# LOCAL PREFERENCE AND FAIR HOUSING FORUM

Thursday March 25th 6PM

Sponsored by the Brewster Housing Partnership

With the Select Board, Community Preservation Committee & Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Special thanks to Mass Housing Partnership

# WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Shelly Goehring, Senior Program Manager, Mass Housing Partnership Katharine Lacy, Senior Planner, Mass Housing Partnership Donna Kalinick, Brewster Assistant Town Administrator Jill Scalise, Brewster Housing Coordinator

# **Agenda of Presentation**

- Introduction to the forum: Why are we here? Donna Kalinick & Jill Scalise
- Zoning: Obstacles and opportunities for fair housing- Katharine Lacy
- Affirmatively furthering fair housing- Shelly Goehring
- Local Preference: A general definition and how it is implemented in MA-Katharine Lacy
- Brewster Housing- Donna Kalinick & Jill Scalise
  - Recent Brewster Housing activities and fair housing
- Questions & Discussion

# WHY ARE WE HERE?

An invitation from the Housing Partnership

# **Brewster Housing Partnership**

#### **Housing Partnership Charge:**

The Brewster Housing Partnership was established to provide a local entity interested in and advocating for local affordable housing initiatives in accordance with the guidelines and framework of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Massachusetts Housing Partnership. The partnership continues to provide input and coordination whenever a private comprehensive permit application comes before the Town and frequently comments on other projects, programs, and policies, including Community Preservation expenditures which could affect the Town's Subsidized Housing Inventory. The committee consists of seven members appointed to three-year terms.

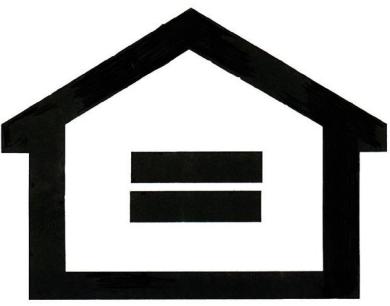
#### In the context of reviewing potential housing applications, questions emerged:

- What is local preference?
- How does local preference relate to fair housing?

# What is Fair Housing?

In Massachusetts, it is unlawful for a housing provider to discriminate against a current or prospective tenant based on:

Race, Color, National Origin, Religion, Sex, Familial Status (i.e. children), Disability, Source of Income (e.g. a Section 8 voucher), Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Age, Marital Status, Veteran or Active Military Status, Genetic Information.



# EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

# **Brewster Housing Production Plan**

# Strategy #13

Develop a comprehensive education plan.

# Strategy #16

**Recognize** local government's responsibility for fair & affordable housing in Brewster, and lead by example: reduce the potential for disparate impact on protected classes.

# **Brewster Vision Plan:**

"Brewster is a welcoming and inclusive community that celebrates its diversity and special character."

## Select Board & Town Administrator's Pledge to Enhance Diversity, Equity & Inclusion for All



**Town of Brewster** Office of the 2198 Main Street Brewster, MA 02631-1898 Select Board Phone: (508) 896-3701 Town Administrato brewster-ma.gov

Approved and Adopted: February 1, 2021

and the

BREWSTER SELECT BOARD AND TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S PLEDGE TO ENHANCE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION FOR ALL

#### As elected leaders we believe:

- We have a responsibility to understand and address inequality in all forms
- · A workplace that attracts and retains diverse personnel allows us to serve our residents more productively and creatively.
- · We have a duty to residents, employees, visitors, and businesses to ensure that everyone is treated with respect and dignity.

#### We pledge to:

- · Educate ourselves, town employees, and appointed and elected officials on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and promote training to mitigate biases in implementing town programs and policies.
- · Review our existing systems, policies, practices, and procedures and, where necessary, make meaningful changes to build a stronger, more equitable community.
- Encourage diverse voices and representation on town boards and committees · Hire and promote team members who reflect that they value diversity, inclusion
- equity, and respect for all people. · Encourage respectful discussion and cooperation among all individuals and
- groups in our community. Work on behalf of all residents, employees and visitors to ensure that Brewster is
- a place where all can live, work, or visit with equal access to opportunities, programs, and resources regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, gender, age, citizenship, socioeconomic status, religion, ability, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation.



#### Select Board Strategic Plan **Community Character Goal #2**

Develop plan to identify/address issues of diversity and inclusion, including potential formation of task force or advisory committee

#### **Affordable Housing Trust Fund Mission** Statement

The Brewster Affordable Housing Trust ("BAHT") seeks to expand and preserve year-round rental and ownership homes that are affordable to moderate, low, and very low income households. Our efforts will foster a welcoming environment for demographically and socio-economically diverse populations. The BAHT is committed to education, collaboration, and community engagement.

# **Presentation Goal:**

 To provide a common language and understanding of fair housing and local preference for future discussions and policy decisions.

# MASS HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Background & Context – Zoning: Obstacles & Opportunities for Fair Housing

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

Local Preference: A General Definition and How it is Implemented in MA

#### Who we are

MHP works with communities to create innovative policy and financing solutions that provide affordable homes and better lives for the people of Massachusetts.

Research on housing data to support policy efforts

**Community Assistance** 

Permanent financing for affordable rental housing

**ONE Mortgage program** 



#### **Community Assistance**





#### www.housingtoolbox.org

HOUSING TOOLBOX	MEMU + RESOURCES ADOUT Q
Know what your is looking fort Size is elected to collar. Sinteger, set look practice, for the cruster and pe- wel resource, for incid based. A committien, plan	
Just getting started? Overview > For Local Boards. & Committees. > For Formon & Marricol Start. > For Permon >	Cluestions7 Prequently Acked Clusters . 3 Ack on a Question . 3
ASSEL	
	R
This toolbox was descripted by Citizens' Housing and P Partnership as part of a statewide wateries to support too	

- Assessing Needs
- Local Support
- Zoning & Land Use
- Fair Housing
- Development Process
- Financing & Funding



#### www.mhp.net/datatown

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- Age distribution
- \$ Income, tenure, affordabilit
- # Housing stock
- Housing Inventory Housing Production
- Jobs and Labor Force <</p>
- 🚔 Employment
- Occupations and industries
- Other Topics
- 🞓 School Enrollment
- 😤 Municipal Finance



community info · one place

#### Welcome to DataTown, Massachusetts

A place to explore and learn about your community

There is a lot of great information out there, but have you ever tried to collect data about your city or town, only to find that you need to go to multiple sites and navigate a multitude of data types that don't quite make sense for Massachusetts? Even if you can find the data you need, do you find yourself spending too much time organizing and visualizing that data?

#### Us too.

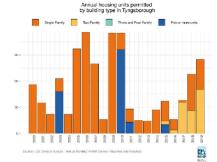
That's why we created DataTown. We wanted a site that not only compiles community-level

WHAT'S NEW? WE ARE LIVE! THANKS FOR VISITING! > Data downloads for all charts - Thanks Dana L. for the feedback! > Hover-over labels on all charts - Thanks Chris K. for the feedback! > Improved mobile performance - Thanks Janelle C. for the feedback

UPCOMING DATA SETS AND FUNCTIONS: > 2010 Decennial Census comparison options > Bureau of Labor Statistics > County-level comparisons > return to top of page on tab click

OUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CONTACT US! TELL US WHAT YOU'D LIKE TO SEE ON THE SITE ...  $\sim$ **Tom Hopper Co-Director MHP Center for Housing Data** 





Housing units by building type Tyngsborough v. State

ade:

Percentage of housing stock

 $2d_{2}$ 

Confidence

Mobile homes and other units 10 or more units



МНР

## Local Zoning: Obstacles and Opportunities for Fair Housing Brewster Local Preference and Fair Housing Forum March 25, 2021

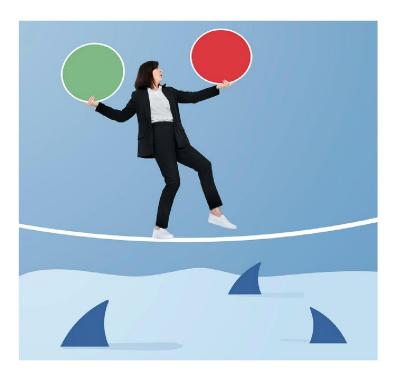


Photo Credit: Brewster Historical Society

# **Brewster's HPP: A Balancing Act**

#### Priority Affordable Housing Needs

Low-Income Family Housing -Garden-style apartments Rental Housing for Single People -Single Room Occupancy Buildings Subsidized Housing for the Elderly -Affordable Senior Housing

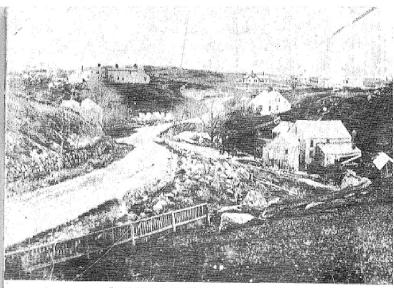


#### **Regulatory/Development Constraints**

Infrastructure Challenges (Water, Septic) Environmental Constraints Open Space and Preservation Goals

> Zoning Constraints -Lack of land zoned for MF -Land Area Requirements -Intensity Limitations -Special Conditions

# **1960 Zoning By-law**



actory Village, Looking West, (noon hour) - (1870 - 1872)

#### **Annual Reports**

#### TOWN OF BREWSTER MASSACHUSETTS



#### 1960

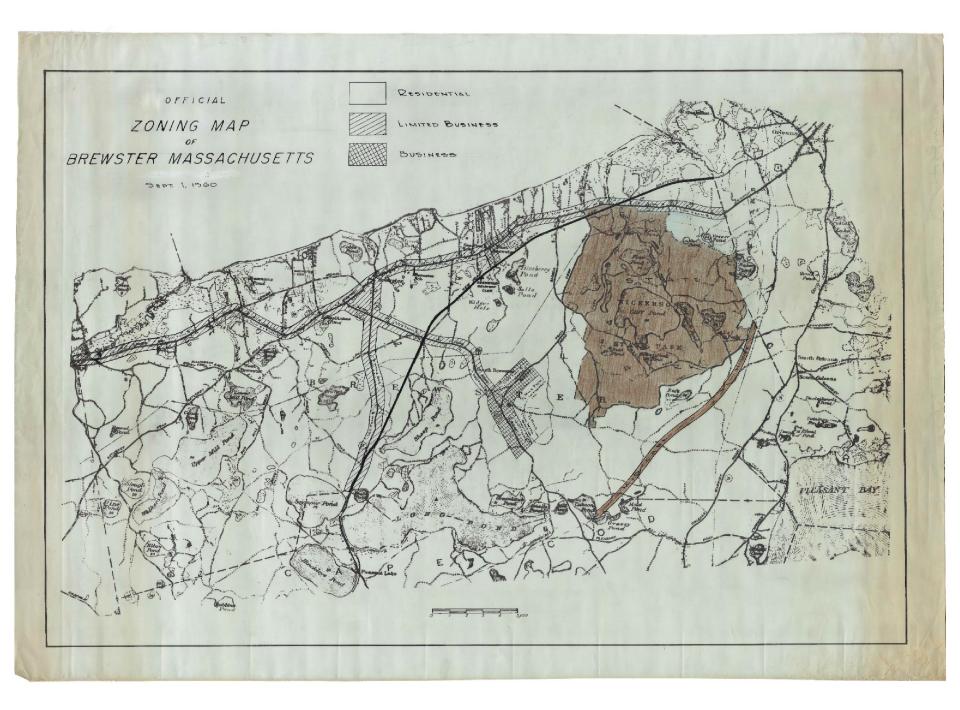
For The Year Ending December 31, 1960

Five (5) pages in length

Three (3) Districts -Residential -Limited Business -Business

As-of-right Residential Uses -1 and 2 Family Dwellings -Agricultural Uses -Professional Practice -Up to ten (10) borders

Area Regulations\* -Min. lot size: 15,000 sf -Frontage: 100' -Setbacks: 30', 20', 20' -Distance between buildings: 40'



# 1976 Zoning By-law (Includes Changes from 1971)

#### **More Districts**

- -Residential Rural
- -Residential Low Density
- -Residential Medium Density
- -Commercial-High Density
- -Commercial Seasonal
- -Wetlands Conservancy
- -Municipal Refuse District

#### **New Types of Housing\***

-Cluster -Multifamily -Townhouse -PUD

#### **New Types of Regulations**

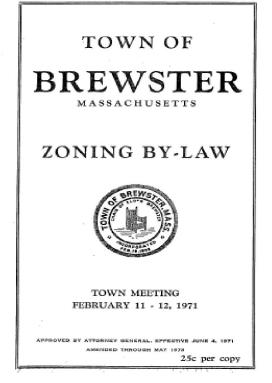
Off Street Parking Regulations Signage Regulations "Special" Regulations

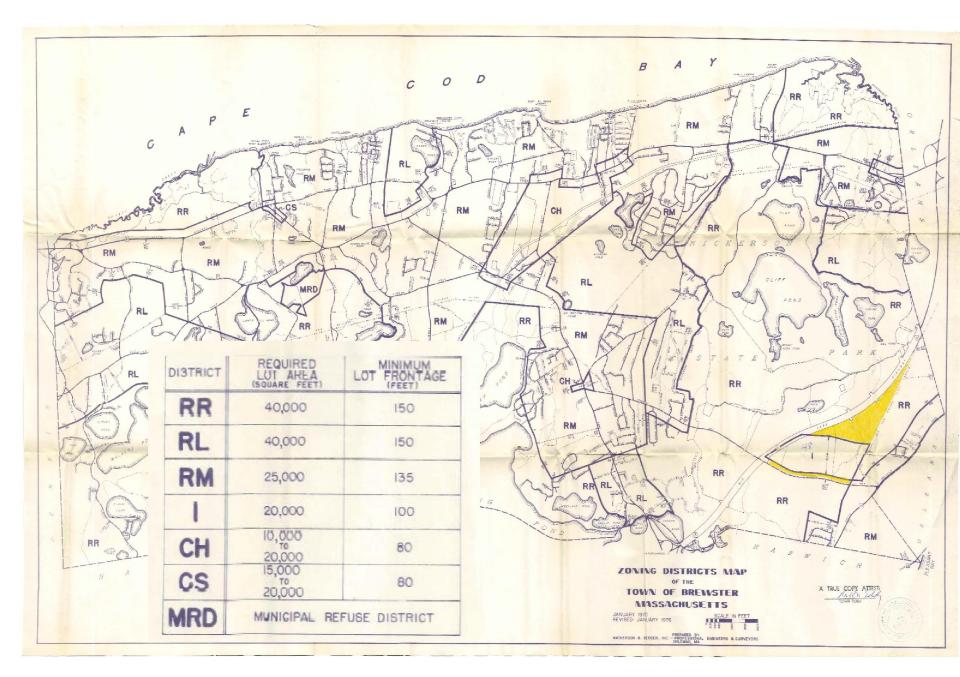
#### **Area Regulations**

- -Height
- -Lot Coverage
- -Minimum Building Size
- -Distance between building

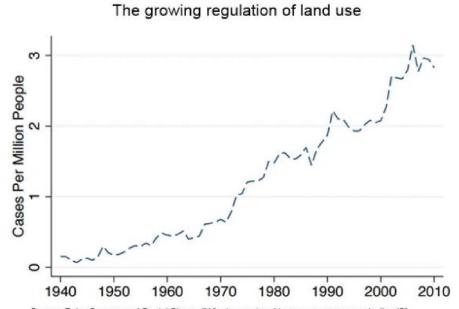
#### **Non-Conforming Uses**

#### **Special Permits**

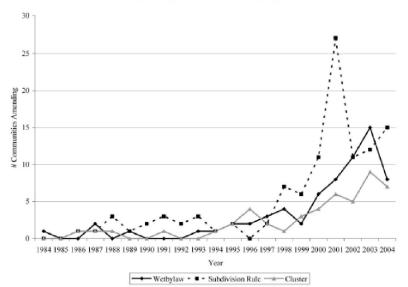




# **State and National Trends in Land Use Regulation**



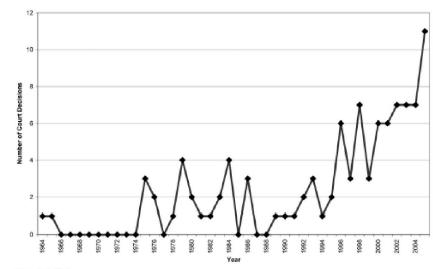
Source: Peter Ganong and Daniel Shoag, "Why has regional income convergence declined?" Hutchins Center Working Paper 21, July 2016, Figure eight.



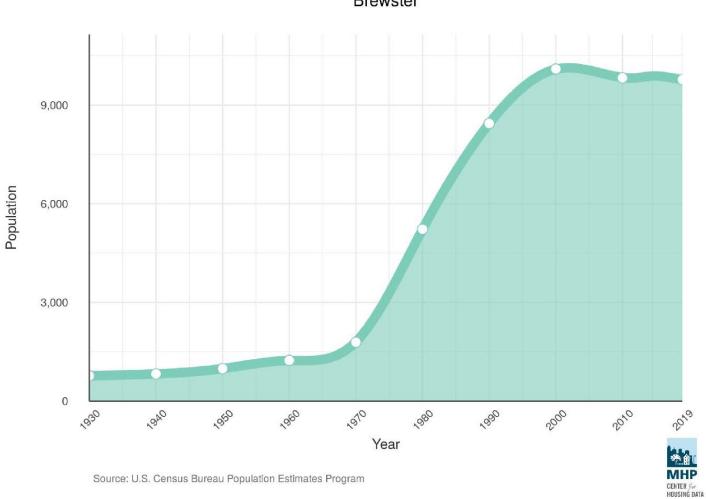
EL. Gloeser, BA. Word / Journal of Urban Economics 65 (2009) 265-278

Source. Pioneer Institute's Housing Regulation Database for Massachusetts Municipalities in Greater Boston.

Fig. 5. Number of communities amending wetlands bylaws, subdivision rules, and cluster provisions, 1984-2004.



Source, Lexis-Nexis.



Population change Brewster

# **Brewster's Current Regulatory Framework**



#### **New Districts**

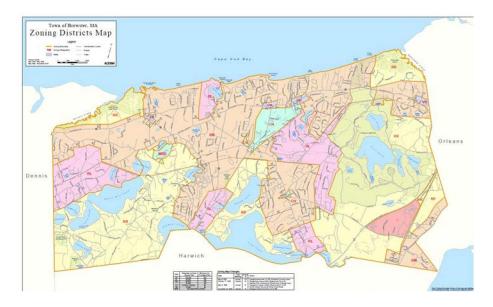
- -Groundwater Protection District
- -Floodplain District
- -Village Business
- -Natural Resource Protection District (Overlay
- -Water Quality Protection District (Overlay)

#### **New Uses**

- -Cellular facilities
- -Marijuana Dispensaries
- -Wind Turbines
- -Solar

#### **New Types of Housing**

-Senior Affordable Housing
-Natural Resource Protection Design
-Planned Residential Development
-Major Residential Development
-Accessory Dwelling Units
-Affordable Multi-Family Housing Lot Sizes



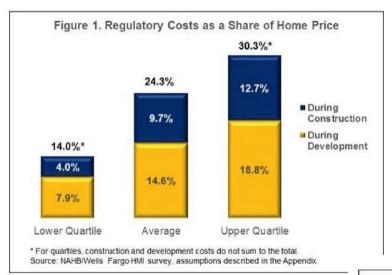
#### Other

Septic Regulations > Title V

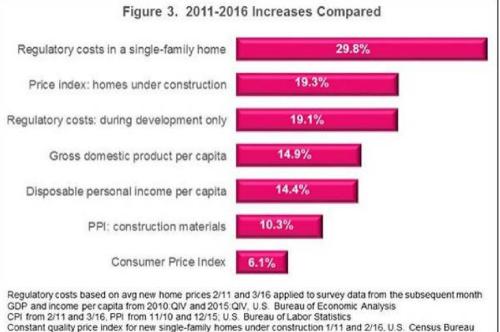
Wetlands Regulations > Wetland Protection Act

Historic Districts Commission

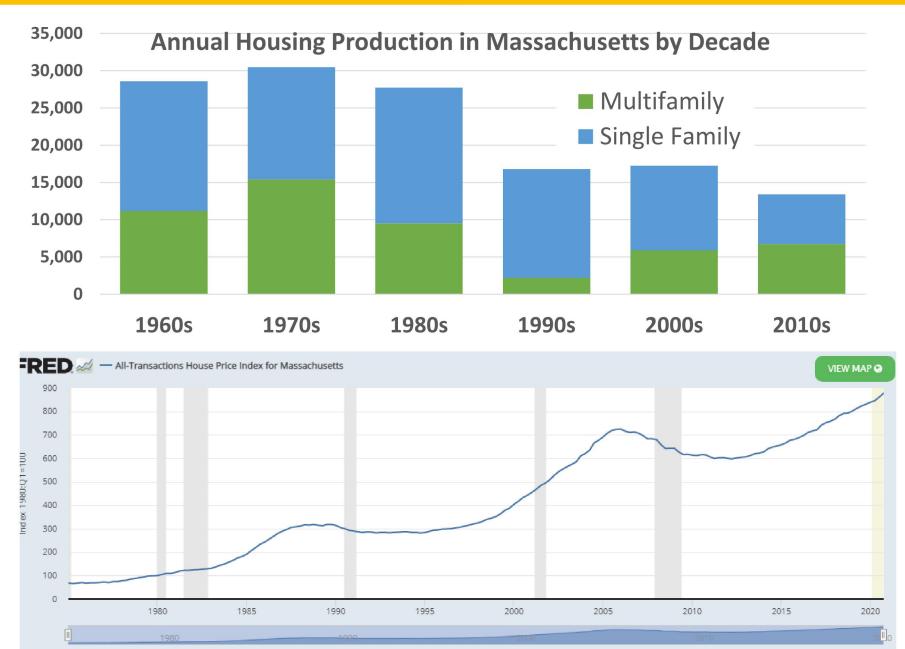
## **The Cost of Increased Regulation**



### HousingEconomics.com NAHB



# **The Cost of Increased Regulation**



U.S. recessions are shaded; the most recent end date is undecided

fred.stlouisfed.org

**E D** 

# **Spatial Implications of Increased Regulations**

The average lot size in Massachusetts is now more than an acre, or the size of an NFL football field.







Building Heights in non-urban towns have dropped below what was built historically



## **Social Implications of Local Regulations**

But limited supply of housing is driving costs up at rates greater rate than household incomes. Providing limited market rate housing choices for large segments of the working population of Cape Cod





## Social Implications of Local Regulations

## Housing Costs, Zoning, and Access to High-Scoring Schools

Jonathan Rothwell

#### Findings

An analysis of national and metropolitan data on public school populations and state standardized test scores for 84,077 schools in 2010 and 2011 reveals that:

development of inexpensive housing in affluent neighborhoods and jurisdictions fuels economic and racial segregation and contributes to significant differences in school performance across the metropolitan landscape."

"Limiting the

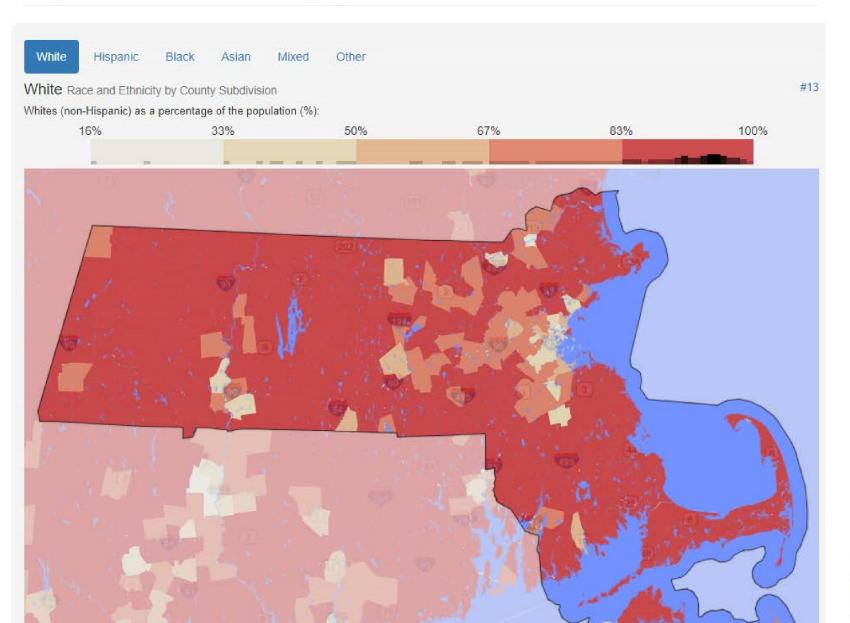
- Nationwide, the average low-income student attends a school that scores at the 42nd percentile on state exams, while the average middle/high-income student attends a school that scores at the 61st percentile on state exams. This school test-score gap is even wider between black and Latino students and white students. There is increasingly strong evidence-from this report and other studies-that low-income students benefit from attending higher-scoring schools.
- Northeastern metro areas with relatively high levels of economic segregation exhibit the highest school test-score gaps between low-income students and other students. Controlling for regional factors such as size, income inequality, and racial/ethnic diversity associated with school test-score gaps, Southern metro areas such as Washington and Raleigh, and Western metros like Portland and Seattle, stand out for having smaller-than-expected testscore gaps between schools attended by low-income and middle/high-income students.
- Across the 100 largest metropolitan areas, housing costs an average of 2.4 times as much, or nearly \$11,000 more per year, near a high-scoring public school than near a lowscoring public school. This housing cost gap reflects that home values are \$205,000 higher on average in the neighborhoods of high-scoring versus low-scoring schools. Near high-scoring schools, typical homes have 1.5 additional rooms and the share of housing units that are rented is roughly 30 percentage points lower than in neighborhoods near low-scoring schools.
- Large metro areas with the least restrictive zoning have housing cost gaps that are 40 to 63 percentage points lower than metro areas with the most exclusionary zoning. Eliminating exclusionary zoning in a metro area would, by reducing its housing cost gap, lower its school test-score gap by an estimated 4 to 7 percentiles-a significant share of the observed gap between schools serving the average low-income versus middle/higher-income student.

As the nation grapples with the growing gap between rich and poor and an economy increasingly reliant on formal education, public policies should address housing market regulations that prohibit all but the very affluent from enrolling their children in high-scoring public schools in order to promote individual social mobility and broader economic security.

#### BROOKINGS | April 2012

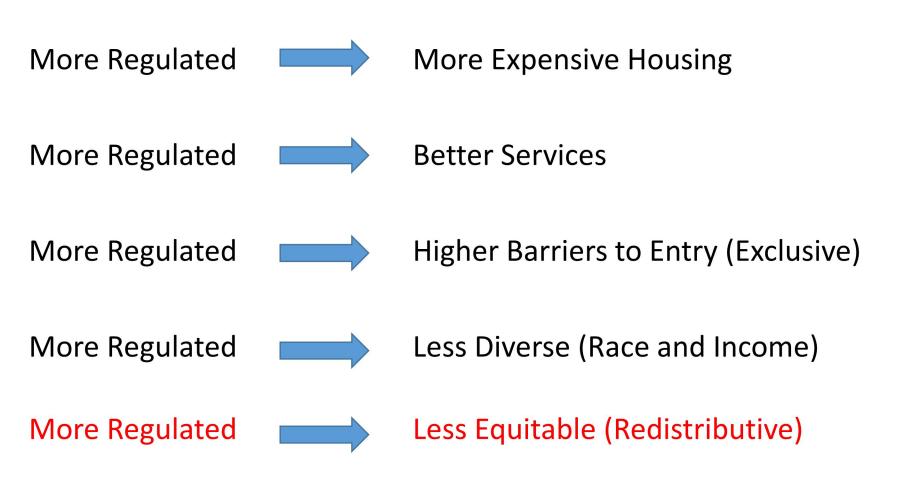
# **Social Implications of Local Regulation**

#### Map of Race and Ethnicity by County Subdivision in Massachusetts



MHP

# **The Power of Local Regulations**



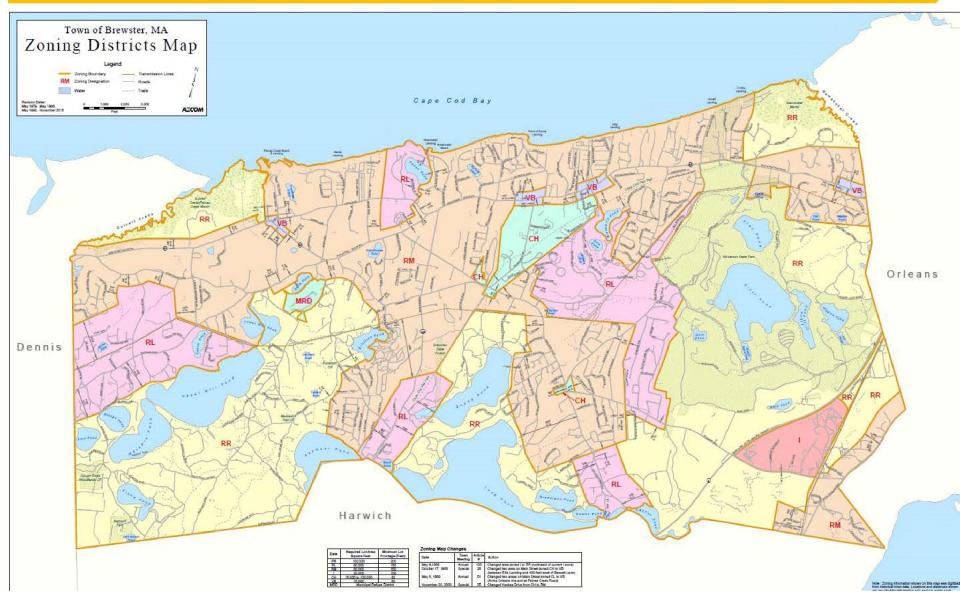
# **The Power of Local Regulations**







# **Zoning IS your Master Plan**



# **Brewster's Housing Vision**

# Housing

GOAL: Provide more affordable, safe, and accessible rental and ownership housing options at different price points, particularly for single people, young families, and our older population. Achieve the state's 10% affordable goal by 2025.

#### **PURPOSE 1**

Promote housing choices to allow families to live, work, and prosper

1. Review current zoning with key emphasis on Accessory Dwelling unit bylaw which would allow an additional smaller unit to be built on an existing home lot; consider multifamily zoning and housing above existing businesses.

2. Review current housing stock and town owned land, identify needs, promote existing programs and create innovative new programs.

3. Create a Municipal Housing Trust which will allow the Town to develop more flexible programs such as Buy Down assistance for homeowners, rental vouchers, rehabilitation and acquisition of land for Town-led, friendly 40B affordable development.

4. Research and develop creative public and private sources of funding and partnerships for housing.

5. Educate the public about affordable housing by holding educational forums and creating a marketing/awareness campaign about the need for affordable and community housing options.

#### **PURPOSE 2**

Provide opportunities to address the varied housing needs of Brewster's aging population

1. Create more ways for seniors to age in place through zoning changes, tax incentives, home sharing programs and elderly support services.

2. Develop more elderly housing options that are focused on inclusion, not isolation, and that are near public transportation routes.

#### **PURPOSE 3**

#### Address the housing needs of the Town's year-round and seasonal workforce

1. Develop relationships between businesses, homeowners and Town to identify and locate rooms for seasonal workers in safe and well managed locations, preferably near transportation centers. Review zoning that would allow more housing units to be built above existing businesses.

2. Develop more year round work force affordable rental stock and affordable first time homeownership opportunities through, for example, smaller lot sizes and non-traditional housing designs.

#### **Examples of stakeholders**

- Low/Middle Income Residents (Young Families, Older Fixed Income Families & Seasonal Workforce)
- Brewster Housing Coordinator 
   Brewster Housing Trust 
   Housing Partnerships (Brewster & MA)
  - Brewster Housing Authority
     Chambers of Commerce (Cape and Brewster) Local Builders Associations, Contractors, MA Architects
- Community Development Partnership Housing Assistance Corporation Lenders/Financing



# **Housing Choices-New Opportunities for Zoning**

Reduces Town Meeting voting threshold from 2/3 majority to simple majority for zoning articles allowing:

- Multi-family housing or mixed-use developments "as of right" in an eligible location.
- Accessory dwelling units, either within the principal dwelling or within a detached structure on the same lot, as-of-right; or detached ADUs with SP
- Reduced parking requirements (with a special permit)
- Reduced dimensional standards:

lot size

lot coverage

height

setbacks

parking



Photo Credit: Brewster Historical Society

# Thank you!

Katy Lacy, MHP katharinelacy@gmail.com

# Strengthening our communities by affirmatively furthering fair housing

Shelly Goehring Senior Program Manager

### In this session:



Our fair housing obligations

Recognizing barriers to fair housing





Benefits of inclusive communities



## Fair Housing Act of 1968

### Federal & State Protected Classes

#### Federal (Fair Housing Act)

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Familial Status
- Disability

#### State (M.G.L. c. 151B)

All federal bases plus:

- Ancestry
- Age
- Marital Status
- Source of Income/Public Assistance
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender Identity
- Veteran History/ Military Status
- Genetic Information



### Two sides of the fair housing coin

Analysis of Impediments



Affirmatively Further Fair Housing



### Obligation to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

**Promote** 

housing

choice

Reduce segregation patterns

Eradicate discrimination

> Address disparities in housing needs & access to opportunity



### AFFH needs to consider race

"In the face of the clear legislative purpose of the Fair Housing Act...to combat racial segregation and discrimination in housing, an interpretation of "affirmatively further fair housing" that excludes consideration of race would be an absurd result..."

--Anti-Discrimination Center of Metro NY Incorporated v. Westchester County



### **Analysis of Impediments**



It's not just about how much affordable housing you have.



Examine location of your affordable housing. Consider its proximity to opportunities and resources.



Does the housing increase or decrease racial diversity in the neighborhood?



### Strategies to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

#### Affirmative Fair Marketing

- Follow DHCD's marketing & resident selection plan guidelines
- Market to those least likely to apply

#### Zoning

 Consider ways that zoning may be creating disparate impact

#### Diverse Housing Options

- Multi-family AND single family
- Rental AND homeownership

EQUAL HOUSING

• Family AND senior



### What the state is doing to AFFH

Invests in communities w/ racial & ethnically concentrated poverty to improve opportunities

Invests in affordable housing development to improve access to opportunity areas & reduce perpetuation of segregation

Expand housing opportunities for families w/children by requiring three bedroom units in housing funding programs Promote Visitability, Universal Design and accessibility (beyond minimum code) to improve housing for persons w/disabilities, persons aging in place and other groups



### Recognizing barriers to fair housing

### Municipal level

Often no fair housing consideration in master plans

No local fair housing goals & objectives

Resistance to look regionally

Primarily single family zoning Municipal leadership skews to home owners



### Tools that may exclude

### Local zoning

- Large lot sizes
- No multi-family "as of right" (economies of scale)
- Set backs and floor-area-ratio (FAR)

Local preference (0% vs 70% vs 100%)

#### **Resistance to public sewer and water**



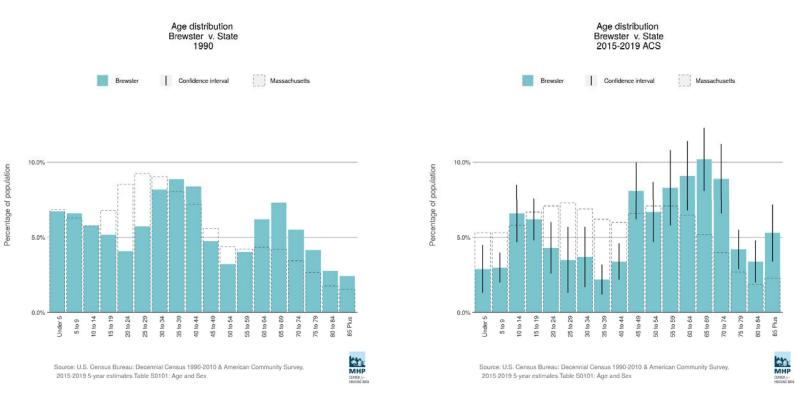
Acknowledging impediments to fair housing is the *first step*. **Planning to address** impediments is the NEXT step.



Inclusive communities are more resilient

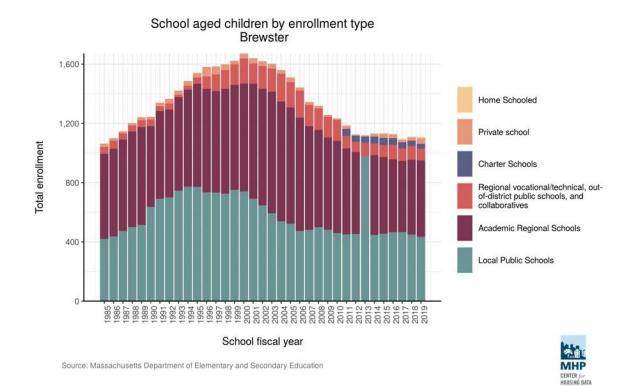
### Diversify age distribution







### Is this impacting the schools?



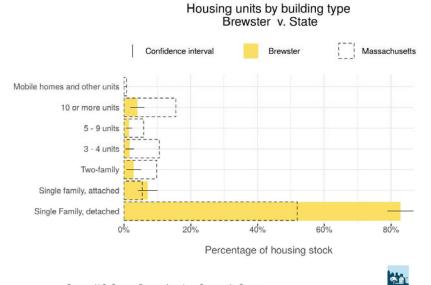


Increase local housing options

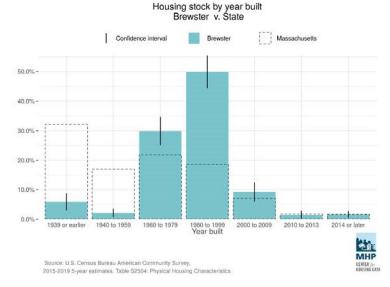
### Very little housing diversity & development

MHP

CENTER for HOUSING DATA

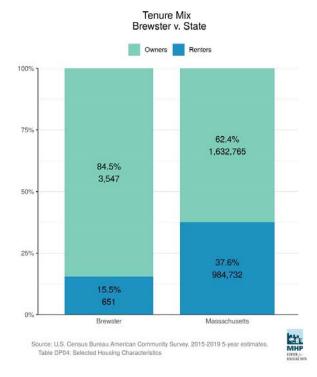


Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2015-2019 5-year estimates. Table S2504: Physical Housing Characteristics





### Most housing is homeownership



Having a healthy mix of rental and homeownership housing, as well as smaller homes, supports people in all stages of the life cycle.



Support the local economy that relies on low wage labor 69

SNOWY OWL

### EQUITY

Landscapers Childcare providers Housecleaners Retail workers Many municipal workers

What does it say about us if we want the workers, but not the housing these workers can afford to live in?





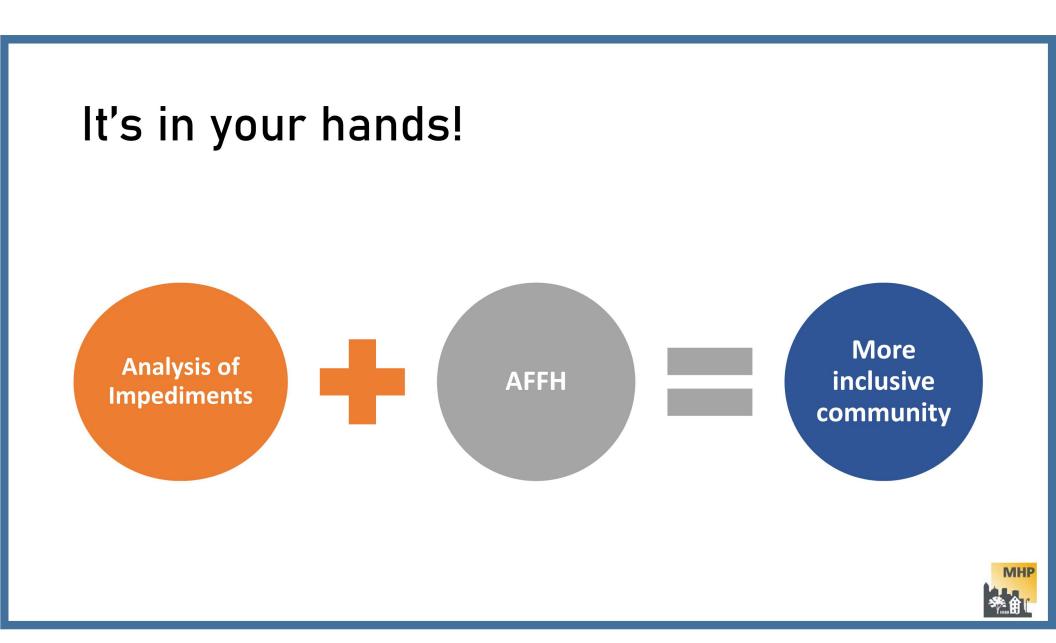
### From 1980 to 2024...

- White non-Hispanic workers expected to dip below 60% (down from 83% in 1980)
- People of color in the workforce will have more than doubled (18% to 39%+)
- Millennials (56% white) are more diverse than Boomers (72% white)

# Does it put Brewster young people at a disadvantage to live in a primarily white community?

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, CNN Business









HOUSING TOOLBOX for Massachusetts Communities

Relevant data for every community in the Commonwealth to help make the case for housing.

www.mhp.net/datatown

Strategies and best practices for the creation and preservation of affordable housing.

www.housingtoolbox.org



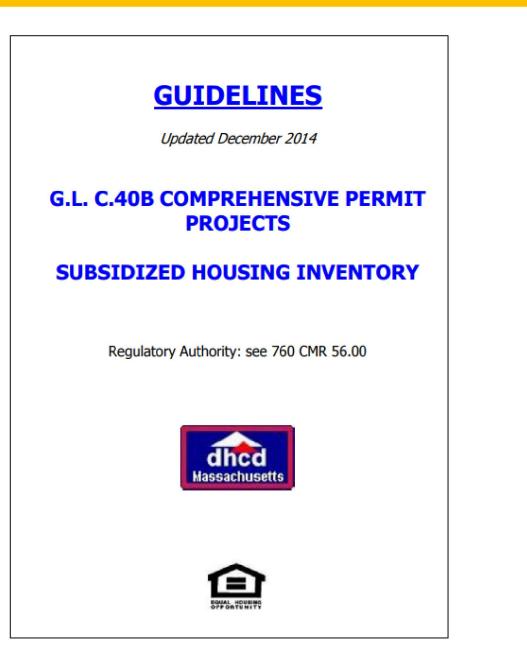
### **Questions?**

#### **Shelly Goehring**

Senior Program Manager 857-317-8525 ● sgoehring@mhp.net



### Local Preference



If a municipality wishes to implement a local selection process, it must:

- (1) Demonstrate in the AFHMP the need for Local Preference. For instance, a community that has a subsidized rental housing or public housing waiting list with applicants likely to apply for the project may support a local preference.
- (1) Justify the extent of the Local Preference (the percentage of units to be set aside for local preference). That is, how does the documented local need, in the context of the size of the community, justify the proposed size of the local preference for a given project. *Note, however, that in no event shall a local preference exceed 70% of the affordable units in a project.*
- (2) Demonstrate that the proposed local preference will not have a disparate impact on protected classes

"A municipality must provide the developer (and the subsidizing agency) the documentation required to support a local preference within 3 months of the issuance of the Comprehensive Permit. Failure to comply with this requirement shall be deemed to demonstrate that there is not a need for a local preference and shall not be approved as a part of any Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan or Use Restriction."

"The Subsidizing Agency, and in the case of Local Action Units, DHCD as well as the municipality, must approve a local preference scheme as part of the AFHMP. Therefore, the nature and extent of local preferences should be approved by the Subsidizing Agency (or DHCD in the case of LAUs) prior to including such language in any zoning mechanism. Furthermore, a comprehensive permit shall only contain requirements or conditions relating to local preferences to the extent permitted by applicable law and this policy."

#### (a) Allowable Preference Categories

(1)Current residents: a household in which one or more members is living in the city or town at the time of application.

(2) Municipal employees: employees of the municipality, such as teachers, janitors, firefighters, police officers, librarians, or town hall employees.

(3) Employees of local businesses: employees of businesses located in the municipality.

(4) Households with children attending the locality's schools, such as METCO students.

### **Local Preference-Guard Rails**

b. When determining the preference categories, the geographic boundaries of the local resident preference area may not be smaller than the municipal boundaries.

c. Durational requirements related to local preference, that is, how long an applicant have lived in or worked in a residency preference area are not permitted in any case.

d. Preferences extended to local residents should also be made available not only to applicants who work in the preference area, but also to applicants who have been hired to work in the preference area because of a bona fide offer of employment, and applicants households with children attending the locality's schools.

e. A preference for households that work in the community must not discriminate against persons with disabilities and elderly households.

f. Advertising must not have a discriminatory effect on eligible applicants. As such, local residency requirements must not be advertised as they may discourage non-local applicants

Local Preference only applies to the initial sale or lease up!

#### **Local Preference Guard Rail: Minority Balancing**

#### Percentage (%) of minority applicant in Local Preference pool must be equal to or greater than % minority residents in Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Example: A forty (40) unit 40B in Barnstable County with 10 affordable units

#### Step 1: Sort by "Open" and "Local"

# Applicants in "Open Pool" (not Local): 70, including 10 minority

# Applicants in "Local Preference Pool": 30, including 2 minority

		% Minority Applicants in Local Preference Pool
30	2	6.7%

#### Step 2: Assess

- % Minority Applicants in Local Pool 6.7%
- %Minority Population in Barnstable County 8.4%
- Minority Balancing Needed? YES

#### Step 3: Balance

- Hold preliminary drawing of all non-local minority applicants
- Rank by order picked
- Add minority applicants to local pool until % of minority in local pool is greater than or equal to

#### % minorities in SMSA (8.4% in Barnstable)

Supplemented Local Preference Pool		%Minority Applicants in Supplemented Local Preference Pool
31	3	10%

### Partial Bibliography for Zoning Presentation

Segregation by Design Jessica Trounstein, 2018

Neighborhood Defenders, Einstein, et. al 2020

Zoning Rules, Fischel, 2015

"A New Measure of the Local Regulatory Environment for Housing Markets: The Wharton Residential land Use Index," Gyorko et al, 2006

"The Geography of Inequality: How Land Use Regulation Produces Segregation" in American Political Science Review, 2020

"Residential Land Use Regulations in Eastern Massachusetts, "Amy Dain, Pioneer Institute, 2005

"The Causes and Consequences of Land Use Regulations," Glaser, Journal of Urban Economics

"Zoning, Housing Costs and Access to High Quality Schools," Glaser, Brooking Institute, 2012,

# **BREWSTER HOUSING**

**Recent Housing Activities & Fair Housing** 

## **Brewster's Housing Context**

Brewster Housing Stock: 45% owner occupied, 8% renter occupied, 44% seasonal/ vacant MA Housing Stock: 56% owner occupied, 34% renter occupied, 4% seasonal/ vacant
 2020 Median Brewster Home Sales Price- \$470,000 (Cape & Islands Assn. of Realtors)

#### Affordable Housing:

- Affordable units on the Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) 268 units
  - 5.58% of year round housing, MA mandates 10% affordable of year round housing stock.
- Brewster Housing Authority- 56 apartments, state subsidized housing, 2+ year wait list
- Wells Court- 24 apartments, senior housing, 2+ year wait list
- King's Landing- 108 apartments, 5+ year wait list

### Demographics: Brewster, Barnstable County, Massachusetts

#### **Barnstable County Demographics**

Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin in 2019	Number	Rank in U.S.	Pct Dist.	Pct Dist. in U.S.			
American Ind. or Alaskan Native Alone	1,313	390	0.6%	0.8%			
Asian Alone	3,182	405	1.5%	5.5%			
Black Alone	6,210	739	2.9%	12.7%			
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	109	<u>436</u>	0.1%	0.2%			
White Alone	195,669	<u>266</u>	91.6%	72.5%			
Two or More Race Groups	4,448	424	2.1%	3.3%			
Hispanic or Latino (can be of any race)							
Non-Hispanic or Latino	206,880	<u>279</u>	96.9%	82.0%			
Hispanic or Latino	6,616	<u>660</u>	3.1%	18.0%			

Brewster town, MA

Located in Barnstable Co. MA - Part of Barnstable Town MA Metropolitan Area

#### Demographics

	Population	Pct. of Total	Massachusetts	Pct. of Total
Total	9,837	100%	6,850,553	100%
Preschool (0 to 4)	283	2.9%	361,016	5.3%
School Age (5 to 17)	1,319	13.4%	1,010,244	14.7%
College Age (18 to 24)	662	6.7%	697,610	10.2%
Young Adult (25 to 44)	1,258	12.8%	1,809,852	26.4%
Older Adult(45 to 64)	3,162	32.1%	1,864,742	27.2%
Older (65 plus)	3,153	32.1%	1,107,089	16.2%
Median Age	54.3		39.5	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin in 2019				
	Population	Pct. of Total	Massachusetts	Pct. of Total
Total	9,837	100%	6,850,553	100%
American Ind. or Alaskan Native Alone	0	0.0%	14,764	0.2%
Asian Alone	57	0.6%	452,436	6.6%
Black Alone	94	1.0%	522,357	7.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	34	0.3%	2,804	0.0%
White Alone	9,493	96.5%	5,348,538	78.1%
Two or More Race Groups	159	1.6%	223,035	3.3%
Hispanic or Latino				
Total Hispanic or Latino	216	2.2%	809,179	11.8%
Mexican	32	0.3%	48,777	0.7%
Cuban	13	0.1%	14,906	0.2%
Puerto Rican	121	1.2%	327,501	4.8%
Other	50	0.5%	417,995	6.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

## **Recent Housing Initiatives & Fair Housing**

- White Rock Commons, Comprehensive permit neighborhood
  - 12 homes, 3 affordable, 70% local preference
  - Lottery managed by Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC). Fair housing outreach
  - 2 homes- 1 local preference; final home completed later, used original lottery
- Brewster Buy Down Program
  - Up to \$30,000 to purchase a home, requires a deed restriction
  - Approximately one buy down property a year, almost exclusively affordable resales
  - No local preference, fair housing outreach included with HAC resale efforts
- Community Housing Forum
  - Fair housing discussion and representation at every step from planning through forum
  - Broad & targeted outreach: beyond town entities, included diverse groups and social services
- Rental Assistance Program
- Habitat for Humanity Paul Hush Way

## **Brewster Rental Assistance Program**

- Up to \$600/ month ongoing assistance or up to \$6,000 emergency Covid assistance
- HAC is managing agent
- Universal application for all available funding. Online application
- Fair housing outreach
- Request for Quotes: "Perform Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing of the program"
- Quarterly reports include affirmative marketing as well as assistance provided

Affirmative Marketing for Reporting Period:

#### Emails

February Digital HACbeat (Sent February 8, 2021 to 9,232 people, 28.2% open rate, 10.6% click rate) - Mention of WHRF and contacting HAC for assistance

#### February HACbeat (sent to roughly 1,400 people)

Alisa's Editorial: New Year, New Opportunities, and Renewed Resolve (mention of WHRF)

Help Available for households Struggling to Pay Rent, Mortgage

#### Press Releases/Media Outreach

Housing Assistance Eviction Moratorium Extension Press Release (sent January 11, 2021) Housing Assistance Corporation Warns of Increasing Housing Insecurity Due to COVID Pandemic (sent on December 18, 2021)

#### Coverage:

12/18/20: HAC Warns of Increasing Housing Insecurity Due to Pandemic (Cape & Plymouth Business Media) 12/18/20: Cape Cod Broadcasting Media Coverage (Grady Culhane) 12/18/20: Cape Cod Radi Coverage of 12/18/20 press release 12/22/20: Fund Created to Help with Housing Needs (Bourne Enterprise) 12/23/20: Housing Assistance Corporation Warns of Rising Housing Insecurity as Pandemic Continues (CapeCod.com) 1/11/21: Gifts Bolster Workforce Housing Relief Fund (Falmouth Enterprise) 1/11/21: Donations aid HAC in helping renters (Cape Codder) 1/12/21: Cape Cod Radio Coverage of 1/11/21 press release 1/15/21: Corporate gifts bolster Housing Assistance Workforce Housing Relief Fund (Barnstable Patriot) 1/20/21: Fund aims to help struggling residents stave off eviction (Cape Cod Times) 2/21/21: Behind on your mortgage, rent? Here's how to get help (Cape Cod Times)

### Habitat for Humanity Paul Hush Way



#### TOWN OF BREWSTER Rationale for Local Need, October 2016 Habitat for Humanity, Paul Hush Way, Phase I, 6 Affordable Homes

Based on the Department of Housing and Community Development Subsidized Housing Inventory as of December 5, 2014 Brewster's percentage of affordable homes 5.1%. While not the least percentage of affordable housing out of the fifteen Cape Cod communities, it is not the most either. At 5.1%, Brewster is at the average. However, as the State goals 1.0%, this average is a far cry from meeting goals and, most importantly, a far cry from meeting need.

In terms of homeownership opportunities, the inventory is even less robust. Of the 246 SHI affordable homes, only 43 are ownership opportunities. And of these 43, nine are owner-rehabilitation program units without perpetual deed restrictions. This means that less than 14% of the SHI represents true opportunities for homeownership. The most recent addition on homeownership was in 2006.

The 2009-2014 American Community Survey (US Census) Five Year Estimates lists median household income for the Town of Brewster at \$66,306. Using the Department of Housing and Community Development pricing calculator, with current interest rates, FY2017 Brewster tax rate and other current variables, a household earning the median income can afford a home costing \$219,300. The same Census data shows median home values for Brewster at \$440,300 leaving an affordability gap of \$221,000. Setting aside median pricing and simply looking at homes currently listed on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS), the lowest priced single family home in Brewster is listed at \$284,900. There are truly no affordable homeownership opportunities in the town.

Another metric for local need is seen through local school data. The Town of Brewster has two elementary schools, Eddy Elementary and Stony Brook Elementary Schools. Eddy Elementary has 22.4% of its student body classified as "economically disadvantaged" and Stony Brook Elementary has 25.1% classified as "economically disadvantaged".

The 2009-2014 American Community Survey Five Year Estimates also give town-specific data on Brewster-renting households. This survey tracks "Monthly Housing Cost as a Percentage of Household Income". For the Town of Brewster, over 31% of its renter-households pay more than 30% of their income for rent. This is an unaffordable rent. As renter-households would be candidates for affordable homeownership opportunities, this is another indication of local need.

Additionally, Brewster has a DHCD approved 2009 Housing Production Plan which offers ample demographic data demonstrating housing need. See <u>http://www.mass.cov/hed/community/40b-plan/housine-production-plan.html</u>.

Also of note is Brewster's percentage of minorities. Based on 2010 US Census data the racial make-up of Barnstable County is 92.7% white; for Brewster that percentage is 96.6%. While there is the possibility that a local preference alone might have a disparate effect on minority applicants, the local preference is not being presented on its own. To counterbalance any potential disparate effect, applicant pools will be balance for minority status if minorities are underrepresented in the local pool (the lottery structure presented in Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan). This will prevent disparate effects, yet at the same time allow for a community that has contributed significant resources to offer some of the homes with a local preference to those who live, work or have children attending local schools

Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod respectfully request local preference for four of the six homes to be built at Paul Hush Way (formerly referred to as 620 Tubman Road), representing 66.66% local preference for this municipally supported Local Initiative Program project.

TOWN OF BREWSTER, RATIONALE FOR LOCAL PREFERENCE

### Paul Hush Way: 14 homes in 2 phases

#### • 70% Local Preference

- Affirmative fair housing marketing
- 157 total applicants (2 phases)
- 49 applicants qualified for drawing/lottery
- Both the lottery pool and home ownership build selection demonstrated a fair and diverse representation of qualified applicants



## **Upcoming Housing Opportunities**

#### **Brewster Woods**

30 units of affordable rental housing, 1,2 & 3 bedroom units, infrastructure construction underway. (\$550,000 CPA funding, \$1.68 million MassWorks grant, \$250,000 HOME funds) 70% Local preference requested. Marketing by Preservation of Affordable Housing & HAC.

#### **Habitat for Humanity**

Request for a Local Initiative Project (LIP), home ownership, 2 homes on Red Top Road. (CPA grant request of \$105,000) Requesting one home as veteran's preference.

#### **Serenity Brewster**

Former Wingate Skilled Rehabilitation & Assisted Living Center bought by Elevation Financial Group, rehabilitation into age 55+ rental housing. Expected 131 units with 20% affordable. Will have a Local Action Unit (LAU) application before the Select Board for the affordable units to be placed on the Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI).

#### Millstone Community Housing Property

16+ acres of Town owned land designated for community housing. Currently the Housing Trust is in the initial process of developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the property.

# **QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION**

How can Brewster affirmatively further fair housing?