

Municipal Grant Program

Kent County Zoning Reform Grants

What is being offered?

The 2022 update of the Kent County Housing Needs Assessment shows a significant increase in housing demand across all price points. With nearly 35,000 new units in just the next five years every community has an opportunity to benefit from intentional growth.

To assist with helping communities plan for their growth needs, Housing Next is administering zoning reform grants from Kent County to assist your communities align their goals.

How do the grants work?

Grants will be considered for municipalities who approve opportunities for increased housing supply either by allowing for additional housing typologies, density or residential in areas not previously allowed as a part of a Master Plan process or zoning ordinance changes.

Grants will cover up to 75% of costs associated with approved changes up to \$50,000 per municipality. The approved amount will be based on impact and geographic distribution. Funds are limited and will be provided as a reimbursement for costs submitted and approved.

What elements should be considered?

Kent County is considered a high growth market and specific recommendations have been made including:

- Reduce or eliminate parking minimums and dwelling unit size
- Upzoning
- Density/height bonuses
- Collapse zone districts
- Allow residential in commercial districts
- Allow a wider range of housing types and lot sizes (missing middle housing)
- Expand administrative approval for residential uses

What other resources are available?

Housing Next staff is available to present the latest data, resources and potential solutions to your planning commission, board/commission/council or other stakeholder groups. We also offer technical assistance and would be happy to discuss how your community can use zoning to support intentional growth, investment in targeted areas, and more.



Kent County Housing Needs Assessment



Michigan Association of Planning Zoning Reform Toolkit



GET STARTED

Fill out the assessment using the link below and contact Brooke Oosterman for additional information or questions.

www.grandrapids.org/mgp-assessment

