

Tompkins County

Industrial Development Agency

Workforce Housing Policy

Adopted: July 8, 2020

The Tompkins County IDA supports the development of workforce housing. In addition to meeting any other requirements as set forth in the TCIDA Uniform Tax Exemption Policy, all multi-family rental housing project applicants will be subject to the Workforce Housing Policy as follows:

Applicants will be required to make a one-time payment to the Tompkins County Community Housing Development Fund. Payment will be made at time of closing.

The payment amount will be \$5,000 multiplied by the total unit count and is due and payable at time of closing. This payment amount is based on a calculation of \$25,000 per 20% of the total units in lieu of providing 20% of the units on-site as affordable units.

The payment is not required if the project applicant will set aside a minimum of 20% of the units available for households earning 80% or less of area median income and is subject to a regulatory agreement by a local, state or federal agency for compliance for a period of at least 20 years.

In general, the TCIDA delivers incentives to multi-family residential housing projects in the following areas:

- City of Ithaca's Downtown Density District
- The redevelopment of a Brownfield site that is registered as a DEC inactive hazardous waste site
- Lansing Town Center Incentive Zone

The Community Housing Development Fund is a joint effort of Tompkins County, the City of Ithaca, and Cornell University and helps communities and organizations throughout Tompkins County respond to the diverse affordable housing needs of its residents. The benefits of supporting the Community Housing Development Fund include:

- Flexible funding for any type of affordable housing (rental and for sale units) at a mix of income levels
- The fund supports workforce housing countywide
- The fund has a proven track record
- Applicants generally leverage State and Federal funds to produce far more units per local subsidy provided than the TCIDA ever could.

This policy will be reviewed at least annually.