



VILLAGE OF NEW PALTZ BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Resolution No. 55 of 2022

The following was presented by Deputy Mayor Wojcik; Sec'd by Mayor Rogers; Date of Adoption 9-28-2022

Names	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Absent
Mayor Rogers	X			
Deputy Mayor Wojcik	X			
Trustee Weisburd				X
Trustee Wheeler-Murray				X
Trustee Zipp	X			
Totals	3			2

**RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW PALTZ BOARD OF TRUSTEES JOINING THE ULSTER COUNTY HOUSING SMART COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of New Paltz Board of Trustees believes that housing is a human right, and that working toward housing solutions is a priority for the well-being of the local residents, the economy, and community sustainability; and,

**WHEREAS**, according to Census data as well as the Ulster County Housing Action Plan report, a majority of Village of New Paltz residents are housing unstable, whether they rent or own their homes; and,

**WHEREAS**, 71% of Village of New Paltz residents rent their home, and 62% of those renters spend more than 30% of their income on housing, according to the US Census; and,

**WHEREAS**, According to the County's Housing Action Plan report, more than a quarter of VONP households are SEVERELY cost burdened, meaning they spend more than half of their income on housing costs; and,

**WHEREAS**, 79% of the village tenants who've participated in the Village's Landlord-Tenant Relations Council's "what's your rent burden?" survey conducted last year shared stories that support the above data, stating they are spending well over 30% of their monthly income on housing costs; 57% of respondents to that survey stated they spend 50% or more of their monthly income on housing costs ; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Village of New Paltz Board of Trustees believes that rising housing and rental costs and a lack of diverse housing opportunities including quality affordable rental housing as well as opportunities for community members to own their homes pose significant challenges to all members of our community and threaten our community character; and,



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**WHEREAS**, affordable housing is defined as housing in which the occupant is paying no more than 30% of monthly or annual income for housing costs, including utilities; and,

**WHEREAS**, ensuring there are affordable, quality housing options for all community members is a key responsibility of the elected officials of the Village of New Paltz and a critical component of creating a healthy, sustainable, and prosperous community; and,

**WHEREAS**, rising housing and rental costs and a lack of diverse housing opportunities for all community members is in part due to the demand for housing far exceeding the supply of new affordable and workforce housing being developed in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of New Paltz Board of Trustees remains committed to implementing local legislation such as our recently codified [Accessory Dwelling Unit](#) law and [Short Term Rental Law](#), as well as our long-standing [Rental Registry and Inspection Law](#) as well as our [Affordable Housing Law](#); and,

**WHEREAS**, The Village of New Paltz Board of Trustees also remains committed to adopting local zoning with an emphasis on multistory mixed use density that leads to development of more affordable housing units per the Affordable Housing Law, as demonstrated with creation of the Neighborhood Business Residential (NBR) district and recent updates to the B1 and B2 zoning districts to be more like the NBR; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Village of New Paltz Board of Trustees remains committed to supporting smart development that helps meet the housing needs of the community by building density in thoughtful and sustainable ways, such as with the recently completed Zero Place project; and,

**WHEREAS**, we believe that our municipality's response to housing challenges provides us with an opportunity to improve housing opportunities and community wellbeing for all community members, and to build livable, affordable, and housing-smart communities; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** in order to meet local housing needs, the Village of New Paltz adopts the following commitments as part of joining the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities Initiative:

- Join the program via this Resolution, and registering on the program website accordingly;
- Engage the community thereof;
- Designate the Village's Fair Housing Officer to serve as the Village's Housing Smart Community coordinator;
- Designate the Affordable Housing Board (AHB) and the Landlord-Tenant Relations Council (LTRC) to serve as the groups committed to the program;



VILLAGE OF NEW PALTZ BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Resolution No. 55 of 2022

- Task the Housing Smart Community coordinator and the AHB and LTRC with establishing and implementing a community outreach and educational campaign on the importance of developing a range of housing options in addition to strengthening tenant protections and homeowner and tenant resources;
- Further task the three entities with recommending to the Village Board a set of prioritized Housing Smart Actions; and,
- Committing to implementing these Housing Smart Actions; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Village Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, U.S. Congressman Pat Ryan, Governor Kathy Hochul, State Senator Mike Martucci, State Assemblyman Kevin Cahill, the County Executive's Office, City of Kingston Mayor Steve Noble, Ulster County Legislative Chair Tracey Bartels, Ulster County Legislator Eve Walter, and Ulster County Legislator Megan Sperry.

The Resolution was thereupon adopted.

Nicole MacLean, Deputy Clerk of the  
Village of New Paltz

September 28, 2022

Date