

# Howard County Housing Affordability Coalition

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September 16, 2021

## **ACTION REQUESTED: Take the *HoCo By Design* Survey**

**Don't miss this opportunity to have your voice heard as the *HoCo By Design* team prepares to draft its final report.**

Survey Link: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/71730a3f2df04d7987605f02419b1a49T>

Survey deadline extended to **Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm.**

Prior attendance at a workshop is not required to participate in the survey.

Background: The *HoCo By Design* team held 7 workshops between August 31-September 15. Participants heard how the ideas had been shaped by scenario planning, discussions with the Planning Advisory Committee, meetings of the Strategic Advisory Groups, feedback from technical experts, and input from the community. If you were unable to attend a workshop in-person or virtually, a recording of the virtual workshop is available at [https://www.hocobydesign.com/draft-plan-workshop-series/widgets/36889/key\\_dates-15509](https://www.hocobydesign.com/draft-plan-workshop-series/widgets/36889/key_dates-15509).

## **UPDATE**

**Coalition *HoCo By Design* Comments.** On September 14, the Coalition Steering Committee submitted two letters to DPZ Director Gowan for the consideration of the Department, *HoCo By Design* consultants and the Plan Advisory Committee. "[Jobs and Housing Mismatch and the Next General Plan](#)" suggests that the jobs to housing ratio being considered by *HoCo By Design's* four Scenarios would not close, but would actually widen the affordable housing gap in the County. [The second letter](#) asks that the draft *HoCo By Design* Plan provide a foundation for future land use, zoning and other County decisions that will: increase the effectiveness of the Moderate Income Housing Unit (MIHU) Program; balance housing and Infrastructure needs; enable creation of townhome, small lot single family and multifamily zones; ensure Howard County's population does not further outpace housing supply; and enable increased development of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).

The draft *HoCo By Design* Plan is anticipated to be released in October after which there will be another set of community workshops for public input followed by presentation to the Planning Board. The current timeline calls for January pre-file of legislation for Council consideration of adoption of the final *HoCo By Design* Plan.

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