

## City of Welland adopts Affordable Rental Housing Community Improvement Program

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During their council meeting on July 18, Welland City Council officially adopted an Affordable Rental Housing Community Improvement Plan (CIP). This program aims to establish a new housing partnership with multiple providers to address the city's affordable housing needs.

The CIP and its accompanying programs offer financial incentives to private property owners and non-profit housing providers who wish to build affordable rental housing. Creating the CIP is part of the City's Housing Action Plan and will help the City meet its housing growth target.

"We've undertaken considerable consultation to develop the CIP," said Grant Munday, director of planning and development. "We've taken everything we heard from the consultations and created a CIP designed to stimulate and promote the creation and longevity of affordable housing in the City of Welland."

The Affordable Rental Housing CIP offers seven incentive programs: Tax Increment Grant, Affordable Housing Study Grant, Affordable Residential Forgivable Loan, Extended Benefits Grant, Municipal Fees Grant, Affordable Housing Reserve Fund, and Special Land Program. For example, a property owner seeking to construct an affordable apartment in their home is eligible to receive up to a \$20,000 forgivable loan.

The City of Welland wants to assist in the creation of more affordable housing. If interested in applying for the incentives, please contact <u>devserv@welland.ca</u>.

To review the Affordable Rental Housing CIP, please visit engageWelland.



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