



SPRINGFIELD
DEVELOPMENT CODE
UPDATE PROJECT

Development Code Update Project
Public Outreach Report



I. Project Introduction

The Springfield Development Code is the principal document that implements local, state, and federal land use, transportation, and environmental laws applicable in the City of Springfield. The current Springfield Development Code (SDC) was adopted in 1987. Other than general “housekeeping” updates that occurred from 1998 to 2005, the Code has been revised only to comply with state or federal laws, or as directed by the Springfield City Council in response to a specific issue or objective.

The City Council recognizes that the Springfield Development Code is difficult to use, understand, and implement. Resolving the complexities and outdated nature of the code will help achieve the economic and housing goals for our community. The Council has directed staff to complete a full Development Code Update which includes both residential and employment land-use development codes. The project timeline is approximately 2018 through 2023. Additionally, the City will update Other land use development codes in Phase III of this project.

Additionally, The State of Oregon law requires the local governing authorities such as the City to have clear and objective development standards to support efficient, timely, and clear development reviews for housing. The Oregon Legislature in 2019, passed House Bill 2001 (HB 2001), a law that requires large cities in Oregon to allow “Middle Housing” in areas zoned for residential use.

Large cities (defined as cities with a population of over 25,000 people) including Springfield must allow: (1) all middle housing types in areas zoned for residential use that allow for the development of detached single-family dwellings; and (2) a duplex on each lot or parcel zoned for residential use that allows for the development of detached single-family dwellings.

Middle housing, which House Bill 2001 defines as duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, cottage clusters, and townhouses, provides an opportunity to increase diverse housing supply in developed neighborhoods that can blend in well with detached single-family dwellings. Middle housing types are residential living units for two or more households but fewer than a typical apartment building. As such, the implementation of House Bill 2001 is expected to bring significant proposed changes to the code sections of the Springfield Development Code

a.) State Mandated Timeline

The [House Bill 2001](#) was adopted in 2019 by the Oregon Legislature while the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) for Middle Housing were adopted in December 2020. Springfield’s land-use code amendments need to be finalized by June 30, 2022, if unable to adopt code amendments in time, the [state-adopted model code](#) will automatically apply. The project has moved quickly to meet the state-mandated timeline while providing necessary information to the community members and stakeholders as well as, gathering valuable feedback from them.

b.) Project Purpose and Objectives

The established project purpose and objectives were developed in conjunction with the Springfield City Council and Planning Commission and approved as part of the Community Engagement Plan for the project.

The Purpose of the Development Code Update Project is to change the Springfield Development Code to support efficient, timely, and clear development review. The updated Development Code will support Springfield’s economic development priorities and honor Springfield’s hometown feel now and in the future.

The Project objectives are to:

1. **Enable quick review of development applications.**
2. **Provide easy-to-understand code language presented in a clear and user-friendly format.**
3. **Provide a straightforward processing path to development decisions.**
4. **Support/further economic development in all sectors.**
5. **Protect and enhance the beauty of our city to boost or stabilize property values, encourage investment, and improve the image of the community.**
6. **Comply with mandatory regulatory requirements including implementation of HB 2001.**
7. **Implement the City’s adopted policies.**

II. Community Engagement Plan



Oregon Statewide Planning Goal 1 requires all projects that involve decisions about land use in Oregon to provide opportunities for meaningful public input on such projects. The Goal calls for *“the opportunity for citizens to be involved in all phases of the planning process”*. Following the directives of Goal 1 - Community Engagement has been an integral part of the Development Code Update project. The Community Engagement Plan describes the goals, key messages, and the process of community engagement that the City of Springfield implemented to ensure that community members and stakeholders have adequate opportunities to provide meaningful input to the Project. The Plan highlights the expected outcomes and is designed with the public/community members, technical advisory committee, and the decision-makers in mind as the intended audience. Throughout the project, the City is committed to sharing information and gathering valuable input from the community members and the stakeholders.

a.) Community Engagement Goals

The Community Engagement goals highlight the City’s intention to meaningfully engage the community members within the project. The goals are laid out to:

- 1. Ensure the Springfield community has opportunities to be informed about the project**
- 2. Ensure the Springfield community has opportunities to provide input on the project.**
- 3. Ensure the community understands the key issues related to the Development Code.**
- 4. Foster and sustain a collaborative and mutually respectful process while completing the Development Code Update Project.**
- 5. Communicate complete, accurate, understandable, and timely information to the community and partners throughout the Development Code Update Project including an explanation of potential impacts from the proposed changes.**
- 6. Demonstrate how input has influenced the process and is incorporated into the final Development Code update.**
- 7. Adhere to the City of Springfield community engagement guiding principles.**

b.) Key Messages

The community engagement plan emphasizes the use of key messages throughout project communications to help maintain consistent messaging about the project goal and objectives. These messages were conveyed both in written communications and as talking points.

The following key messages are treated as a living document within the Community Engagement Plan. The key messages were regularly updated to reflect the feedback and themes received from the stakeholders and the community throughout the various phases of the project.

The following key messages reflect the City of Springfield's commitment to:

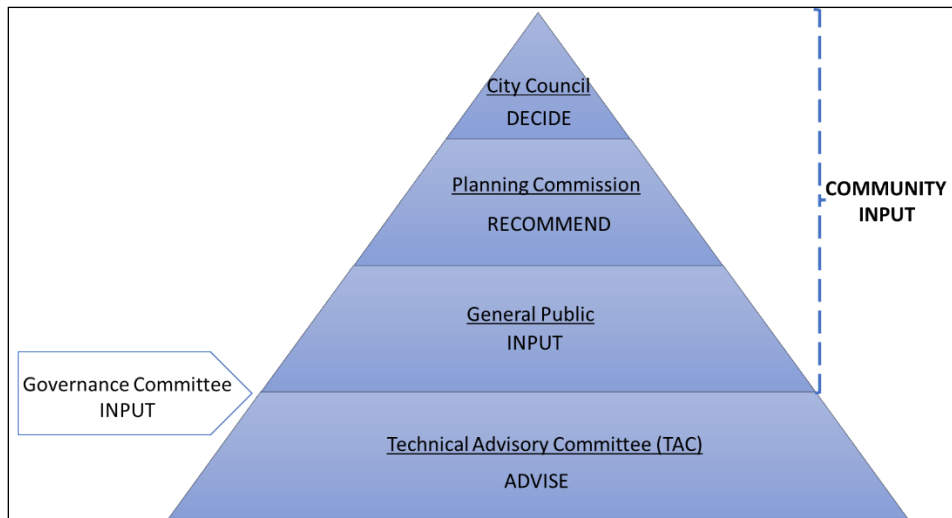
- 1. Reduce – the development barriers to allow for efficient utilization of the available land supply inside the Urban Growth Boundary.**
- 2. Encourage and facilitate - the development of more attached and clustered single-family housing in the low density and medium density residential zones.**
- 3. Provide - a variety of housing options for all income levels in both existing neighborhoods and new residential areas.**
- 4. Enhance - the quality and affordability of new development within existing neighborhoods and of multi-family housing.**
- 5. Promote - compact, orderly, and efficient urban development.**
- 6. Make - development decisions predictable, fair, and cost-effective.**
- 7. Promote - efficient and economical patterns of mixed land uses and development densities.**
- 8. Broaden, improve, and diversify - the Springfield economy.**
- 9. Maintain or enhance - environmental qualities and Springfield's natural heritage.**

c.) Community Engagement Process

The Community Engagement Process reflects the role of various advisory groups and committees that contributed their time, knowledge, and expertise to the process. The Technical Advisory Committee and the public shape the foundation of the community engagement process. The process is designed to ensure that the

community is engaged, consulted and that the Springfield City Council and committees have the benefit of that community input throughout and at major milestones of the Project.

The following graphic highlights the pyramid structure for community involvement and the decision-making process. The structure incorporates the role and purpose of the committees within the Code Update project. It should be noted that each phase of the Code Update project i.e., Phase I - Housing, Phase II - Commercial/Industrial went through a similar community engagement process. In the future, Phase III- will also follow a similar decision-making process.



III. Stakeholders and Committees Involvement

The role of the committees and the involvement of the public through the various stages of the project reflects the dynamic nature of the engagement process and the level of participation that each committee, their members, and the public bring into the engagement process.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Task – Advise

The Technical Advisory Committee performed an analysis of the existing code and new code concepts and provided technical information and advice on how changes could be made and why the changes are proposed based on the Project Objectives. The underlying role of the Technical Advisory Committee was to provide the Project Core Team with the support necessary to develop code revisions by:

- Establishing a forum to identify, discuss, and resolve technical issues and concerns.
- Establishing a forum to maintain interdepartmental and interagency communication.
- Providing data and information, as requested.
- Reviewing and providing feedback on draft work products in a timely manner.

Technical Advisory Committee Membership: The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) included members of various interests and expertise from within the community. The Core Project Team actively reached out to potential participants and invited them to the Technical Advisory Committee. There were, however, multiple

compositions of the Technical Advisory Committee over the life of the project. At the onset of the Code Update Project, a Housing-related Technical Advisory Committee was formed followed by a Technical Advisory Committee focused on Economic Development and Employment land, and finally a Technical Advisory Committee to address many other areas of the Development Code.

Part of the Technical Advisory Committee also included City staff, other government agencies staff, and utility provider participants on a topic-specific basis. TAC meetings were open to the public for observation. Members of the TAC represented the following areas:

- Housing,
- Utility Department
- City Staff (on topic-specific expertise)
- Government agencies

Governance Committee

Task – Input

The Governance Committee identified key issues and provided directions on areas of focus to the Core Project Team. The Governance Committee was comprised of two City Councilors and two Planning Commissioners. One significant role of the Governance Committee was to provide an additional opportunity to the community to provide input. The governance committee members were tasked to provide updates to their respective bodies (Planning Commission and City Council).

General Public

Task – Input & Feedback

The public was engaged throughout the project via concerted community outreach efforts in the form of a public outreach survey and public comments. The outreach sought input from the community on concepts and draft code language that was developed for both the Project phases i.e., Phase I and Phase II.

The input from the community survey and outreach was later addressed in the Public Hearing draft code that will be presented to the Planning Commission for recommendations and then to the City Council for the final decision. The community members will have the opportunity to present their comments in writing or orally at the Planning Commission during the public hearing process scheduled for Jan 4, 2022. Alternatively, the public can provide input via the [Development Code Project webpage](#).

Planning Commission

Task - Recommend

The Springfield Planning Commission will provide their recommendations to the City Council on the draft code sections for residential and employment land. Throughout the process, the Planning Commission conducted meetings with the City staff to provide recommendations to the draft materials. The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing that will be an opportunity for the community members and the stakeholders to provide their input to the draft code sections. This will be followed by the Planning Commission's final recommendations to the City Council.

Committee for Citizen Involvement (CCI)

Task – Input & Feedback

The Planning Commission was also assigned the role of the Committee for Citizen Involvement (CCI) to oversee and approve the Community Engagement Plan for the Development Code Update project.

Springfield City Council

Task - Decide

The Springfield City Council has oversight and decision-making responsibilities for the Project. The project staff provided briefings to the City Council and solicited feedback and guidance at regular check-in meetings, either quarterly or on an as-needed basis. The City Council will conduct a second public hearing and take into consideration the Planning Commission’s recommendations and additional public input to make a final decision on the approval and adoption of the final Springfield Development Codes.

IV. Community Engagement Strategies

The table below highlights the community engagement strategies used throughout the Development Code Update Project to share information with the public as well as gather their feedback. The strategies specifically include the purpose and goal for the individual engagement tactics. The purpose and goal were particularly useful for the effective implementation and execution of engagement strategies

Community Engagement Strategies	Purpose	Community Engagement Goal
Project webpage	Provide project information in one location.	Inform
E-Newsletter article(s)	Provide project information on specific topics or issues.	Inform
E-update(s)	Establish an online sign-up mechanism and share periodic project updates.	Inform
Social Media Campaign (ex. LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, etc.)	Build overall awareness and promote project activities and findings.	Inform
Factsheet/FAQ’s	Provide information about the project and answer common questions.	Inform
Open House (Online)	Introduce the project, present existing conditions in the form of a story map, and gather feedback.	Consult & gather feedback
Media release	Announce timely information	Inform
Presentations/Events/ Focus Groups	Provide project information and receive feedback.	Inform & gather feedback
Mailings/postcards	Provide information, invite to participate, request feedback.	Inform
One-on-One meetings	Provide information and gather feedback.	Inform & gather feedback
Technical Advisory Committee meetings	Provide input and feedback on options to consider for code updates	Consult, gather input & feedback
Public Outreach Survey (online)	To gather information and feedback	Gather feedback
Analytics	Evaluate the effectiveness of the outreach	Analysis
Debrief meetings	After key project milestones	Analysis

a.) Measures of Success

Measures of success is a critical assessment tool for community engagement strategies and their outcome which includes both quantitative and qualitative assessment of public participation and feedback. The measures helped determine the effectiveness of community involvement efforts. Measures are based on the established Community Engagement Goals specified in Section II of this report. The City will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the community engagement throughout the lifetime of the Project. The following factors have been determined to assess the engagement efforts concerning the Community Engagement Goals.

- 1. Number of participants attending meetings or events.**
- 2. Number of responses received to a survey.**
- 3. Number of website views during a specific time period.**
- 4. Number of people who sign up for the project mailing list.**
- 5. Number of people who opened and clicked through on e-updates.**
- 6. Number of project comments received (phone, email, comment cards, online).**
- 7. How project decisions have been modified as a result of public input.**
- 8. Whether the comments received are relevant to the project (project understanding).**
- 9. Whether the Project was executed as planned and if the changes support the goals.**
- 10. Level of acceptance of Project outcomes.**
- 11. Survey participants to assess the level of understanding of process and changes.**

b.) Covid -19 Pandemic

The Code Update Project was initiated in 2018 and the community engagement plan was established pre-Covid-19 Pandemic. Community outreach for the Project began with in-person TAC and committee meetings but at the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic and with the public health guidelines in place that prohibited large, in-person gatherings the project staff transitioned to an online meeting format. This meant that the engagement continued to include mostly virtual opportunities to engage, including virtual Planning Commission and City Council Meetings. Efforts such as online forums, use of social media, mobile-friendly webpage design, virtual open house, and online public survey were some of the new creative tactics that were used for public outreach. Overall, the Development Code Update Project saw effective public participation and established a presence on several new platforms.

V. Public Outreach Summary (2018 – 2021)

The project’s Community Engagement Plan, first approved December 18, 2018, with revision in October 2019 and March 2021, describes activities implemented by the City to assure that interested and affected parties have adequate information and opportunities to provide meaningful input to the Development Code Update Project.

The following table is a summary of the public outreach that has been implemented for the Project to date.

Community Engagement Strategy	Outreach	Participation	Notes
Housing - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	14 meetings	13 members	Participants represented various housing interests. Meetings held between 1/28/19 - 2/9/21
Employment Lands -Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	7 meetings	8 members	Participants represented a broad spectrum of interests. Meetings held between 4/30/20 - 4/29/21
City Staff - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	8 meetings	11 members	Includes city staff on an as-needed basis with expertise in different areas depending on the code topic. Meetings held between 1/28/19 - 5/7/21
Governance Committee	9 meetings	4 members	Members included 2 city councilors & 2 planning commissioners. Meetings held between 8/18/18 – 6/15/21
Planning Commission	27 meetings	7 members	Commission members representing Springfield residents with various expertise. Meeting held between 8/18/18 – 11/16/21
City Council	15 meetings	6 members	City council members representing different wards of the city including the Mayor of the City of Springfield. Meetings held between 9/10/18 – 9/7/21
Housing Provider/ Developer Interviews	5 interviews	5 organizations interviewed	The following housing developers were interviewed to gather their input <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Builders of Lane County • Hayden Homes • Homes for Good • Tim Hovet • Dan Hill (Blossom Cottages)
<u>Project webpage</u>	Established 11/2018		Provide easily accessible project information in one location.
E-update(s)	11 e-updates via emails	More than 400 recipients on the list	Provide notice of upcoming meetings and online open house, feedback summaries, and other key project information.
Factsheet/FAQ's	2 Factsheets + 1 FAQ published		Created and disseminated general information focused on Middle Housing and House Bill 2001.
Presentations	10 Presentations conducted		Presentations were done for the following organizations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Springfield City Club (7/21) • Springfield Chamber of Commerce (6/21) • Springfield Board of Realtors (5/21)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) Board (2/21) • Springfield Board of Realtors (8/20) • Commercial Investment Division at Lane County (2/20) • Springfield Chamber of Commerce (2/20) • Better Housing Together meeting presentation (12/19) • Springfield City Club (10/19) • Springfield Chamber of Commerce (3/19)
Podcast	2 podcasts published		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YIMBY podcast on Development Code Update Project (10/19) • KLCC’s Oregon Grapevine: Housing in Springfield (07/21)
Media article(s)	3 media articles		<p>News and media coverage about the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KVAL/KMTR story about HB 2001 (9/19) • Free For All News article (2/19) • Article in the Chamber of Commerce “The Bottom Line” (10/18)
Social Media Campaign	3 Social media campaigns on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter		Social Media Posts to the City's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages on 08/21, 07/21, 06/20.
<u>Virtual Open House</u>	Open House in a Story map format		Project introduction and public information about the significance of the project. Aims to connect and gather feedback from the community members.
Public Outreach Survey	1 Public Survey to gather public feedback.	80 people participated	Online Public Outreach Survey for Middle Housing Implementation conducted in July 2021.
Planning Commission Community Survey	1 Public Outreach Survey	6 Planning Commission members participated	Online Public Outreach Survey for Middle Housing Implementation conducted in July 2021.

Furthermore, Springfield Project Staff have ongoing coordination efforts including with the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), the city of Eugene, Lane County as well as Lane Transit District (LTD) and Springfield Utility Board (SUB).

Additional information regarding the community engagement tactics can be found on the project website. To learn more about the project or leave feedback the public could connect with project staff via email or phone.

VI. July 2021 Public Survey Outreach Summary

The Development Code Update Project launched its outreach survey at the beginning of July 2021 and the public was invited to participate in the survey to provide feedback for the residential draft codes of the Development Code Update Project which specifically included survey questions around Middle Housing. The survey asked public opinion regarding Middle Housing code standards that the City could adopt to comply with the Oregon State Housing Bill 2001 (or HB 2001).

The goal of the public outreach survey for the Development Code Update project was to ensure that the members of the Springfield community have the opportunity to engage with the project and provide valuable feedback to it.

a.) Structure of the Survey

The questions in the survey were based on levels of implementing House Bill 2001 within the City of Springfield. The state has adopted minimum standards in the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) that serve as a baseline for complying with the bill. The questions asked community members whether Springfield should do the minimum required to comply with the OAR's, referred to as the "Allow" option, or go beyond the minimum required, referred to as the "Encourage" and "Maximize" options.

The survey incorporated eight questions about the following middle housing standards.

1. lot size
2. lot coverage
3. height restrictions,
4. parking requirements,
5. design flexibility and standards

The community members had the option to provide comments on each of these questions. The survey had an optional demographic section that asked the community members questions regarding their residency status in Springfield, current living situation, race/ ethnicity, gender identity, and age range. These questions helped the staff understand who was able to engage and provide input to the project and whose opinion wasn't heard in the survey. The optional last section of the survey asked the community members to share any additional input or comment about the project.

The public survey was published in both English and Spanish language and there was a total of 80 respondents to the survey. There were no respondents to the Spanish version of the survey, however for the English version 10% of the respondents selected Hispanic/Latino as their race/ethnic identity.

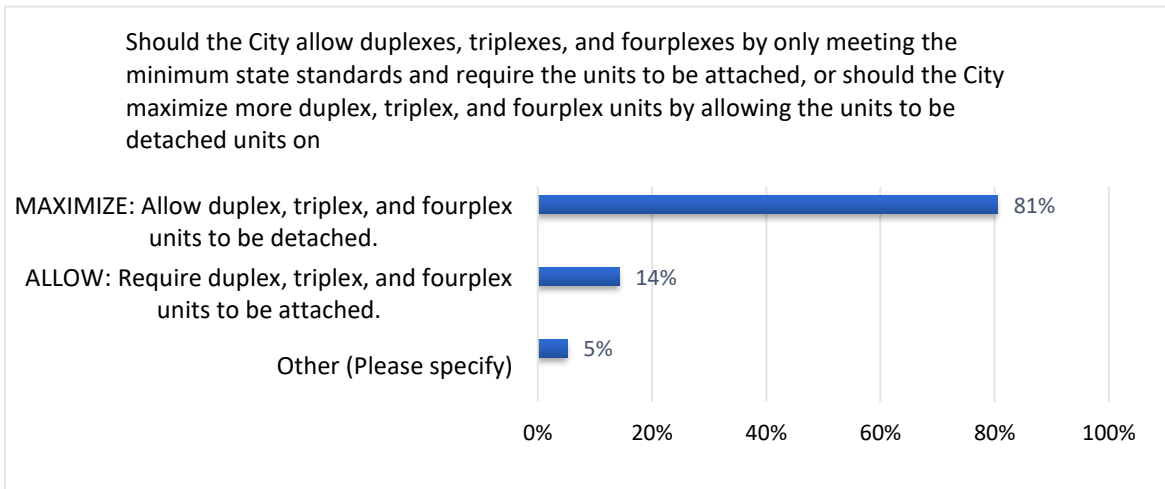
b.) Survey Questions

Responses to the survey questions are provided below. The narrative survey responses are also included, to the extent that the comments are relevant to the Code Update Project. Comments reflecting concerns that the City is prohibited from considering when regulating housing, such as protected status under the Fair Housing Act, have been redacted to include only the comments relevant to the City Council's decision whether to adopt or not adopt the proposed code updates.

Question 1: Attached or Detached

The first survey question asked the community members about the applicable standards for the new middle housing development in the city.

Should the City allow duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes by only meeting the minimum state standards and require the units to be attached, or should the City maximize more duplex, triplex, and fourplex units by allowing the units to be detached units on a lot to provide more flexibility?



Out of the 80 total respondents who took the survey, 77 answered this question while 3 people chose to skip it. Approximately 80% of the respondents or 62 people want the development codes to maximize the State standards which indicate that the development codes could allow the structures to be detached.

14% of the survey respondents or 11 people want the development codes to allow middle housing or the duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes; to be attached.

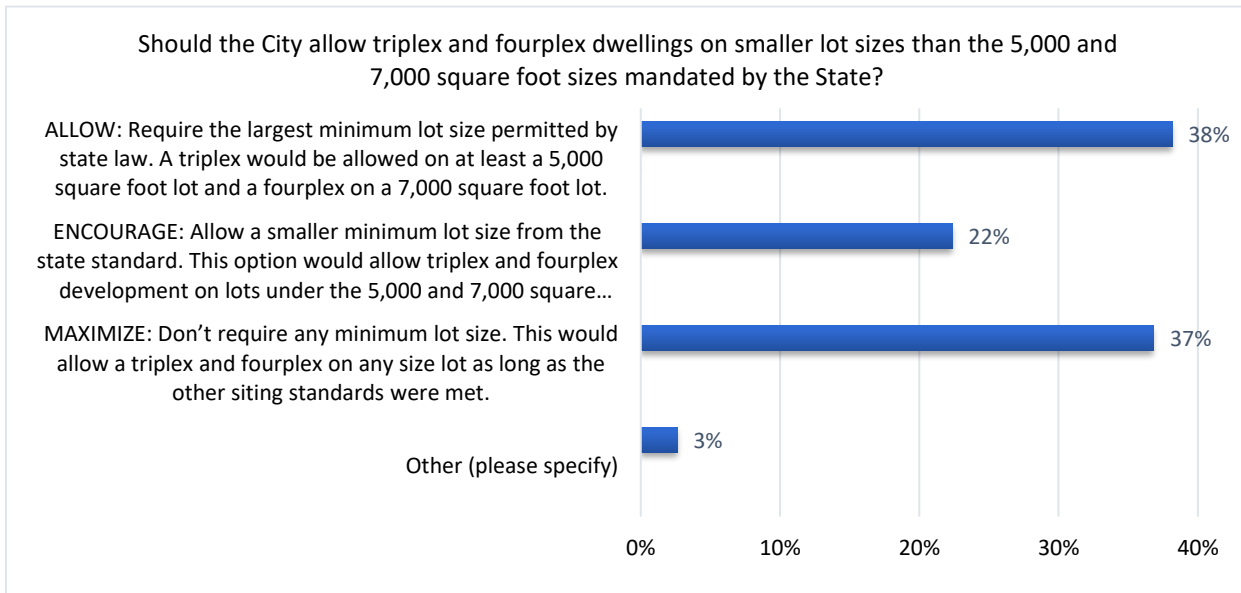
4 people (the 5% that choose “other”) provided comments on this question with concerns about parking requirements, neighborhood aesthetics, and crowded neighborhood. The following comments were received for question 1 of the survey.

1. *“While I like the idea, parking is not being addressed nor is the wear and tear on neighborhood streets.”*
2. *“Minimize crowding on land while allowing some development, I bought my home and don't want plexes all around me.”*
3. *“Depends on the style of the neighborhood. In a street of 2-story houses, tiny, detached units would look out of place. But a townhouse attached plex would match.”*
4. *“Should not allow.”*

Question 2: Minimum Lot Standards

The second question asked the respondents about the siting of triplex and fourplex dwellings on a minimum lot size.

Should the City allow triplex and fourplex dwelling on smaller lot sizes than the 5,000 and 7,000 square foot sizes mandated by the State?



76 out of 80 respondents answered, while 4 respondents skipped this question. Approximately 38%, or 29 people, agree that the City standards should follow the State standards that will allow a triplex on a 5000 sq. ft. lot size and a fourplex on a 7000 sq. ft. lot size. About 22%, or 28 survey respondents, want the City to maximize minimum lot size requirement, which mean the development codes could allow triplexes and fourplexes on any lot size if other siting standards are met.

About 22%, or 17 respondents to the survey chose the Encourage option, which would allow a smaller minimum lot size than the State standard. This option would allow triplex and fourplex to be sited on smaller lot size under 5,000 and 7,000 sq. ft. and set a smaller minimum lot size standard for these types of middle housing.

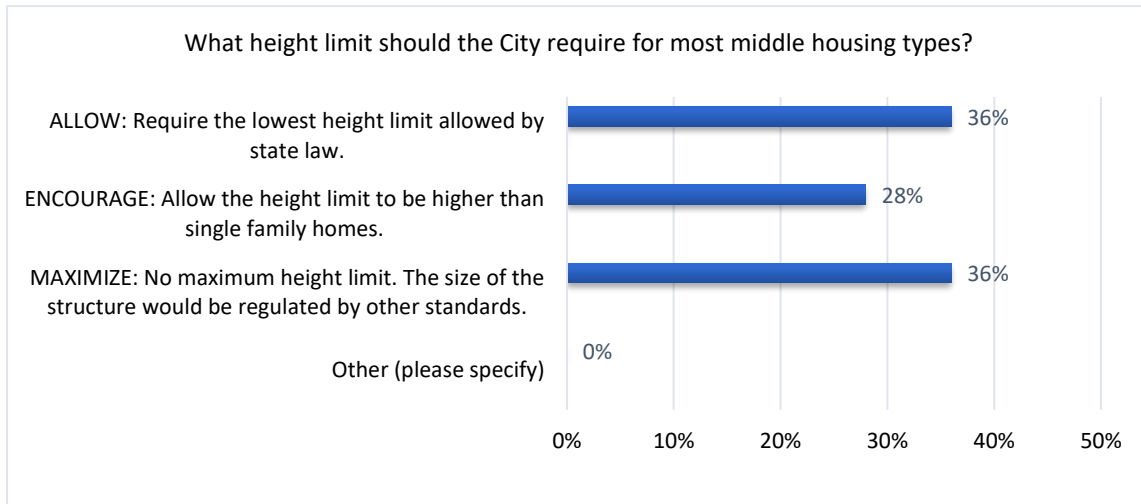
2 people who chose 'other' as their response commented:

1. "Allow reduction only for detached plexes"
2. "NO NO NO"

Question 3: Height Limit Standards

The third question in the survey asked the community members about height limit for the middle housing types.

What height limit should the City require for most middle housing types?



75 people chose to answer while 5 skipped this survey question. Equal number of respondents chose 'Allow' and 'Maximize' as their answer. 27 people (36%) want the city development codes to follow State law that require lowest height limit for the middle housing types, while 27 people (36%) want the development codes to have no maximum height limit for the middle housing.

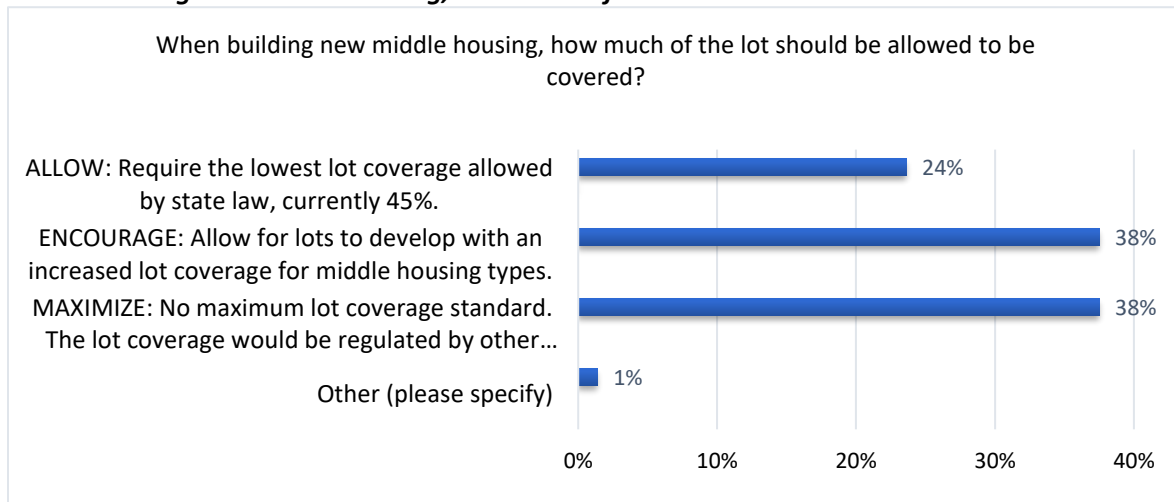
21 survey respondents (28%) want to development codes to 'Encourage' the middle housing height limit, this would mean that the height limit for duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes could go higher than the single-family homes.

There were no public comments received for this survey question.

Question 4: Lot Coverage Standards

The fourth survey question asked the respondents about lot coverage requirement for the middle housing types.

When building new middle housing, how much of the lot should be allowed to be covered?



72 people responded to this question while 8 people chose to skip it. 17 people (23.6%) chose the ‘allow’ option, which require the lowest lot coverage for the middle housing, same as the State law which is currently 45% of the lot size. 27 survey respondents (37.5%) want the development codes to ‘encourage’ lot coverage size which mean that middle housing should be allowed to cover more than 45% of the lot size.

Similarly, 27 survey respondents (37.5%) want the development codes to ‘maximize’ lot coverage standard. This option does not require any maximum lot coverage standard, but it would regulate other standards such as the setbacks, parking, and the need for stormwater management.

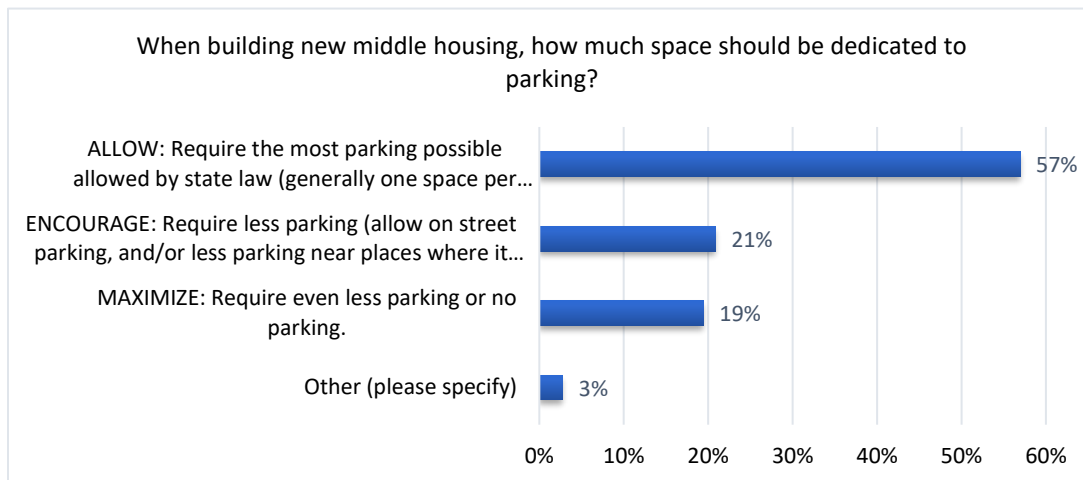
One survey respondent wrote the following comment:

1. *“The development codes should only allow increased coverage (more than 45%) if it also requires neighborhood parks/open space within a block or two.”*

Question 5: Parking Standards

The fifth question in the outreach survey asked about parking requirements for the new middle housing developments.

When building new middle housing, how much space should be dedicated to parking?



Out of the 72 respondents who chose to answer this question, 41 people (60%), want the development codes to ‘allow’ the most parking possible for the development as allowed by the State law. The State law requires the cities to require no more than one parking space per dwelling. 15 people (approx. 21%) chose the ‘encourage’ option which meant the development codes should require less parking than the State law. In this case, the new middle housing development could allow on-street parking and/or less parking near places where it is easier to get around without a car.

14 respondents, about 19 %, chose the ‘maximize’ option which could require even less parking than the other two option or no parking at all for each individual homes.

2 respondents commented on this question.

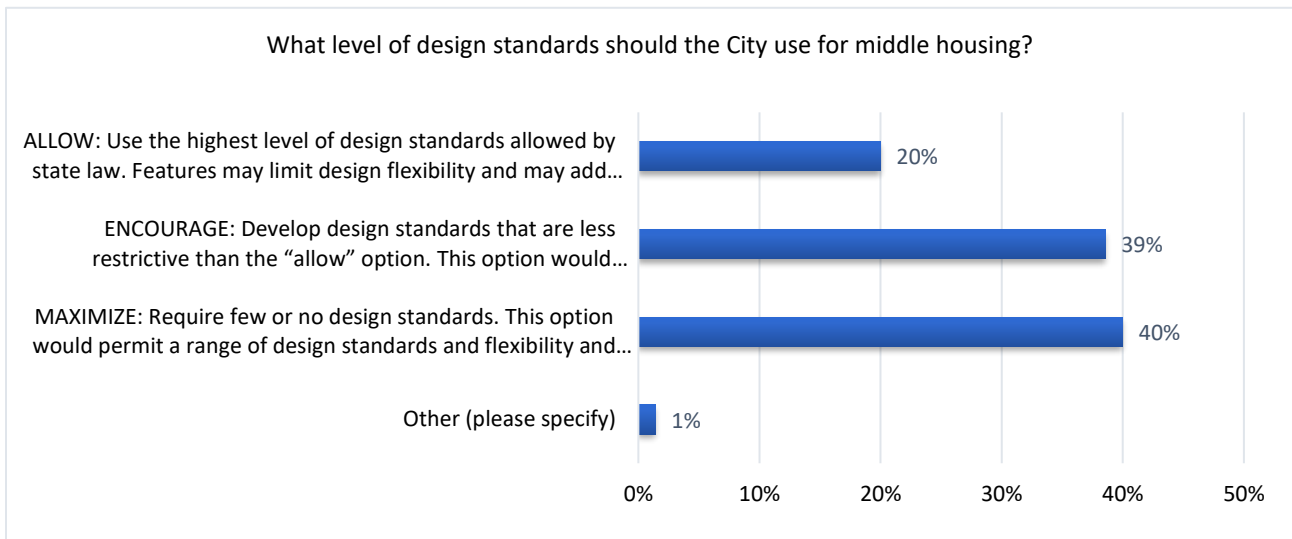
1. *“Parking spaces per unit”*

2. *“The state rules account for a family with 2 cars to live in a place, the duplexes tend to have 4 or more cars per address so either a limit of cars or required off street parking should be considered.”*

Question 6: Design Standards

The sixth question in the survey asked about the level of design standards that the city should adopt for the middle housing developments.

What level of design standards should the City use for middle housing?



Out of 80 total respondents, 70 chose to answer this question. 14 people (20% of the survey respondents) want the city to adopt highest level of design standards as allowed by the State law. This would limit design flexibility and may add cost to providing housing.

27 respondents (approx. 39%) want the development codes should encourage less restrictive design standards than the ‘allow’ option. This option would encourage middle housing to use basic design features but at the same time leave room for design flexibility. This option could also potentially reduce the cost for middle housing development.

28 respondents (40%), want the City to ‘maximize’ the level of design standards. This mean that the development codes could require few or no design standards. This option would permit a range of design standards and flexibility and could result in more efficient and lower cost of housing.

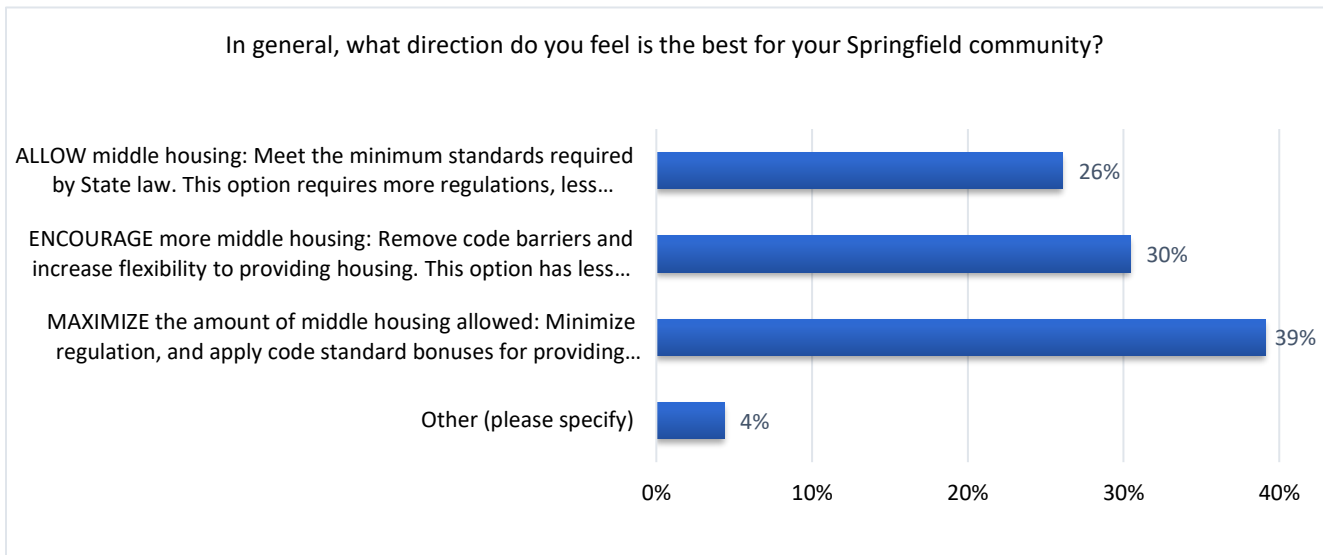
One survey respondent commented on this question and wants the development codes to have the provision for incentives to allow

1. *“Flexibility, affordability, greater landscaping, etc.”*

Question 7: General Direction

The seventh question in the survey asked the community members about the general direction for middle housing development in the Springfield community.

In general, what direction do you feel is the best for your Springfield community?



69 people answered this question, 18 people (26%) want the development codes to ‘allow’ middle housing by meeting minimum standards required by the state law. This option would require more regulations, less flexibility, and less potential to reduce the future cost of housing in the community.

21 people (30%) of the survey respondents want the city to encourage more middle housing by removing code barriers and increasing flexibility to provide housing. This option would have less regulations, more design flexibility, and reduce potential housing cost than the ‘allow’ option.

27 people (39%) agree that the development code should ‘maximize’ the middle housing development by minimizing regulations and applying code standard bonuses for such developments. This option would have the least regulation, most flexibility and the most potential to reduce future cost of providing housing in the community.

3 survey respondents (4%) commented on this question with various suggestions.

1. One respondent wants the development codes to *“encourage some regulations such as parking & maximize others such as any dwelling type on individual lots”*.
2. Other survey respondent commented; *“Designate historic houses; limit number of high-density units per residential outline, do not subsidize developers, be mindful & creative in allowing current single homes to be bought & turned into a ‘mini-tropolis’ of ugly, uncreative, nondescript units that have no seeming spirit to the development & architectural construct.”*
3. A third person responded as, *“Expand on undeveloped land rather than crowd out neighborhoods.”*

Question 8: Feedback and Comments

The last and optional survey question asked the respondents to share their feedback and comments about the Middle Housing Implementation. There were 30 comments received in the survey. People commented on various aspects of Middle Housing development such as the development standards, parking space requirement, aesthetics, and quality of the middle housing. People also commented about the increasing crowd in a neighborhood and suggested to have middle housing in new undeveloped areas of the community.

Several people commented about increasing the affordable housing stock in the Springfield community.

The following relevant comments were received from the survey respondents:

1. *"We need rules and regulations. But we need to loosen a few things so that ALL people can have a home."*
2. *"Even apartment communities that have one space per unit still struggle with parking when there are multi-car families or roommates with their own vehicles. Requiring each unit to have its own off-street parking space should be the minimum for every development."*
3. *"With the rising housing cost in Springfield, people will be looking towards middle housing. Instead of continuing to make people share rooms in a custom-built home that is overpriced, in rent, create some type of cost-effective detached dwelling options that are more affordable."*
4. *"The key to preserving the feel of single-family neighborhoods is the outside appearance. Regulation should cover number of cars in the common streets through zone parking permits and on property as well as landscaping/weed control for fire prevention."*
5. *"I appreciate Springfield accepting input. I hope that Springfield does not go the way of Eugene in the ridiculously, nondescript facades that are being designed. Create a signature model 'We can do better'. Keep prospect in mind regarding the viability and perspective of how the community will present in the years to come. Do not displace low-income residential units "mobile home parks - which are the best low-income housing units available currently - for monolithic, high-end units. Set standards to include the low-income community; do not just create a paper trail of intention."*
6. *"Density is good, especially near transit options like bus routes and *separated* bike paths, but primary concern is quality of buildings. New rules should encourage existing Springfield residents and property owners to expand on their own properties and reduce real estate investor incentive to throw up low-quality housing that they will fail to maintain and will be falling down after 20 years of rain and extreme weather."*
7. *"I appreciate the opportunity to add my voice on this topic. I hope that Springfield also has a plan in place to make sure a healthy portion of this new development is truly affordable."*
8. *"Maximizing the amount of middle housing allowed and minimizing regulation is the smartest option and would be a great step towards lowering housing costs, thereby creating more supply and lowering the excessive demand there is for housing at this point in time."*
9. *"At first I didn't care too much about having multiple housing units on one lot. I know it is necessary to increase opportunities for more to be homeowners. If the city can make these dwellings look nice, upscale and provide a bit of niceties to the homes, that would be great for potential homeowners."*
10. *"While housing is needed and important, so is community safety, aesthetics, and space. We need to look for options that are less likely to look crowded, such as many cars on the street or tiny detached units that have families crammed together. The town house option looks the nicest and allows families to have a more "upscale" option for less. An especially efficient option would be to have housing over commerce. This would reduce cars on the road allowing people can shop where they live."*
11. *"We should remove as many barriers as humanly possible to incentivize the construction of new housing."*
12. *"Affordable market rate is important. I want a garage and lots of windows, but I don't need granite countertops. Units should match aesthetic of street and neighborhood. No ugly boxes. Look to classic house plans. Washburne already had plexes that match the area."*
13. *"I consider maximizing middle housing essential to the community's health and well-being."*
14. *"The MDR zone should allow the same flexibility in housing options as the LDR zone"*
15. *"Please consider becoming well acquainted with the extensive literature on the deleterious health effects of high density living before making any decisions. Thank you."*
16. *"What are the options and differences for the Washburne Historic Distric Development Codes?"*

17. *"While I fully agree that more housing is needed, I feel not enough thought is given to infrastructure to support more homes."*
18. *"Keep the government out of people's homes. It's okay to regulate for safety reasons, however, you cannot tell me how many windows I must have on the front of my development property and how to design it aesthetically."*
19. *"We also need homes for purchasing that cannot be bought up by Investment Owners, or Hedge funds. We are being bought and extorted by property managers with little to no regulation on the quality of said housing and people are forced to pay for lower quality housing at inflated rates due to housing shortages. I propose the consideration of houses being built and sold to DevNW enrollee's and Section 8 Case Managed individuals in order to free up low-income housing and allow for those who worked hard to leave low-income but can't quite make it in the standard market to have the opportunity to be homeowners. I also propose any landlord renting properties be subjected to annual quality inspections and be fined for not maintaining their properties."*
20. *"Each unit needs one parking space on the property. This minimally impacts the surrounding neighborhoods, and it is safer for drivers and pedestrians."*
21. *"Maximizing flexibility is definitely needed. Thank you"*
22. *"I appreciate the considerations of changes to the development codes, but I don't want to see it become a free-for-all. If we remove too many guidelines someone is bound to take advantage of it."*
23. *"What about Tiny Homes and Grandma Cottages"*
24. *"I just visited the Midwest where there are many smaller homes & trailers. It became apparent to me that Oregon demands too much equality."*
25. *"Where it's a choice between being aesthetic vs packing in the most people and saving the most money, I prefer that we are attractive with a "calming" feel so Springfield can have a classy reputation and residents develop pride for how attractive and calming our city is to look and walk around in."*
26. *"The new cottages for \$300K on 19th aren't even selling. Too crowded in an already crowded area. Housing advantages should help people not landlords who don't live here. Space is very important, and homeowners invested in a single-family home shouldn't be crowded out by plexes being put up. Please develop new sites for new plexes, don't add to the stress of Springfield's other unappealing qualities. Let's make it a place that feels good, not crowded."*
27. *"I may have to move myself and family from Oregon as the price of buying a house and/or renting is astronomical. I was told by a realtor I could sell my house here in Oregon and buy two really nice houses in other states. Considering it as I could help my sons with getting a decent place to live, and they both work from home so moving is not a problem for them. The prices now are unsustainable IMO. Thank you for the survey"*
28. *"Springfield should remain a small town, that's the reason people live here. Getting too many out of state investors that could care less about our quality of life."*
29. *"Some areas of Springfield are better suited to middle housing infill as they are near parks/open space, public transportation, shopping, etc. Other areas are not due to hills and the associated challenges of parking, land stability, etc. I don't think there's a one-size-fits-all solution for our community. I am very much in favor of increasing our stock of affordable housing, including encouraging infill. But I think expanding the UGB and decreasing development costs needs to be a primary part of the solution. Infill in the form of quadplexes and townhouses on top of longstanding single family homes will only serve to destabilize neighborhoods as owner-occupied residences disappear. Those who value the elbow room, quiet, and privacy they've had will be driven out to subdivisions with CCRs prohibiting this type of housing. That will further the gap between those with means and those without."*
30. *"I'm a homeowner in the Washburne and have been for 7 years. I've lived in Springfield for 15 years. I have a wife and 2 young kids. We love Springfield and we think that the improvements made to the Washburne and downtown area are phenomenal. We truly love Springfield and the direction it's heading. Please do not lower*

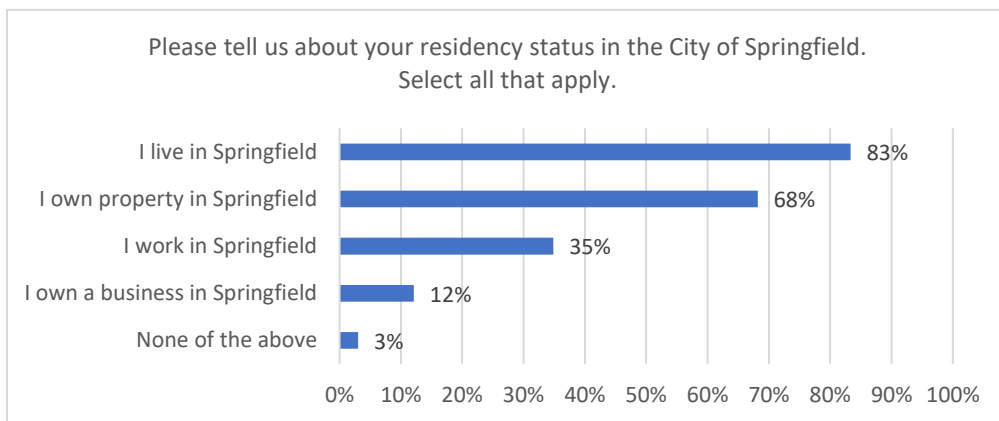
standards to add low-income housing or allow people to build ADU's and sublet their property. The direction Springfield and downtown are heading are wonderful and I hope that the people who lead the downtown revitalization continue to push forward with their plans. ... Don't lower standards to meet quotas or minimums."

c.) Demographic Survey

The optional demographic section asked the survey respondents questions regarding their residency status, living situation, age, race, and ethnicity. This information helped the project staff, Planning Commission, and the City Council to understand who was able to engage and provide input to the project and whose opinion wasn't heard in the survey. The additional comment section gave the opportunity to the community members to provide their valuable opinion for the code update project.

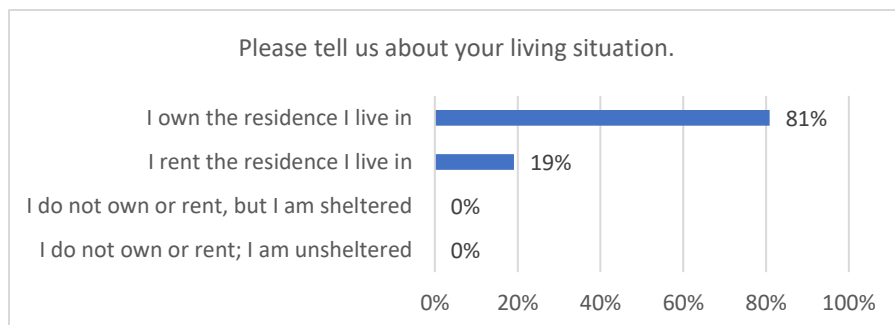
Question 1: Residency Status

Out of the 66 people who answered their residency status 55 (83%) people live in Springfield, 23 community members or 35% of the respondents work in Springfield. 45 (68%) survey respondents, own a property in Springfield. Overall, most people who took the survey were a Springfield resident.



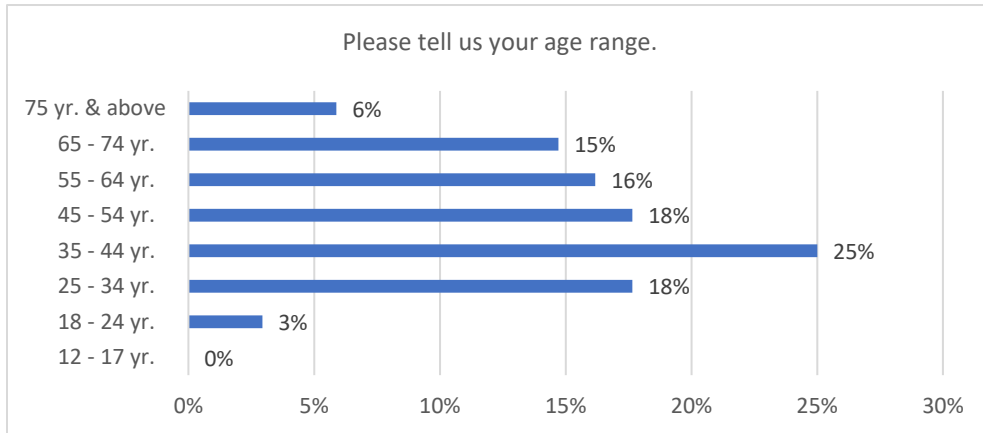
Question 2: Homeowners or Renters (Living Situation)

Out of the 68 people who responded to this survey question; 81% of them, 55 people, own the residence that they live in. 13 community members (19%) rent their residence. None of the community members was either sheltered or unsheltered at the time of taking this survey. Overall, most people who took the survey were homeowners in the community.



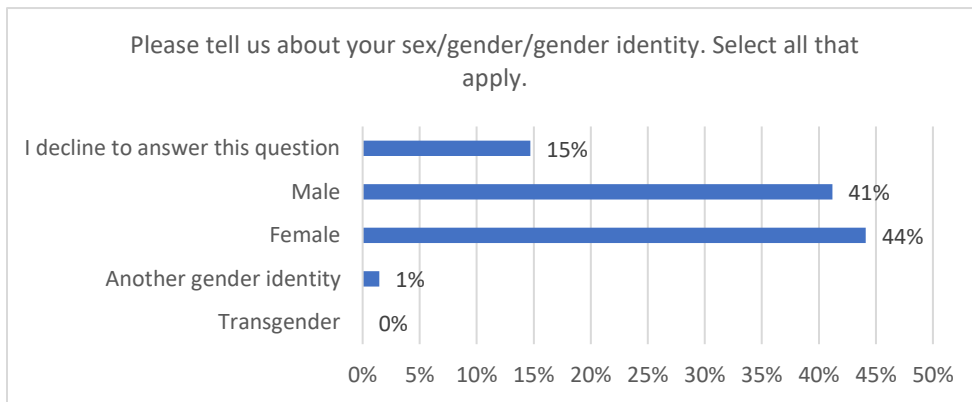
Question 3: Age Range

Out of 68 members who responded to this question, 17 people were 35-44 years old, 12 people were 25-34 years old and 12 people were 45-54 years old. Only 2 people in the age range of 18-24 years responded to the survey. There were however no participants in the 12-17 years age group.



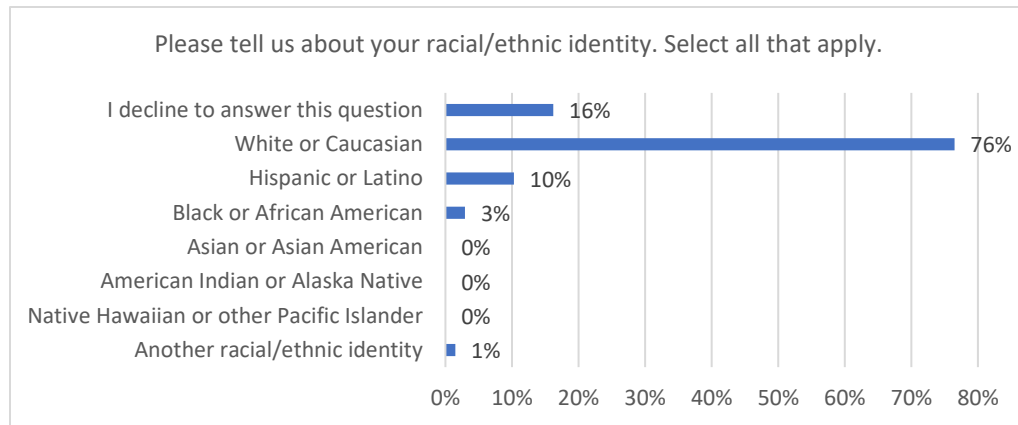
Question 4: Gender Identity

Of the 68 total respondents to this question, 28 were female and 30 were male respondents. 10 people declined to reveal their gender identity. Overall, both male and female community members participated equally in the survey.



Question 5: Race and Ethnicity

Of the total 68 people who responded to this question, 52 people identified themselves as White/Caucasia, 2 people identified as Black or African American and 7 people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino.



Question 6: Additional Thoughts & Comments

At the end of the demographic survey, community members had the option to provide additional thoughts and comments. The survey received 17 additional comments that suggest community member’s opinion about middle housing implementation in the city. Some community members are grateful and believe middle housing will improve housing affordability in the city while few members think that middle housing will overpopulate Springfield and bring more crime into the community.

Following are the relevant public comments that were received in the survey.

1. *“I would like to see communities built. Units with 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedrooms all built on the same lot.”*
2. *“I am concerned about crime associated with high density dwellings. I understand the need to implement the new state law. Education regarding the positive and negative aspects of this type of housing will do a lot to enhance acceptance.”*
3. *“I also work with unhoused families in Lane County on a daily basis and see the struggles we face due to housing shortages, and slumlords in Springfield. I am so grateful Springfield is taking a serious approach to reducing housing barriers and ensuring that we can reduce the unhoused population by creating housing.”*
4. *“I’ve seen what is happening at Marcola Meadows and those are not well-built houses. Anything that encourages that type of development is bad news for the quality of our city.”*
5. *“I live in a condominium. Creating more affordable, non-traditional housing is a must.”*