

**Additonal Proposed Legislation for the  
September 19, 2023 City Council Meeting -**

**\* \* Please Note \* \***

**For questions, call the City Clerk's Office at 585-428-7421**



City Hall Room 301A • 30 Church Street • Rochester, New York 14614-1290  
Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr, Council President, Councilmember At-Large

September 18, 2023

TO THE COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Re: Statement of Necessity: Resolution in support of the Pro-Housing Communities Program

Pursuant to Section XVI of the Rules of Council, I hereby request that the Council act on the attached resolution at our September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting without requiring prior reference to and discharge from a standing committee.

This resolution is necessary for the City of Rochester to apply for certification as a Pro-Housing Community, which will prioritize City applications to \$650 Million in State funding related to housing growth.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr. – President  
Rochester City Council

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Sponsor: Michael A. Patterson, Chair, Neighborhood and Business Development Committee; Northeast Representative

Cosponsor(s): Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr., President; Councilmembers: Mitch Gruber, LaShay D. Harris, and Willie J. Lightfoot, Sr.

September 18, 2023

TO THE COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Re: Pro-Housing Communities Pledge

Council Priority: Neighborhoods

Comprehensive Plan 2034 Initiative Area:  
Reinforcing Strong Neighborhoods

Transmitted herewith for your approval is a resolution adopting the Pro-Housing Community Pledge. In July of this year, Governor Hochul signed Executive Order 30 creating the Pro-Housing Community Program. This program rewards local government that are working hard to address New York’s housing crisis by prioritizing applications to certain State funding streams amounting to \$650 million.

Cities must submit an application to New York State’s Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) agency to be designated and certified as a “Pro-Housing Community.” The application requires submission of a letter of intent, a Zoning map and Zoning code summary, a Housing Planning and Building Permit information from the last five years, and an executed Pro-Housing Community Resolution by the relevant governing body.

The pledge outlines a number of proactive measures, listed below, that the City can take to further cement our commitment to address the housing crisis.

1. Streamlining permitting for multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.
2. Adopting policies that affirmatively further fair housing.
3. Incorporating regional housing needs into planning decisions.
4. Increasing development capacity for residential uses.
5. Enacting policies that encourage a broad range of housing development, including multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Patterson  
Northeast District

Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr.  
President

Mitch Gruber  
At-Large

LaShay D. Harris  
South District

Willie J. Lightfoot, Sr.  
At-Large

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Resolution No.

**Resolution adopting the Pro-Housing Communities Pledge**

WHEREAS, the City of Rochester (hereinafter “local government”) believes that the lack of housing for New York residents of all ages and income levels negatively impacts the future of New York State’s economic growth and community well-being;

WHEREAS, the housing crisis has negative effects at regional and local levels, we believe that every community must do their part to contribute to housing growth and benefit from the positive impacts a healthy housing market brings to communities;

WHEREAS, we believe that supporting housing production of all kinds in our community will bring multiple benefits, including increasing housing access and choices for current and future residents, providing integrated accessible housing options that meet the needs of people with sensory and mobility disabilities, bringing economic opportunities and vitality to our communities, and allowing workers at all levels to improve their quality of life through living closer to their employment opportunities;

WHEREAS, we believe that evidence showing that infill development that reduces sprawl and supports walkable communities has significant environmental and public health benefits; and

WHEREAS, we believe that affirmatively furthering fair housing and reducing segregation is not only required by law, but is essential for keeping our community strong and vibrant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Rochester that the City, in order to take positive steps to alleviate the housing crisis, adopts the Pro-Housing Communities pledge, which will have us endeavor to take the following important steps:

Section 1. Streamlining permitting for multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.

Section 2. Adopting policies that affirmatively further fair housing.

Section 3. Incorporating regional housing needs into planning decisions.

Section 4. Increasing development capacity for residential uses.

Section 5. Enacting policies that encourage a broad range of housing development, including multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.