Model Resolution

**Join the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities Initiative**

**Instructions:** Any city, town, or village government in Ulster County can actively address housing challenges and ensure that our essential workers and other community members can continue to live in the communities they call home by committing to join the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities Initiative. Local governments may amend the preamble of the statement below, but all six steps of the pledge must be adopted verbatim by the highest body of elected officials (e.g., town board or city council). The final resolution document must include a signature from the municipal clerk verifying the authenticity of the resolution and indicating the date of passage. Local governments should then designate a primary contact person to complete the online registration form. After the registration is reviewed, the community will be designated a Registered Housing Smart Community and be added to the online list. Join us!

**Sample Resolution Language**

Councilmember\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moved and Councilmember \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seconded that

WHEREAS, the Town/Village/City of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter “local government”) believes that rising housing and rental costs and a lack of diverse housing opportunities for all community members pose a significant challenge to the members of our community; and

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 housing options for all community members is a key responsibility of the elected officials of the Town/Village/City 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, a long-term commitment by the Town/Village/City to review and approve new affordable and workforce housing projects is a critical strategy for ensuring there are affordable housing options for all community members; and

WHEREAS, working toward housing solutions is a priority for the well-being of the local residents, the economy, and community sustainability; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our 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,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Town/Village/City/ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, in order to meet local housing needs, adopts the following commitments as part of joining the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities Initiative. This commitment includes completing the following six steps:

1. Join the program through municipal resolution and begin engaging with the community
2. Designate a Housing Smart Community coordinator to serve as liaison between Ulster County and the municipality
3. Form a housing task force or designate an existing official housing-related body of the Town/Village/City to serve as the group committed to the program
4. Register for participation in the program on the Housing Smart Communities Initiative website
5. Establish a community outreach and educational campaign on the importance of developing a range of housing options
6. Begin implementing a prioritized set of the Housing Smart Actions included in the program