Invitation to the Isothermal Housing Summit

In the Isothermal Region, Owner-occupied home percentages fell from 66.51% in 2000 to 57.37% in 2016.

The Isothermal Regional Commission will hold its first Regional Housing Summit, scheduled for **November 7th**, 8:30 to 1:00 pm with a $5 lunch, here in Rutherfordton at the Rutherfordton Club House on 210 Clubhouse Dr, Rutherfordton, NC 28139. Our Region includes the Counties of Polk, Rutherford, McDowell, and Cleveland and the towns within same. Many of our local member governments have identified housing as a major issue in their jurisdiction. Here at the Commission, we administer the Housing Choice Voucher program for all of the Counties in our region and are a Housing Authority under the Housing and Urban Development program.

But what is the housing issue? While many of us deal in the area of affordability, senior housing and the like, the "housing issue" lacks a focused definition. Is the issue home repairs for needy families, available housing, workforce housing, tract housing, middle housing, and the age of current housing stock? All surface as part of the conversation. For most, Affordable housing is defined as housing affordable for a household with income of up to eighty percent (80%) of area median income (AMI), and moderate income housing is defined as housing affordable for a household with income that is greater than eighty percent (80%), but not more than one hundred twenty percent (120%) AMI.

There are 109,612 housing units in the Isothermal Region. 14.24% or 15,608 units were built after 2000. 51.44% or 56,381 units were built before 1980.

We would like to get this conversation started and defined at the regional level and we would like your help in this matter. We are inviting NGO Housing advocates and groups, PHA's, Regional government managers, planners and elected officials, Health Department, Social Services, Real Estate Agents, Developers, Federal and State Partners to include NC Housing Finance and NC Dept of Commerce, Transportation Planners and providers, Hospitals and other Health Care Providers, Workforce partners, industries, Tourism Folks, Chambers to attend this event and share in the discussion regarding this topic.

In the Isothermal Region, the median income is $47,550. So, 80% of AMI is $39,640 to 120% of AMI is $59,460.

Our Agenda will include a presentation of Isothermal Region Housing Data (study done in 2019), presentation on the Affordable Housing Data, and break-out discussion.

To rsvp to this event, please click here to respond to the invitation.

If you have any comments or questions regarding this event, please feel free to contact Scott Dadson, Executive Director at 828-287-2281 or at sdadson@regionc.org