

## 2022 Legislative Agenda

Everyone will benefit if we build on last session's reforms with 3 proven strategies to advance Connecticut's equity, economy, and environment.

Affordability • Environmental Sustainability • Economic Growth

## 1. Allowing Mixed-Income Homes Around Train Stations



- WHAT: Equitable transit-oriented communities are mixed-use neighborhoods near train stations or CTfastrak stations which include diverse housing options.
- WHY: At no cost to taxpayers, we could create thousands of affordable homes, jump-start economic growth, connect businesses and employees, and protect our environment.
- HOW: Towns choose how to allow as-of-right housing within a 10-minute walk from train or CTfastrak stations, at an overall average of 15 homes/acre (matching Massachusetts' new law), with a 10% minimum affordability requirement and no onerous parking mandates.

## 2. Creating More Sensible Lot Sizes



- WHAT: Minimum lot size mandates are requirements that each home be built on a lot of a certain size. 81% of Connecticut's residential land requires at least 1 acre per home.
- WHY: Connecticut could reduce housing costs and foster more interconnected, sustainable communities by reducing large minimum lot size mandates.
- HOW: Towns choose whether to reduce lot size mandates to a 1/8 acre, or allow 8 units/acre in a variety of configurations, anywhere there is municipal sewer and water infrastructure (similar to bipartisan legislation in <a href="Monton.">Vermont</a>, which protects 1/8-acre lots).

## 3. Simplifying Zoning Bureaucracy



- WHAT: All 169 Connecticut towns are currently required to maintain several land use commissions and processes, which particularly burdens small, rural towns and their residents.
- WHY: Allowing towns to <u>choose</u> to create unified land use commissions and merge commissions with other towns can help towns reduce costs and more easily find volunteers, while applicants benefit from streamlined permitting.
- HOW: Towns choose to merge their planning/zoning commissions and zoning boards of appeals, or to work with other towns to have intermunicipal commissions.

Connecticut residents think zoning reform is smart - so these ideas are popular, too.

65%

58%

66%

2:1

Feel housing is too expensive

Support rezoning for transitoriented development Support "clear, more uniform," as-of-right zoning

Support more housing & more types of housing

Polling was conducted 01/2021 via the web by a third-party survey operator, with 300 randomized Connecticut residents over the age of 18.