

Community Revitalization And Affordable Housing Act

Personal Information:

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SECTION ONE: PURPOSE

The purpose of the (CRAH ACT) is to address the critical shortage of affordable housing and to facilitate the revitalization of underserved neighborhoods within Ontario, enhancing the quality of life for all residents and promoting economic stability.

SECTION TWO: DEFINITIONS

For the intent of this act:

(Affordable Housing) refers to housing units that are affordable to households earning 80% or less of the (Area Median Income), as defined by the U.S. Department Of Housing And Urban Development (HUD).

(Revitalization) refers to activities aimed at upgrading and transforming deteriorating neighborhoods, including but not limited to the renovation of existing structures, the development of new housing, and the enhancement of public spaces.

SECTION THREE: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES

The city shall create a (Housing Development Fund) to provide grants and low interest loans to qualified developers who commit to constructing or rehabilitating affordable housing within targeted neighborhoods.

The criteria for eligibility for the Housing Development Fund shall include:

(One) Commitment to maintain affordable rents for a minimum of 30 years.

(Two) Incorporation of sustainable building practices.

(Three) Engagement with community stakeholders during the planning process.

SECTION FOUR: REVITALIZATION GRANTS

The city shall establish a **(Revitalization Grant Program)** to allocate funding for:

(One) The refurbishment of vacant or dilapidated properties.

(Two) The establishment or improvement of community spaces, such as parks, playgrounds, and community centers.

(Three) Other activities aimed at enhancing the overall livability of neighborhoods.

Eligible applicants for the **(Revitalization Grant Program)** include local municipalities, community organizations, and nonprofit entities.

SECTION FIVE: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

The city shall implement a community engagement initiative to ensure that residents are actively involved in the planning and execution of housing and revitalization projects.

(One) Public forums and workshops shall be organized to gather input and feedback from residents.

(Two) Opportunities for collaboration with local nonprofits and community groups will be prioritized .

The city shall also provide resources for housing assistance programs including:

(One) Financial literacy workshops

(Two) Tenant rights education

(Three) Home buyer assistance programs

SECTION SIX: FUNDING

Funding for the **(Housing Development Fund)** and **(Revitalization Grant Program)** shall be sourced from:

(One) City budget allocations

(Two) Grants from state and federal government programs related to housing

(Three) Private sector partnerships and philanthropy

An annual report shall be produced by the city's **(Department Of Housing And Community Development)** to track the allocation of funds and the impact of funded projects.

SECTION SEVEN: EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect immediately upon passage and signing into law.

SECTION EIGHT: SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this act is held to be invalid or unconstitutional the remainder of this act shall remain in effect.

(This structured bill initiative outlines clear objectives, definitions, funding mechanisms, and community involvement strategies. It provides a solid foundation for revitalizing communities while addressing the pressing need for affordable housing, promoting a holistic approach to urban development in alignment with the needs of residents.)