

**To: Members of the Zoning, Neighborhoods, and Development Committee**  
**From: Montavius Jones, Lead Organizer, Together for Homes**  
**Subject: Support for the Housing Element Legislation**

Dear Chair and Members of the ZND Committee,

On behalf of the Together for Homes coalition, I write in strong support of the Housing Element currently before your committee. This plan offers Milwaukee a practical, people-centered path toward addressing our city's most urgent issue: the shortage of affordable and available housing.

We represent a broad, citywide coalition of industry professionals, community-based organizations, housing service providers, and advocacy groups—diverse in geography, mission, and experience, but united by one belief: Milwaukee needs more housing choices, and it needs them now.

A citywide poll we commissioned earlier this year affirms what we already know from the frontlines:

- Housing cost and availability is the #1 issue for voters under 35 and the #2 issue overall, just behind public safety.
- 80% of voters say Milwaukee does not have enough homes that regular people can afford to buy or rent.
- Nearly three-fourths support allowing multiple homes—such as duplexes or fourplexes—on one lot.
- Support for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) outweighs opposition by more than two to one.

Milwaukee residents are ready for a different approach. The Housing Element equips the City with tools to meet demand, encourage innovation, and ensure that more people—whether teachers, nurses, retail workers, or emergency personnel—can find homes that meet their needs.

We recognize that there's no single fix to our housing shortage. But we must begin with the policies we can control. That includes lifting local restrictions that artificially limit the supply of homes and keep prices high. It includes allowing homes of all shapes and sizes—so we can build the housing diversity that already defines Milwaukee's most beloved neighborhoods.

This plan is more than a policy document. It's a statement of values. It says that our city will welcome growth without displacement, create opportunities for the next generation, and ensure that housing affordability doesn't depend on who you are or where you live.

We urge the Committee to vote in favor of the Housing Element and move this vision forward. The people of Milwaukee are ready—and so are we.

Sincerely,

**Montavius Jones**

Lead Coalition Organizer

Together for Homes

[info@togetherforhomes.org](mailto:info@togetherforhomes.org)

[www.togetherforhomes.org](http://www.togetherforhomes.org)