



Howard County

HOUSING



MIHU Report

October 2015

Department of Housing and Community Development

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CONTENTS

MIHU PROGRAM SUMMARY	2
MIHU HOMEOWNERSHIP	3
MIHU RENTALS	4
MIHU RESALE	4
MIHU RELEASE	5
MIHU FEE IN LIEU	5

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Welcome to the MIHU Monthly Report. The report is posted monthly on the County website at www.howardcountymd.gov (click on “Departments – Housing and Community Development”).

The MIHU Program is an inclusionary zoning program that requires developers of new housing in specific zoning districts to sell or rent a portion of the dwelling units to households of moderate income. MIHUs are sold or rented through Howard County Housing at affordable prices and rents. MIHUs are interspersed throughout each development and residents enjoy all of the amenities in the community.

A household of moderate income is defined as one whose household income does not exceed 80% of the Howard County median income for purchasers and 60% of the Howard County median income for renters. The Howard County median income for 2015 is \$109,476. All types of dwelling units are available for purchase or rent, from apartment-style dwellings and condominiums, to townhouses and single-family detached dwellings. The purchase price and rental rate for each type of MIHU is calculated according to an affordability formula established by the MIHU regulations. MIHU prices are set twice a year. Applications for the program can be obtained during open enrollment periods at the Howard County Housing office, by calling (410) 313-6318, option 4, or online at www.howardcountymd.gov.

MIHU pricing and standards will change on January 1, 2016. The Housing and Community Development Board will review the new pricing standards at their upcoming meeting on December 10, 2015. Rental communities with MIHU apartments requested “unofficial” pricing this month so that they could prepare for lease renewals after January 2016. The new rents have decreased slightly from 2015 because the median income fell to \$107,490. The new pricing schedules will be available on the housing department’s website beginning January 1st at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/mihudevelopers.htm>.

October was an open enrollment month for the MIHU homeownership program and 76 new applications were received. An MIHU informational workshop was held on Wednesday, October 14th, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the Columbia Gateway building. The next open enrollment month will be in January. Applications and additional information can be found at the housing office, online, by email or by phone (www.howardcountymd.gov/mihu_or_410-313-6318). Rental applications are accepted year round on a first-come, first-serve basis at the rental communities that offer MIHU apartments. Visit our website for a list of participating rental communities.

Kelly A. Cimino
Chief of Housing Opportunities Programs

MIHU HOMEOWNERSHIP

MIHU buyers are under contract and awaiting completion of their new homes in the following communities: Ellicott Crossing in Ellicott City (1), Howard Square in Elkrigde (3), and Legacy at Cherry Tree in Laurel (2).

There were 3 MIHU closings in October: Ellicott Crossing (2) and Oxford Square (1). The Housing Commission purchased 2 units in September (1 at Howard Square and 1 at Fox Hunt Estates) to keep them in the program. The units will be resold to MIHU households in an upcoming lottery. Five (5) units at Howard Square, three (3) units at Dorset Gardens and four (4) units at Oxford Square are currently in priority periods. Lotteries will be scheduled to award the units after the October open enrollment period.

Pending MIHU agreements or amendments:

Morris Place – The MIHU agreement and declaration for Phase V is pending signatures. Phase V will add 34 townhouse units, including 6 MIHUs, to the community.

Howard Square –The MIHU agreement and declaration for Phase 7 is pending review. Phase 7 will add 83 townhouse units, including 20 MIHUs, to the community on Rt. 1 in Elkrigde (Correction from September report).

Homeownership unit activity for October 2015:

Development	Status	Total Units	MIHU Required	LIHU Required	Awarded	Pending
Ellicott Crossing	UC	154	16	0	14	1
Howard Square	UC	413	55	0	23	3
Legacy at Cherry Tree	UC	152	4	3	7	2

MIHU program activity for closed homeownership transactions is noted here:

Development	Status	Total Units	MIHUs Required	LIHUs Required	Awarded	Pending	Closed 2007-2014	Closed 2015
Belmont Station Townhomes	C	110	17		17	0	17	0
Cherry Tree Townhomes	C	110	17		17	0	17	0
Dorset Gardens at Blue Stream	UC	230	44		14	0	14	0
Elkrigde Crossing Townhomes**	PC/C	200	21		4	0	4	0
Elkrigde Crossing Condos	PC/C	64	10		10	0	10	0
Ellicott Crossing Townhomes*	UC	154	16		15	1	4	10
Fox Hunt Estates	C	32	4		4	0	2	2
Gatherings at Ellicott Mills**	C	127	10	1	7	0	7	0
Gatherings at Jefferson Place**	C	135	14		9	0	9	0
Guilford Mews Townhomes**	C	26	3		0	0	0	0
Howard Square Townhomes*	UC	413	55		25	3	13	9
Jones Station**	C	22	3		0	0	0	0
Legacy at Cherry Tree Condos*	UC	152	4	3	7	2	4	1
Oxford Square*	UC	197	31		12	0	3	9
Riverwalk Townhomes	C	58	6		6	0	6	0
Shipley's Grant Townhomes	UC	332	14		12	0	12	0
Simpson Mill	C	150	0	5	5	0	5	0
Village Towns Townhomes**	C	259	23		14	0	14	0
TOTALS		2771	292	9	178	6	141	31

*updated October 2015

**alternative compliance or released units

MIHU RENTALS

Rental MIHUs are currently offered at Alta at Regency Crest (Ellicott City, age-restricted), Ashbury Courts (Laurel), Belmont Station (Elkridge), Millers Grant (Ellicott City), Mission Place (Jessup), Orchard Meadows (Ellicott City), Orchard Park (Ellicott City), Penniman Park (Elkridge) and Woodfield Oxford Square (Hanover). MIHU rental applications are available year round and offered on a first come, first serve basis at participating communities.

Miller's Grant, a continuing care community for residents age 62 or better, is under construction and accepting rental applications for apartments that should be ready for occupancy in 2016. For more information, applicants can stop by the rental office at 9531 Frederick Road in Ellicott City, call (877)800-7151 or visit www.millersgrant.org.

MIHU rental activity for October 2015:

Development	Status	Total Units	On-site MIHU Requirement	Pending	Rented	Market Rent**	MIHU Rent*	Difference
Aladdin South	C	39	39	0	39			
Alta at Regency Crest	C	150	15	0	15	\$2235	\$1268	\$967
Annapolis Junction Town	UC	416	32	32	0			
Ashbury Courts	C	156	24	3	21	\$1560	\$1268	\$292
Belmont Station	C	208	32	0	32	\$1828	\$1302	\$526
Burgess Mill Station	C	198	20	0	20			
Columbia Landing	C	300	60	0	60			
Deep Falls	PC	60	60	60	0			
Ellicott Gardens	C	106	103	0	103			
Howard Square	PC	654	69	69	0			
Miller's Grant*	UC	286	29	29	0			
Mission Place	C	366	61	0	61	\$1690	\$1268	\$422
Monarch Mills	C	269	27	0	27			
Oakland Place	C	16	2	0	2	\$2000	\$1606	\$394
Orchard Meadows	C	150	15	0	15	\$1598	\$1287	\$311
Orchard Park	C	40	4	4	0	\$1695	\$1287	\$408
Penniman Park	C	186	19	0	19	\$1685	\$1287	\$398
Parkview at Emerson	C	80	80	0	80			
Riverwatch	PC	84	42	42	0			
Woodfield Oxford Square	UC	248	38	0	38	\$2000	\$1268	\$732
TOTALS		4012	771	239	532			

*updated October 2015

**for 2 bedroom unit – Revised July 2015

MIHU RESALE

A new resale request was received from an Elkridge Crossing homeowner. The 2-bedroom condo will be offered to prequalified 1- and 2-person households in the database. Because most new developments offer 3 bedroom units, lottery drawings for smaller household sizes are less frequent. The Shipley's Grant resale unit closed on October 20, 2015.

Previous MIHU resale activity (only communities with resale activity are shown here):

Development	Status	First owner	Second Owner	Third Owner
Belmont Station	C	17	0	0
Cherry Tree Townhomes	C	17	2	0
Elkridge Crossing Condos	C	10	6	1
Legacy at Cherry Tree Condos	C	5	1	0
Shipley's Grant*	C	12	2	0
Village Towns	C	14	3	0

MIHU RELEASE

The MIHU regulations offer developers the options for alternative methods of program compliance. Council Bills 34 and 35 defined alternative methods of compliance so developers and builders can make decisions about their projects in advance of the site development process. Allowing alternative methods of compliance can help the Department keep units in the program rather than releasing them at a later time.

Previous MIHU release activity (only communities with release activity are shown here):

Development	Status	Units Released	Reason	2009-2013	2014	2015
Dorset Gardens Townhomes	C	10	MIHU price	10	0	
Elkridge Crossing Townhomes	C	4	Market conditions	4	0	
Gatherings at Ellicott Mills	C	4	Age-restricted	0	4	
Gatherings at Jefferson Place	C	5	Age-restricted	5	0	
Guilford Mews Townhomes	C	3	Age-restricted	3	0	
Jones Station	C	3	Age-restricted	3	0	
Village Towns Townhomes	C	2	Market conditions	2	0	
TOTAL		31		27	4	0
Key PC - Pending Construction/ UC – Under Construction/ C - Complete						

*updated Oct. 2015

FEE-IN-LIEU

One method of alternative compliance is a fee-in-lieu option. Developers of single family, detached dwellings may pay a fee-in-lieu instead of providing MIHUs in the following zoning districts: RC, RR, R-ED, R-20, R-12, and R-SC. Developers of age-restricted, planned senior communities, single family attached dwellings in R-H-ED and mixed use developments in MXD are also eligible for the fee-in-lieu option. Developers are instructed to contact Housing for an MIHU agreement when they receive a Technically Complete letter from Planning and Zoning. The fee-in-lieu for each project must be paid before the first use and occupancy permit is issued.

Several developers have signed fee-in-lieu agreements with the Department for new projects in eligible zoning districts. The County’s Office of Inspections and Permits will collect the fee in lieu. The Department is tracking this information to comply with the legislation’s reporting requirements and to determine potential revenue for future projects. An annual report of fee-in-lieu revenue and expenditures is required per Section 13.402C.3.8 of the MIHU law.

Development	Zoning	New lots	Agreement Signed
Gatherings at Ellicott’s Retreat	POR	162	pending
Holiday Hills	R-20	2	10/29/15
King Property	R-12	3	pending
Wright Property	R-20	1	10/15/15