

RESOLUTION NO. 5A-19

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ALTOONA HOUSING ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Chippewa Valley Housing Task Force recently completed an inclusive year-long study and concluded that our region suffers from a lack of supply of housing of nearly every type, particularly housing that is attainable and affordable to low- to moderate income persons; and,

WHEREAS, City of Altoona elected officials, staff, and community partners lead and contribute to the Task Force investigation and ongoing work in collaboration with the City of Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, all sectors of housing finance and construction, persons with lived experience encountering barriers to housing, and many additional partnering and contributing people, agencies, organizations and businesses; and,

WHEREAS, City of Altoona commends the tremendous effort and collaboration created by and directed through the Task Force and encourage the continued work of that body; and,

WHEREAS, the number and percentage of families in the region experiencing very-low income, low-income and moderate-income with unmet housing needs are growing. The United Way of Wisconsin ALICE study revealed in 2016, 42% of households in Eau Claire County are struggling to afford basic needs; and,

WHEREAS, many of the factors identified as driving the lack of supply of affordable housing are the result of national trends, however, the Task Force identified strategies and tactics informed by current best practice to improve conditions in this region; and,

WHEREAS, focusing on housing enables an expanded conversation and effort toward improving the lives of all people, and the social and environmental sustainability of our community through linked factors such as neighborhood structure and investment, transportation, and building performance; and,

WHEREAS, housing quality, community design and the built environment are key social and physical determinants of personal and public health; and,

WHEREAS, the supply, quality, diversity and affordability of housing is a significant factor in current and long-term economic well-being of the City and region; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Altoona recognizes the importance of continuing to proactively facilitate the development of housing that is affordable and accessible to all people regardless of background, income or other life situation; and,

WHEREAS, housing is a regional challenge that requires collective action toward solutions to achieve desired outcomes and that this Housing Action Plan represents the City's intentional and focused approach to housing; and,

WHEREAS, City of Altoona has recently acquired the property at 1511 Devney Drive with the significant efforts of Mayor Pratt, Cody Filipczak and many supporters to add affordable housing to City, displaying the potential of focused collaborations and partnerships; and,

WHEREAS, City of Altoona policy and ordinances do not change through adoption of the Housing Action Plan or as a result of this Resolution but these serve as public statements and direction to staff to proceed with researching and proposing policies and projects illustrated therein; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

Section 1

The City Council adopts the *Altoona Housing Action Plan* as the official direction to staff regarding further development of housing policy and projects for Council consideration, with the intent of implementing the Action Plan recommendations as funding and resources allow.

Section 2

The City Council, by this resolution, affirms that safe, affordable and attainable housing is a right of all people, a priority of the City of Altoona, and encourage all developers of housing proposed in the City and region to include options and approaches for addressing the diversity of housing needs, especially attainable and affordable to low- and moderate-income people, as set forth in the City's Comprehensive Plan and other documents that guide the City's development policies and objectives.

The above resolution has been authorized by the governing body of the City of Altoona Resolution No. 5A-19 , dated this 9th day of May, 2019.

CITY OF ALTOONA

SIGNED: *Brendan Pratt*
Brendan Pratt, Mayor

ATTEST: *Cynthia M Bauer*
Cynthia Bauer, City Clerk

