

city of yes for housing opportunity



Re-Legalize Small and Shared Housing

City of Yes for Housing Opportunity is a plan to tackle our housing shortage by making it possible to build a little more housing in every neighborhood. Together, we can make our city more affordable without dramatic changes in any one community.

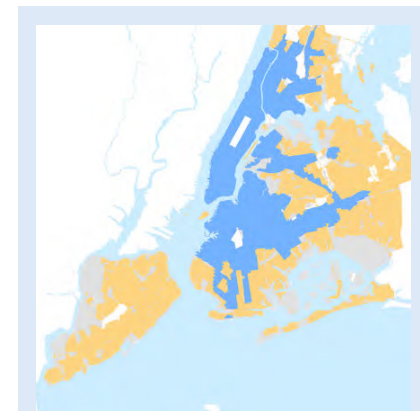
An important part of this plan is re-legalizing buildings with more studios and homes with shared kitchens or other common facilities.

How it works

NYC banned shared housing in the 1950s and apartment buildings full of studio apartments in the 1960s. This has contributed to the homelessness crisis in the decades since, and forced people who would prefer to live alone into living with roommates.

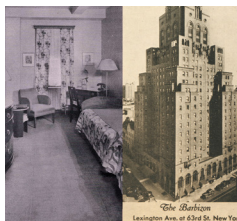
City of Yes for Housing Opportunity would **re-legalize housing with shared kitchens or other common facilities**. It would also allow **buildings with more studios** and one-bedrooms for the many New Yorkers who want to live alone but don't have that option today.

These apartments are important for so many people – recent college graduates, older households that are downsizing, and everyone who lives with roommates but would prefer to live alone. Allowing more small and shared apartments will also **open up larger, family-sized apartments** otherwise be occupied by roommates.



- Eliminate dwelling unit factor
- Reduce and simplify dwelling unit factor

City of Yes would allow for more small apartments by removing the so-called dwelling unit factor in central parts of the city and reducing it elsewhere.



Constructed in 1928, the Barbizon looks like so many other classic NYC apartment buildings, but with its mix of small and shared units, it couldn't be built as configured today!

What comes next

City of Yes for Housing Opportunity began public review in April 2024. Community boards and borough presidents provided input and the City Planning Commission (CPC) held a public hearing. In September, the CPC voted to approve the proposal. Now, it goes to the City Council for a final vote before the end of the year.

Learn more, get involved



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for housing opportunity



nyc.gov/YesHousingOpportunity