813,745
Other Affordable Housing grants and programs	\$0	Capitalized Reserves (Operating, Replacement, Lease-Up)	\$246,674
Conventional Mortgage Debt (Perm Loan)	\$4,300,000		
Total:	\$18,987,113	Total:	\$18,987,113



Anchor Point, Beverly

Funding limitations of State programs:

Had to break into two phases of housing (not ideal)

Community Center, "Phase 3"

- Envisioned as a hub for providing services, activities to the families at Anchor Point
- 1st Floor: Multi-purpose room, kitchen, classrooms, management and services offices, maintenance
- 2nd Floor: On-site daycare (partner with YMCA)
- 3rd Floor: HCP Main Office
- Playing field, basketball, pickleball, patio, playground

Not supported by housing funding, requires private philanthropy

MassWorks

 Grant awarded to City for adjacent intersection and sidewalk work



"Will I ever get to live there?
This place sounds like it's too
good to be true. My kids would
be so happy and safe there. I can
get on my feet. Please build it
quickly. We need this place today."

 Andrea, mother of two, currently homeless living in a local shelter, said in an Anchor Point focus group



Anchor Point, Beverly

40R Zoning

Innovative zoning that benefits the City financially Required **political will and leadership** from City Council and Mayor

Directs multi-family housing where the City wants it

Regional planning: MOU (Memorandum of **Understanding**)

Beverly is above 10% on Subsidized Housing Inventory, but Mayor and City leadership know and respond to the need for affordable housing.

Regional MOU among Beverly, Salem and Peabody to each provide affordable housing, particularly for homeless households

How did the municipality work with us?
Committing local funding early
Clear zoning path through 40R
Design Review: understanding design changes necessitated by budget (no balconies)
Public, political support for homeless housing through

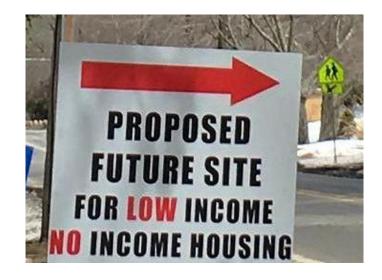
the MOU

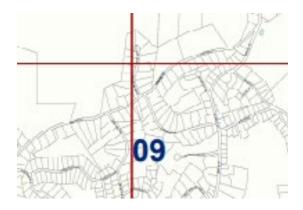






Summary: What creates barriers to affordable housing







- Lack of zoning for multi-family projects
- Excessive peer review during permitting
 - Drives up costs and non-profits are up against funding caps to cover costsWe would rather spend money on
 - enhanced landscaping than extra peer reviews
- Threats of litigation
- Threats of litigation make projects larger to cover legal costs
 Lack of local funding
- Active opposition to any kind of affordable housing, with little willingness to engage Lack of housing leadership within the
- municipality
 - Leaders can be elected officials, committees, and groups of citizens

Summary: What works to help create affordable housing



Everyone working together with a goal of creating affordable housing leads to ribbon cuttings, great projects, and what we all hope for: safe, secure, affordable housing!



- Clear zoning/path to permitting for multi-family projects
 Inclusionary zoning
 Political leadership to support projects

 This can happen regionally, too

 Local funding commitments, made

- early
- This leverages larger State funding
 Local Community Preservation Committee (CPC) should support creation of new affordable housing units
 - Commit funding to housing creation
- Willingness to engage productively in ways to improve a project, address concerns
- Understanding of the many competing interests a developer faces in creating affordable housing
 - Sometimes this comes up when
- reviewing project design
 Provide support letters for developer funding applications

THANK YOU!

Kristin Carlson

Director of Real Estate Development

Harborlight Community Partners

kcarlson@harborlightcp.org



