

FUTURE OF HOUSING IN RYE

Housing is a hot topic everywhere and Rye is no exception. The question is how can Rye integrate housing options into the existing fabric of the community. The first step is to engage the town in a conversation about housing to identify the priorities and strategies that best accommodate the community's needs.

In February 2023, the Rye Planning Board was awarded a \$17,750 grant from InvestNH Municipal Planning & Zoning Grant Program's Housing Opportunity Program Needs Assessment Grant (HOP Grant) to prepare a Needs Analysis and Plan to fund the public engagement, analysis, and documentation of answering the question "what should the future of housing be in Rye?" The primary tasks in this project include:

- Conduct a survey to provide information on housing and seek feedback from residents, businesses, and officials on housing preference to help guide potential action. The survey will run from late May through June 2023, with findings reported in July 2023.
- **Develop a housing needs assessment** that evaluates the housing status, demographics, and housing-related issues within Rye. This assessment will include guidance about tools and potential changes to local regulations, their impact on housing opportunities, and their relation to Rye residents' priorities and community goals. The assessment will be presented to the Planning Board in August 2023.
- **Hold public input event** to present the background information, discuss housing preferences in Rye gained from the survey and other sources, and allow for facilitated discussion related to housing that may fit Rye's needs and desires. This event will be held in late summer 2023.

The Rye Planning Board, with the Long-Range Planning Committee, is working with Rockingham Planning Commission to assist with this effort over the coming months. The discussion on housing will also be integrated into the Rye Master Plan update and Buildout Analysis approved for funding at Town Meeting in March 2023.

For more information about this project, please visit <u>www.publicinput.com/RyeFuture</u> or contact Kim Reed, Rye Planning and Zoning Administrator at KReed@town.rye.nh.us or 603-379-8081.



