



GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON HOUSING POLICY

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TO: Governor's Commission on Housing Policy

DATE: Tuesday, March 2, 2004

Subject: Land Use and Planning Subcommittee - Housing Policy Statement

Housing Policy Statement
*As Submitted by Land Use and Planning Subcommittee**
**Accepted by Subcommittee consensus February 3, 2004*
March 2, 2004

- Housing is the largest expense most Marylanders face, and decent, accessible and affordable housing has a demonstrable impact on family stability and the life outcomes of children; and
- Safe, decent, accessible and affordable housing choices for families, individuals with disabilities, children, and the elderly are indispensable building blocks for healthy neighborhoods; and
- State policies and planning activities should foster the development of a range of housing options in all communities, from rental to home ownership, at a variety of income levels;

Therefore, the Governor's Commission on Housing Policies in Maryland recommends that the General Assembly pass a statewide housing policy, that includes the following visions:

1. The availability of housing is of vital statewide importance, and the early attainment of decent housing and a suitable living environment for every Maryland household is a priority of the highest order.
2. There is a statewide need for the development of a sufficient supply of housing to meet the needs of all Marylanders.
3. It is the policy of the State of Maryland, that every jurisdiction with planning and zoning authority within the State develop a housing policy which ensures a supply of land geared for a residential purpose, sufficient to accommodate the growth anticipated within the State during the next 20 years, addressing affordability at all incomes. This policy will be included in the comprehensive plan of each jurisdiction and updated at an interval of no more than 6 years as required in Article 66B 3.05(3).