



## Executive Panel on Housing in HRM Minutes

April 25, 2024

### Present:

Vicki Elliott-Lopez, Jarrod Baboushkin, Peter Duncan, Erin MacIntyre, Mark Peachey, Kristin O'Toole Scott, Melissa Eavis, Kathy Cox-Brown, and Ellen Kelly.

### Regrets:

Tanya Davis and Paula Sibley-Fox

### Agenda Items

#### 1. PRELIMINARIES

- 1.1. Welcome & Call to Order
  - The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm.
- 1.2. Approval of Agenda
  - No amendments were made.

**Next steps:** Agenda for April 25, 2024 will be posted on the Executive Panel website.

- 1.3. Approval of Minutes
  - Minutes for March 21, 2024 were circulated electronically prior to the meeting. No amendments were made.

Motion: Jarrod Baboushkin  
Second: Kristin O'Toole Scott  
Carried: Chair, Vicki Elliott-Lopez
  - Minutes from March 28, 2024 were circulated electronically prior to the meeting. No amendments were made.

Motion: Peter Duncan  
Second: Jarrod Baboushkin  
Carried: Chair, Vicki Elliott-Lopez
  - Minutes from April 4, 2024 were circulated electronically prior to the meeting. No amendments were made.

Motion: Kristin O'Toole Scott  
Second: Peter Duncan  
Carried: Chair, Vicki Elliott-Lopez

**Next steps:** Minutes from above meetings will be posted on the Executive Panel website



## **2. PRESENTATIONS**

### **2.1. Housing Acceleration Fund – Proposed Amendments: Kasia Tota, Manager of Community Planning, HRM**

- Presentation on changes as presented April 23, 2024 (first reading to Regional Council).
- HRM staff have compiled and summarized feedback and correspondence from engagement period.
- Regional Centre changes include multi-unit zoning and height increases near post-secondary institutions, built-form flexibility, wood construction, and Heritage Conservation Districts.
- Suburban Area changes include allowing up to 4-units on a lot serviced by municipal water and sewer, reduce parking requirements for multi-unit dwellings, and modernized by-laws to streamline approvals for new housing developments.
- Region-wide changes will allow for more flexibility for accessory units and backyard suites, and new accessibility requirements.
- Regulatory capacity through these changes could bring up to 205,000 units to HRM (70,000 in Regional Centre, and 135,000 in Suburban Area).

### **2.2. Panel Discussion**

- It was noted that increasing housing density could have impacts on infrastructure transportation networks in some areas and that plans to address will be required.
- Next steps are for Council to decide in the coming weeks before provincial review and approval.

## **3. ROUND TABLE**

- No updates.

## **4. NEXT MEETING**

- Next meeting: May 9, 2024

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned 2:18 pm