city of yes for Housing Opportunity

Transit-Oriented Development

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 allowing modest apartment buildings near public transit.

How it works

Modest apartment buildings exist in lower-density areas of the five boroughs, most built between the 1920s and 1950s. However, current zoning bans new ones despite the severe housing shortage.

City of Yes would re-legalize modest, transit-oriented apartment buildings in low-density areas. Sites must be within half-a-mile of train of subway stations, over 5,000 square feet, and on a corner or facing a street 75+ feet wide. Buildings would be 3, 4 or 5 stories, depending on zoning district.

These modest "missing middle" apartment buildings would help relieve our housing shortage while matching the scale and character of existing buildings that can no longer be built.



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



