

Lee, Chris

From: Murillo, Maribel
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2025 1:16 PM
To: Lee, Chris
Cc: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: FW: Housing Crisis Demands Action: Please Support Substitute C

Good afternoon Chris,

Can you please add for this email to the file for next week's Common Council meeting.

Thank you,

Maribel Murillo

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Please consider using our [Click for Action](#)

From: Montavius Jones <info@togetherforhomes.org>
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2025 9:37 AM
To: Perez, Jose <JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Housing Crisis Demands Action: Please Support Substitute C

Alderman Pérez,

I hope this email finds you well. I am representing the Milwaukee-based **Together for Homes Coalition**, which commissioned a local poll of registered voters—the results were released just this week. The findings provide a glimpse into the **housing crisis** reality your constituents are facing.

Housing cost and availability is a top concern for registered voters in Milwaukee, second only to public safety and unsafe driving—and the **#1 issue** for voters under the age of 35.

The citywide poll included 843 registered voters, 75% of whom have lived in Milwaukee for 20 years or more.

Nearly six out of ten (58%) registered voters aged 18–34, and 44% of registered voters overall, consider housing costs and availability the most important issue facing Milwaukee today.

Two-thirds (67%) of Milwaukee voters say the cost of buying a home is a major problem, and even more (72%) say the cost of renting is a major problem.

Four in five (80%) say the city simply doesn't have enough homes that are affordable for regular people to buy or rent.

Many respondents know someone—or have experienced first-hand—the challenges of finding or keeping a home in the city. Their stories range from concerning to heartbreaking:

“It was really hard for me to keep my home because my husband had passed, so it was only one income. I could not keep up with the payments, so I lost my home.”

“I cannot find any affordable housing to rent, and I make six figures a year. I refuse to spend over \$2,000 just to rent.”

“Despite holding a job that pays reasonably well, I am priced out of most homes that I would like to buy or even rent.”

“A relative could not find affordable housing. He ended up in a hotel near the airport and committed suicide.”

Nearly half of the respondents are property owners currently living in single-family homes. The majority of those polled are open to allowing diverse types of construction in their neighborhoods.

Far more respondents favor allowing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) than oppose them. Nearly two-thirds (63%) support ADUs, while just one-quarter oppose.

Nearly three-fourths (74%) of registered voters support allowing multiple homes—such as a duplex, triplex, or fourplex—on one lot.

At this Tuesday’s Council meeting, you will hear a file legalizing Accessory Dwelling Units (aka in-law suites). Milwaukee voters clearly support ADUs (63%). Our coalition has major concerns with the file coming before you.

Substitute E would require BOZA approval for internal ADUs in areas zoned for single-family homes. Substitute E is far too restrictive and creates a high, costly barrier for property owners. This is unacceptable at a time when the city must foster a climate more supportive of creating new homes amidst the local housing crisis.

Thank you for your original proposed **Substitute C** to the ADU policy at ZND. Your continued vote to ensure passage of Substitute C responds directly to strong community support for more flexible, affordable housing options and a clear mandate in support of ADUs citywide. Internal ADUs, specifically, offer a lower-cost, more accessible path for homeowners to create rental units or accommodate family needs without altering neighborhood character. [The cost difference can be ten times greater for detached ADUs compared to attached ADUs.](#)

Supporting ADUs empowers residents, addresses housing shortages, and reflects a practical, resident-driven solution to affordability and choice.

Alderman Pérez, we implore you to vote for Substitute C and ensure that the Common Council hears the voices of most Milwaukee residents—not just a few.

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Montavius Jones

Lead Coalition Organizer

Together for Homes Coalition

Advancing housing choice, affordability, and opportunity in Milwaukee

🌐 www.TogetherForHomes.org

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