

Project Name:
Affordable Housing in Ottawa, Ontario: A Case Study of Land Use Policy and Transferability

Project Location:	Calgary, Alberta, Canada	
Client(s):	City of Calgary	
Date Completed:	August 2005	
Project Budget:	\$5,000	

Affordable Housing in Calgary (Photo: The City of Calgary)

Project Summary:

As a Masters of Environmental Design graduate student, Greg Sauer was contracted by the City of Calgary, Community and Neighbourhood Services, Social Research Unit to undertake a case study of land use policy and transferability of affordable housing initiatives successfully implemented in Ottawa Ontario to help combat housing affordability concerns.

The primary focus areas of this case study and literature review included a discussion of the following affordable rental and affordable home ownership initiatives:

land acquisition and dedication; inclusionary zoning; secondary dwelling units; density bonusing and incentives; cash-in-lieu of parking; condominium conversion; demolition policy; down-zoning; and alternate development standards.

Services Provided:

- * A City of Ottawa affordable housing primer was developed and was followed by policies in support of affordable housing in Ottawa;
- * Undertook a series of web-based studies of Ottawa's affordable housing initiatives in addition to communications with key City of Ottawa informants to obtain additional project specific information;
- * Undertook a benchmark summary of initiatives in Calgary and surveyed provincial and municipal legislation to determine barriers in the local context.

Deliverables or Results:

Greg provided the City of Calgary with an in depth literature review document detailing relevant initiatives that could be considered in the Calgary context. Each initiative was evaluated for its applicability and was designed as a reference material for City employees to educate City Council members. The document can be found at the web address, below.

Web Reference:

http://www.calgary.ca/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_2_428287_0_0_18/Major+Research+Papers+on+Affordable+Housing+and+Homelessness.htm (37 pages).