



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Sara Spaulding, APR
Communications & Engagement Director
970-985-8180
saras@gjcity.org

City of Grand Junction Hosts Public Engagement Meeting on Housing Strategy Update

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. August 26, 2024 – The City of Grand Junction is hosting a public engagement meeting as part of their Housing Strategy Update that will be held virtually on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. [Participants must register online](#). Questions and additional information available by emailing housing@gjcity.org.

Updating the city's housing strategies is essential for the city to ensure alignment with current legislative requirements, community needs, and reflect current conditions. This process will help with updating the city's strategies that work to address evolving housing challenges in the community such as affordability, supply, and accessibility.

A recent Colorado Health Foundation Pulse Poll revealed that 89 percent of respondents rate housing affordability in Colorado as an extreme or very serious problem. "The housing ecosystem is complex and dynamic. Regular updates to the data and understanding of the community's needs are foundational to ensure the city's housing strategies align with the community's greatest housing needs," stated Tamra Allen, Community Development director. "Regular updates help identify opportunities to maximize the impact with the federal, state and local resources that are currently available."

The update to the housing strategy is being led by the city with the assistance of Root Policy Research, a Colorado consultancy with extensive experience in the housing field. The update builds upon the City of Grand Junction's first housing strategy that was adopted in 2021 and was developed with input from the Grand Valley Needs Assessment. Since adopting the housing strategy, the city has dedicated more than \$19 million to housing and houselessness, including grants and direct funding to support housing capital projects, operational assistance, and emergency responses. This investment has leveraged an additional \$43 million from partners, resulting in a total investment of \$62 million and the development of more than 100 affordable housing units, and lays the foundation for 500 more.

The [2023 Annual Housing Report](#) details the city's initiatives and collaborations in implementing its housing strategies. More recently, the city has introduced "At Home in GJ" a comprehensive landlord and tenant education and incentive program, as well as affordable housing incentives to encourage participation from the private sector in development of affordable and workforce housing. The city was recently awarded a state grant to acquire over 21 acres for the future development of at least 343 affordable and workforce housing units over the next 10 years.

To participate in the public engagement meetings or for more information, visit gjc.org/housing, call the Housing Division at 970-256-4081, or email housing@gjc.org
###