



Sue Shink

Chair of the Board of Commissioners
Commissioner for District 2

April 26th, 2022

Dear House Local Government and Municipal Finance Committee:

I am writing as the Chair of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, and Commissioner for District 2, to express my support for expanding tools provided to local municipalities to have the ability to build and retain below-market housing options. Housing markets differ significantly throughout the state, making it critical for local jurisdictions to be able to address issues facing their communities in flexible and responsive ways that best meet the needs of their community. The current bills – SB 362, SB 422, SB 432, and SB 364 – would help add to the policy resources that local jurisdictions need to work with partners to make both immediate and sustained impact.

By providing opportunities for the development and retention of workforce housing, these bills would allow us to address a critical priority for our Washtenaw County residents and our local businesses. I particularly want to highlight my support for SB 432: PILOTS for Housing as it gives local units the ability to establish policy as to when it would consider offering a PILOT expanding the ability for local municipalities to locally incentivize the development or conversion of workforce or below market housing in the community, in addition to programs through the state and federal government.

As a county government official, I strongly believe these bills would help us craft ordinances that will expand housing choices for low- and moderate-income households in ways tailored to our community. I want to thank the sponsors of these bills for bringing them forward and the House Local Government and Municipal Finance Committee for holding this important hearing. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Shink".

Sue Shink, Chair of the Board of Commissioners

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