

CITY OF EAU CLAIRE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION (HOC) 2026 WORK PLAN

Theme: A safe, affordable home for everyone.

Objective	Specific Actions	Future Actions
<p>Recommend and review ordinances and other policies to help ensure availability of affordable housing.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be involved in the comprehensive plan update and be included in the discussion. 2. Stay connected on the impact of the new zoning code and the impact on affordable housing and make recommendations on any zoning issues that negatively impact affordability. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and make recommendations to City Council on affordable housing priorities and the use of affordable housing funding. 2. Create affordable housing goals to include with HOCs workplan in 2027
<p>Facilitate access to programs and funding for groups that contribute to Eau Claire’s affordable housing, and especially to reduce costs for those who face the greatest need.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote, review and award the housing fund grant funds available. 2. Learn more about the city budget, the city’s priorities related to affordable housing, and the money available for affordable housing and how it’s distributed. 3. Explore the opportunities for Neighborhood Improvement Districts (NIDs) and other funding mechanisms including new legislation and program review. 4. Review housing related legislation and make recommendations to Council. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research grant opportunities.
<p>Promote public-private partnerships that stimulate the development and revitalization of local housing units, expand diversity of housing types and improves housing affordability.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commissioners receive education on housing programs that are available. 2. Provide education to local developers on available housing programs, how they can help them and why they should consider them, how they work and how to take advantage of them (i.e. WHEDA loan funds, LIHTC, etc). 	

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<p>Review civic strategies that increase home ownership opportunities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collect data on home ownership to understand potential strategies that can promote home ownership. 2. Using the data collected, start to create a housing plan to grow home ownership and sustain current ownership. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research different types of models of homeownership including co-op, land trusts, shared equity ownership, generational housing, etc. 2. Continue work on housing plan if needed.
<p>Hold a regional meeting of industry and community stakeholders to share commission’s progress and direction.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-evaluate the ordinance that created the Housing Opportunities Commission and determine any recommended changes to City Council (including the elimination of the community stakeholder meeting). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend changes to include a report to council (not community stakeholders) on the work of HOC to share our progress. • Seek guidance from Council on codified objectives and structure of the HOC. • Explore the feasibility of a broader Regional Housing Opportunities Commission. 2. Develop a digital method of communication to the public on the work of HOC. 3. Partner with the Momentum West on their annual housing conference. 	