



MIHU Report

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Department of Housing and Community Development

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PROGRAM SUMMARY

Welcome to the MIHU Monthly Report. The report is posted monthly on the County website at www.howardcountymd.gov/Housing_publications.

The MIHU Program is an inclusionary zoning program that requires developers of new housing in specific zoning districts to sell or rent a portion of the dwelling units to households of moderate income. MIHUs are sold or rented through Howard County Housing at affordable prices and rents. MIHUs are interspersed throughout each development and residents enjoy all the amenities in the community.

A household of moderate income is defined as one whose household income does not exceed 80% of the Howard County median income for purchasers and 60% of the Howard County median income for renters. The Howard County median income for 2020 is \$115,576. All dwelling types are available for purchase or rent, from apartment-style dwellings and condominiums, to townhouses and single-family detached dwellings. The purchase price and rental rate for each type of MIHU is calculated according to an affordability formula established by the MIHU regulations. MIHU prices are set twice a year. Applications for the program can be obtained during open enrollment periods at the Howard County Housing office, by calling (410) 313-6318 or online at www.howardcountymd.gov/MIHU_openenrollment. Rental applications are accepted year-round on a first-come, first-serve basis at rental communities that offer MIHU apartments. Visit our website for a list of participating rental communities.

MIHU pricing for January 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020 is available by contacting the office or by visiting our website: www.howardcountymd.gov/mihu_developer. Rental rates and participating rental community contact information is also available by phone, email, or on the department website.

April was an open enrollment month; however, due to Executive Orders issued by Gov. Hogan and County Executive Ball, all non-essential Howard County employees remain on telework status. County residents were advised to restrict non-essential travel and face-to-face interactions. As a result, applications were accepted via US mail or by online submissions only. Despite process modifications, 76 new applications were received. The in-person MIHU information sessions were cancelled, but staff prepared online presentations for potential MIHU homebuyers and renters. The online presentations were posted to the Department's website and applicants were encouraged to view them prior to completing an application.

Three newly constructed MIHU units closed in two communities (Oxford Square/The Yard and Trotters Knoll), one MIHU resale closed in Legacy at Cherry Tree, three units are under contract, pending settlement and priority periods were initiated for two units in Paddock Pointe.

The Executive Order suspends all time periods specified in the County Code so MIHU homeowners who expressed interest in selling have been advised that resale transactions are suspended until 30 days after the Executive Order is lifted. Builders have been notified that priority periods are amended as of March 15th under the same order; however, staff continues to award homes if pre-qualified candidates are identified.

The Department continues to explore innovative solutions to meet the changing needs of the MIHU program, renters, homeowners, builders and community leadership. Additional MIHU information is available by phone, on the website or by emailing Lisa Wiseman at lwiseman@howardcountymd.gov.

Lisa Wiseman
Chief, Housing Opportunities Programs

MIHU RENTALS

MIHU rental applications are available year-round and offered on a first come, first serve basis at participating communities. Virtual file audits began and satisfactory audits have been completed at the following communities so far: Ashbury Courts, Belmont Station Apartments, Burgess Mill Station Phase II, Orchard Park Apartments and The Vine. The 2020 rent comparison and occupancy information is shown below:

MIHU Developments	Status	Total Units	On-Site MIHU's	On-Site LIHU's	Pending	Rented	Market Rent*	MIHU Rent
Aladdin South	C	39	39	0	0	39		
Alta at Regency Crest	C	150	15	0	0	15	\$ 2,270	\$ 1,560
Annapolis Junction Town**	C	416	32	0	10	22	\$ 2,316	\$ 1,560
Ashbury Court	C	156	24	0	0	24	\$ 1,692	\$ 1,379
Azure Oxford Square	C	248	38	0	0	38	\$ 2,055	\$ 1,324
Belmont Station	C	208	32	0	0	32	\$ 1,817	\$ 1,375
Brompton House 2**	C	193	9	9	0	18	\$ 2,250	\$ 1,375
Burgess Mill Station II	C	53	6	0	0	6	\$ 1,708	\$ 1,175
Corridor Square	UC	250	38	0	38	0		
Dartmoor Place	C	258	39	0	0	39	\$ 2,133	\$ 1,398
Ellicott Gardens	C	106	103	0	0	103		
Howard Square Verde II**	C	344	35	0	0	35	\$ 2,026	\$ 1,379
Miller's Grant	C	286	29	0	16	13		
Mission Place	C	366	61	0	0	61	\$ 1,836	\$ 1,379
Oakland Place	C	16	4	0	2	2		
Orchard Meadows	C	150	15	0	0	15	\$ 1,793	\$ 1,398
Orchard Park	C	40	4	0	0	4	\$ 1,919	\$ 1,398
Parview at Emerson	C	80	80	0	0	80		
Penniman Park	C	186	19	0	0	19	\$ 1,732	\$ 1,398
Riverwatch I**	C	84	42	0	0	42		
The Vine	C	283	43	0	0	43	\$ 2,644	\$ 1,367
The Wexley @ 100	UC	394	40	0	40	0		
Townes at Pine Orchard	C	71	7	0	0	7	\$ 2,625	\$ 1,379
TOTALS		4377	754	9	106	657		

*2 -bedroom market rents as of January 2020

**alternative compliance used

Rental Communities with MIHU requirements to be built:

Development	Status	Total Units	On-site MIHU	On-site MIHU Requirement	Pending
Beechcrest	PC	64	33		33
Bristol Court	PC	318	48		48
Deep Falls	PC	80	55		55
Riverwatch II	PC	58	33		33
Robinson Overlook	PC	48	5		5
TOTALS		568	174		174

PC - Pending Construction | UC - Under Construction | C - Complete

MIHU HOMEOWNERSHIP SUMMARY

MIHUs Pending Award in April: Delacour at Blue Stream (4); Oxford Sq./River Overlook (2); Paddock Pointe (2), Trotters Knoll (3)

MIHUs Under Contract; Pending Settlement in April: Oxford Sq./River Overlook (3); Trotters Knoll (1)

MIHU Developments	Status	Total Units	MIHUs Required	LIHUs Required	Under Contract	Released to Builder	MIHU/LIHU Closed 2007-2019	MIHU/LIHU Closed 2020
Belmont Station	C	110	17	0	0	0	17	0
Delacour at Bluestream	PC	108	34	0	0	0	0	0
Cedar Creek	PC	184	19	0	0	0	0	0
Cherry Tree Townhomes	C	110	17	0	0	0	17	0
Dorset Gardens at Bluestream	C	230	44	0	0	16	28	0
Elkridge Crossing Condos**	C	56	18	0	0	4	10	0
Elkridge Crossing Townhomes**	UC	208	19	0	0	1	7	0
Ellicott Crossing	C	154	16	0	0	0	16	0
Fox Hunt Estates	C	32	4	0	0	0	4	0
Foxwood Manor	C	37	5	0	0	0	5	0
Gatherings at Ellicott Mills Condo**	C	127	10	1	0	4	7	0
Gatherings at Jefferson Pl. Condo**	C	135	14	0	0	5	9	0
Guilford Mews	C	26	3	0	0	3	0	0
Howard Square**	C	413	55	0	0	0	51	0
Joseph's Courtyard	C	24	0	1	0	0	1	0
Jones Station	C	22	3	0	0	3	0	0
Laurel Park Station	PC	220	34	0	0	0	0	0
Legacy at Cherry Tree Condo**	C	152	4	3	0	0	7	0
Long Gate Overlook**	PC	79	0	5	0	0	0	0
Magnolia Manor	PC	59	3	0	0	0	0	0
Morris Place**	C	175	28	0	0	24	4	0
Oxford Square/Folly Bridge/Springdale	C	197	31	0	0	2	29	0
Oxford Square/Exeter Park Condos	UC	180	31	0	0	0	27	2
Oxford Square/River Overlook	UC	126	19	0	3	1	12	0
Oxford Square/The Yard	UC	56	9	0	0	0	0	4
Riverwalk	C	58	6	0	0	0	6	0
Shiple's Grant	C	464	21	0	0	0	21	0
Simpson Mill**	C	150	0	5	0	0	5	0
St Charles Woods	PC	22	0	1	0	0	0	0
Trotter's Knoll	UC	77	8	0	0	0	3	1
Waverly Grove	C	30	3	0	0	0	3	0
Village Towns	C	259	23	0	0	2	14	0
TOTALS		4280	498	16	3	65	303	7
** approved alternative compliance								

PC -Pending Construction UC -Under Construction C -Complete

MIHU TRACKING – RESALES and RELEASES

MIHU homes are perpetually affordable. In other words, once the units are designated as MIHUs, they remain in the program in perpetuity. When a builder requests a priority period for new MIHUs, the Department has 120 days to find eligible buyers to purchase the MIHUs. In the event the Department does not provide an eligible buyer within the priority period, the unit is released to the builder to be sold at market rate. When units are sold at market rate as a non-MIHU, the builder is required to split the net proceeds with the County 50/50. Upon receipt of the net proceeds, the department will execute a release of the unit from the program.

A similar process occurs for MIHU resales. When an MIHU homeowner contacts the Department to request a resale price, a 120-day priority period begins to find an eligible buyer for the home. If the home is not awarded within the priority period, the homeowner may sell the home at market rate as a non-MIHU and split their proceeds with the net proceeds with the County 50/50. The Department continues to update the database and increase marketing efforts to identify income eligible, mortgage ready candidates for new and resale units.

One resale unit at Legacy at Cherry Tree settled this month. The Department received 1 new resale inquiry from an MIHU homeowner this month. If a homeowner decides to proceed with selling their homes, the Department will have 120 days to award the homes at the new MIHU price to income-eligible applicants. However, due to the challenges associated with showing and awarding homes during COVID-19, the Department is currently putting a hold on all MIHU resale requests. The Department has contacted the MIHU homeowners and will provide updates as they become available.

Community	Re-Sales Closed 2013 - YTD 2019	Re-Sales released from MIHU Program	Re-Sales Closed in 2020	Totals
Belmont Station	1	2	0	3
Cherry Tree Townhomes	3	0	0	3
Dorset Gardens at Bluestream	2	0	0	2
Elkridge Crossing Condo	6	0	0	6
Elkridge Crossing Townhomes	0	1	0	1
Fox Hunt Estates	0	1	0	1
Ellicott Crossing	4	0	0	4
Gatherings at Ellicott Mills	0	1	0	1
Howard Square	1	0	0	1
Legacy at Cherry Tree	2	0	1	3
Oxford Square - Exeter Park	1	0	0	1
Oxford Square - Folly Bridge Springdale	0	2	0	2
Riverwalk	2	1	0	3
Shipleys Grant	3	0	0	3
Village Towns	2	0	0	2
Totals	27	8	1	36

MIHU FEE IN LIEU

One method of alternative compliance is a fee-in-lieu option. Developers of single family, detached dwellings may pay a fee-in-lieu instead of providing MIHUs in the following zoning districts: RC, RR, R-ED, R-20, R-12, and R-SC. Developers of age-restricted, planned senior communities, single family attached dwellings in R-H-ED and mixed-use developments in MXD are also eligible for the fee-in-lieu option. Developers contact the Department for an MIHU agreement when they receive a Technically Complete letter from Planning and Zoning.

The County's Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits collects the fee in lieu. Our Department is tracking this information to comply with the legislation's reporting requirements and to determine potential revenue for affordable housing units and programs. One new agreement was executed in the month of April. The Department has signed fee in lieu agreements for 23 units in 7 developments through April 2020.

Development	Zip Code	Zoning	New Lots	Agreement Signed
Rover Mill Estates	21794	RR-DEO	7	4/9/2020

The Department will continue to use MIHU fee-in-lieu funds for SDLP and Workforce Initiative loans in FY20. In addition, \$400,000 in MIHU fee-in-lieu funds was awarded to several local non-profits on July 1st to engage in a collaborative effort to create, rehabilitate and/or preserve affordable housing units in the County.