

America's Affordable Communities Initiative	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	OMB approval no. 2510-0013 (exp. 03/31/2007)
--	---	---

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 hours. This includes the time for collecting, reviewing, and reporting the data. The information will be used to encourage applicants to pursue and promote efforts to remove regulatory barriers to affordable housing. Response to this request for information is required in order to receive the benefits to be derived. This agency may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete this form unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Questionnaire for HUD's Initiative on Removal of Regulatory Barriers

Part A. Local Jurisdictions. Counties Exercising Land Use and Building Regulatory Authority and Other Applicants Applying for Projects Located in such Jurisdictions or Counties

[Collectively, Jurisdiction]

	1	2
1. Does your jurisdiction's comprehensive plan (or in the case of a tribe or TDHE, a local Indian Housing Plan) include a "housing element? A local comprehensive plan means the adopted official statement of a legislative body of a local government that sets forth (in words, maps, illustrations, and/or tables) goals, policies, and guidelines intended to direct the present and future physical, social, and economic development that occurs within its planning jurisdiction and that includes a unified physical plan for the public development of land and water. If your jurisdiction does not have a local comprehensive plan with a "housing element," please enter no. If no, skip to question # 4.	☐ No	☐ Yes
2. If your jurisdiction has a comprehensive plan with a housing element, does the plan provide estimates of current and anticipated housing needs, taking into account the anticipated growth of the region, for existing and future residents, including low, moderate and middle income families, for at least the next five years?	☐ No	☐ Yes
3. Does your zoning ordinance and map, development and subdivision regulations or other land use controls conform to the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan regarding housing needs by providing: a) sufficient land use and density categories (multifamily housing, duplexes, small lot homes and other similar elements); and, b) sufficient land zoned or mapped "as of right" in these categories, that can permit the building of affordable housing addressing the needs identified in the plan? (For purposes of this notice, "as-of-right," as applied to zoning, means uses and development standards that are determined in advance and specifically authorized by the zoning ordinance. The ordinance is largely self-enforcing because little or no discretion occurs in its administration.). If the jurisdiction has chosen not to have either zoning, or other development controls that have varying standards based upon districts or zones, the applicant may also enter yes.	☐ No	☐ Yes
4. Does your jurisdiction's zoning ordinance set minimum building size requirements that exceed the local housing or health code or is otherwise not based upon explicit health standards?	☐ Yes	☐ No

5. If your jurisdiction has development impact fees, are the fees specified and calculated under local or state statutory criteria? If no, skip to question #7. Alternatively, if your jurisdiction does not have impact fees, you may enter yes.	☐ No	☐ Yes
6. If yes to question #5, does the statute provide criteria that sets standards for the allowable type of capital investments that have a direct relationship between the fee and the development (nexus), and a method for fee calculation?	☐ No	☐ Yes
7. If your jurisdiction has impact or other significant fees, does the jurisdiction provide waivers of these fees for affordable housing?	☐ No	☐ Yes
8. Has your jurisdiction adopted specific building code language regarding housing rehabilitation that encourages such rehabilitation through graduated regulatory requirements applicable as different levels of work are performed in existing buildings? Such code language increases regulatory requirements (the additional improvements required as a matter of regulatory policy) in proportion to the extent of rehabilitation that an owner/developer chooses to do on a voluntary basis. For further information see HUD publication: “<i>Smart Codes in Your Community: A Guide to Building Rehabilitation Codes</i>” (www.huduser.org/publications/destech/smartcodes.html)	☐ No	☐ Yes
9. Does your jurisdiction use a recent version (i.e. published within the last 5 years or, if no recent version has been published, the last version published) of one of the nationally recognized model building codes (i.e. the International Code Council (ICC), the Building Officials and Code Administrators International (BOCA), the Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCI), the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)) without significant technical amendment or modification. In the case of a tribe or TDHE, has a recent version of one of the model building codes as described above been adopted or, alternatively, has the tribe or TDHE adopted a building code that is substantially equivalent to one or more of the recognized model building codes? Alternatively, if a significant technical amendment has been made to the above model codes, can the jurisdiction supply supporting data that the amendments do not negatively impact affordability.	☐ No	☐ Yes
10. Does your jurisdiction’s zoning ordinance or land use regulations permit manufactured (HUD-Code) housing “as of right” in all residential districts and zoning classifications in which similar site-built housing is permitted, subject to design, density, building size, foundation requirements, and other similar requirements applicable to other housing that will be deemed realty, irrespective of the method of production?	☐ No	☐ Yes

11. Within the past five years, has a jurisdiction official (i.e., chief executive, mayor, county chairman, city manager, administrator, or a tribally recognized official, etc.), the local legislative body, or planning commission, directly, or in partnership with major private or public stakeholders, convened or funded comprehensive studies, commissions, or hearings, or has the jurisdiction established a formal ongoing process, to review the rules, regulations, development standards, and processes of the jurisdiction to assess their impact on the supply of affordable housing?	☐ No	☐ Yes
12. Within the past five years, has the jurisdiction initiated major regulatory reforms either as a result of the above study or as a result of information identified in the barrier component of the jurisdiction's "HUD Consolidated Plan?" If yes, attach a brief list of these major regulatory reforms.	☐ No	☐ Yes
13. Within the past five years has your jurisdiction modified infrastructure standards and/or authorized the use of new infrastructure technologies (e.g. water, sewer, street width) to significantly reduce the cost of housing?	☐ No	☐ Yes
14. Does your jurisdiction give "as-of-right" density bonuses sufficient to offset the cost of building below market units as an incentive for any market rate residential development that includes a portion of affordable housing? (As applied to density bonuses, "as of right" means a density bonus granted for a fixed percentage or number of additional market rate dwelling units in exchange for the provision of a fixed number or percentage of affordable dwelling units and without the use of discretion in determining the number of additional market rate units.)	☐ No	☐ Yes
15. Has your jurisdiction established a single, consolidated permit application process for housing development that includes building, zoning, engineering, environmental, and related permits? Alternatively, does your jurisdiction conduct concurrent, not sequential, reviews for all required permits and approvals?	☐ No	☐ Yes
16. Does your jurisdiction provide for expedited or "fast track" permitting and approvals for all affordable housing projects in your community?	☐ No	☐ Yes
17. Has your jurisdiction established time limits for government review and approval or disapproval of development permits in which failure to act, after the application is deemed complete, by the government within the designated time period, results in automatic approval?	☐ No	☐ Yes
18. Does your jurisdiction allow "accessory apartments" either as: a) a special exception or conditional use in all single-family residential zones or, b) "as of right" in a majority of residential districts otherwise zoned for single-family housing?	☐ No	☐ Yes
19. Does your jurisdiction have an explicit policy that adjusts or waives existing parking requirements for all affordable housing developments?	☐ No	☐ Yes
20. Does your jurisdiction require affordable housing projects to undergo public review or special hearings when the project is otherwise in full compliance with the zoning ordinance and other development regulations?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Total Points:		

Part B. State Agencies and Departments or Other Applicants for Projects Located in Unincorporated Areas or Areas Otherwise Not Covered in Part A

	1	2
1. Does your state, either in its planning and zoning enabling legislation or in any other legislation, require localities regulating development have a comprehensive plan with a “housing element?” If no, skip to question # 4	☐ No	☐ Yes
2. Does your state require that a local jurisdiction’s comprehensive plan estimate current and anticipated housing needs, taking into account the anticipated growth of the region, for existing and future residents, including low, moderate, and middle income families, for at least the next five years?	☐ No	☐ Yes
3. Does your state’s zoning enabling legislation require that a local jurisdiction’s zoning ordinance have a) sufficient land use and density categories (multifamily housing, duplexes, small lot homes and other similar elements); and, b) sufficient land zoned or mapped in these categories, that can permit the building of affordable housing that addresses the needs identified in the comprehensive plan?	☐ No	☐ Yes
4. Does your state have an agency or office that includes a specific mission to determine whether local governments have policies or procedures that are raising costs or otherwise discouraging affordable housing?	☐ No	☐ Yes
5. Does your state have a legal or administrative requirement that local governments undertake periodic self-evaluation of regulations and processes to assess their impact upon housing affordability address these barriers to affordability?	☐ No	☐ Yes
6. Does your state have a technical assistance or education program for local jurisdictions that includes assisting them in identifying regulatory barriers and in recommending strategies to local governments for their removal?	☐ No	☐ Yes
7. Does your state have specific enabling legislation for local impact fees? If no skip to question #9.	☐ No	☐ Yes
8. If yes to the question #7, does the state statute provide criteria that sets standards for the allowable type of capital investments that have a direct relationship between the fee and the development (<i>nexus</i>) and a method for fee calculation?	☐ No	☐ Yes
9. Does your state provide significant financial assistance to local governments for housing, community development and/or transportation that includes funding prioritization or linking funding on the basis of local regulatory barrier removal activities?	☐ No	☐ Yes

10. Does your state have a mandatory state-wide building code that a) does not permit local technical amendments and b) uses a recent version (i.e. published within the last five years or, if no recent version has been published, the last version published) of one of the nationally recognized model building codes (i.e. the International Code Council (ICC), the Building Officials and Code Administrators International (BOCA), the Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCI), the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)) without significant technical amendment or modification? Alternatively, if the state has made significant technical amendment to the model code, can the state supply supporting data that the amendments do not negatively impact affordability?	☐ No	☐ Yes
11. Has your jurisdiction adopted specific building code language regarding housing rehabilitation that encourages such rehabilitation through graduated regulatory requirements applicable as different levels of work are performed in existing buildings? Such code language increases regulatory requirements (the additional improvements required as a matter of regulatory policy) in proportion to the extent of rehabilitation that an owner/developer chooses to do on a voluntary basis. For further information see HUD publication: “<i>Smart Codes in Your Community: A Guide to Building Rehabilitation Codes</i>” (www.huduser.org/publications/destech/smartcodes.html)	☐ No	☐ Yes
12. Within the past five years has your state made any changes to its own processes or requirements to streamline or consolidate the state’s own approval processes involving permits for water or wastewater, environmental review, or other State-administered permits or programs involving housing development. If yes, briefly list these changes.	☐ No	☐ Yes
13. Within the past five years, has your state (i.e., Governor, legislature, planning department) directly or in partnership with major private or public stakeholders, convened or funded comprehensive studies, commissions, or panels to review state or local rules, regulations, development standards, and processes to assess their impact on the supply of affordable housing?	☐ No	☐ Yes
14. Within the past five years, has the state initiated major regulatory reforms either as a result of the above study or as a result of information identified in the barrier component of the states’ “Consolidated Plan submitted to HUD?” If yes, briefly list these major regulatory reforms.	☐ No	☐ Yes
15. Has the state undertaken any other actions regarding local jurisdiction’s regulation of housing development including permitting, land use, building or subdivision regulations, or other related administrative procedures? If yes, briefly list these actions.	☐ No	☐ Yes
Total Points:		