LISTENING TOUR 2020

As our world changes, our housing needs change too. Agencies, organizations, and residents across Illinois are working together to build a Housing Blueprint to ensure that we understand and can meet the housing needs of communities across our state both now and in the future.

The Blueprint’s Listening Tour provides the opportunity to meet and engage with residents statewide. IHDA and other partners working on the Blueprint will be hosting these meetings to discuss and listen to residents’ experiences, needs, and hopes surrounding housing in their community. These discussions will help to shape the goals and work of the Housing Blueprint in the years to come.

WE’RE HERE TO LISTEN TO YOU

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL REGION VIRTUAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 | 5:30pm | Virtual Attendance Only
Organized by the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA)
Co-Hosted by Raymond Lai and Lauren Gibson | McLean County Regional Planning Commission

WebEx Information (Virtual Meeting Option):
Website: https://tinyurl.com/Blueprint-Bloomington-Normal
Event Number: 133 460 4334 | Password: IL_BP_Region%15 | Call-In Number: (312) 535-8110

MEETING AGENDA

• Introduction to IHDA and your Co-Host
• The Housing Blueprint and Illinois’ future
• Resident discussion

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS

1. What are my housing needs? Are they going to be met in the future?
2. Are there types of housing that your community is missing or doesn’t have enough of?
3. What can be done to make available housing more attractive for all ages and abilities?
4. What are some things that could improve my community life and housing?
5. Are all residents of my community being served with stable housing, jobs, and resources?
   If not, what would help?
6. Are all residents of my community able to find safe, quality housing at a price that is affordable to them? If not, what are the barriers/issues?
7. What do you love best about your community?
The Housing Blueprint is a statewide planning endeavor that will develop a vision for the future of housing in Illinois, and lay out a plan for achieving it. The Blueprint is coordinated by the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA), however it is a product of the collective participation and collaboration of a wide and diverse group of agencies, organizations, and residents from across the state. Together, these groups have committed to sharing their perspectives, knowledge, and expertise to link to and leverage existing efforts already underway.

The Blueprint also strives to engage and raise the voices of all Illinoisans to understand the realities, needs, and hopes for housing within communities both now and in the future. Repeated on an annual basis, the Housing Blueprint provides an opportunity to reflect on our state’s past impacts and achievements, assess opportunities for growth and change, and continually engage residents to be more inclusive of and relevant to the many communities throughout our state. We invite all individuals to take part in the Blueprint’s process.

**ELEMENTS OF THE BLUEPRINT:**

- Organizational Collaboration
- IHDA Programmatic Analyses
- Market Analyses
- Community Engagement
- Racial Equity Impact Assessment

**OUTCOMES OF THE BLUEPRINT:**

- Goal Identification
- Working Groups
- Programmatic and Policy Change

**MORE ABOUT YOUR LOCAL CO-HOSTS**

**RAYMOND LAI, AICP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
MCLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
Prior to joining the McLean County Regional Planning Commission (MCRPC) as its Executive Director in January 2020, Mr. Lai was serving as the Director of Economic and Community Development for the City of Decatur (IL), leading a 21-member department team, and the Deputy Director of Economic & Community Development for the City of University City (MO). Previously, he worked as an associate/senior planner in Asia for AECOM, a leading U.S.-based global consultancy, and the Director of Planning & Zoning for the City of Edwardsville (IL), after holding professional planning positions with City and County of St. Louis (MO).

**LAUREN GIBSON, AICP, COMMUNITY PLANNER**  
MCLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
As a planner for MCRPC, Ms. Gibson leads the Regional Housing Initiative, an inter-jurisdictional effort to proactively address a variety of housing issues in McLean County. Prior to joining MCRPC in 2018, she worked in planning and economic development for the City of Springfield IL, after beginning her career with the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

**MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED**

**VISIT ILHOUSINGBLUEPRINT.ORG**  
Explore the data, read the findings, and be a part of the entire planning process

**TAKE THE RESIDENT SURVEY**

Visit  
[ILHOUSINGBLUEPRINT.ORG/HOUSING-BLUEPRINT-STATEWIDE-RESIDENT-SURVEY](#)  
Or use the QR Code: