

# PORTSMOUTH LISTENS

## 2024 PLACES TO LIVE STUDY CIRCLE DIALOGS

### HOUSING RESOURCES

Here is a list of resources for data and other information about places to live – for Portsmouth, for New Hampshire, and also related articles about how other communities in the country are addressing this issue.

This, of course, is no where near exhaustive, and does not include every related topic. If you come across something of interest you think might be of interest to all study circles, please send the link to Howard Snyder, City of Portsmouth’s Housing Navigator, at [hasnyder@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:hasnyder@cityofportsmouth.com).

#### PORTSMOUTH

- Portsmouth Listens report from the [2017 Housing Dialogs](#).
- [2015 Master Plan](#) – This is not set up in the traditional way, so you will need to look around for information specifically about housing.
- [Here is the link](#) to the recording of the **Kickoff / Housing 101** event on January 11, 2024
- **Portsmouth Housing Authority 2022 Housing Market Study**  
Hyperlink: <https://pha.mintleafmarketing.com/assets/73f71e40-66f1-47ad-8e2e-dee0b0f05907-pdf/Portsmouth%20Market%20Analysis%20FINAL%2009.09.2022.pdf>

#### GENERAL DATA AND INFORMATION

- **New Hampshire Housing- 2023 NH Statewide Housing Needs Assessment**  
Hyperlink: <https://www.nhhfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023-NH-Statewide- Housing-Needs-Assessment.pdf>
- **NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions; Regional Housing Needs Assessments**  
Hyperlink: <https://www.nharpc.org/rhna/>
- **New Hampshire Housing - 2023 Residential Rental Cost Survey Report**  
Hyperlink: <https://www.nhhfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/NHH-2023-Res-Rental- Survey-Report.pdf>
- **Rockingham County Planning Commission -Regional Master Plan overview**  
Hyperlink: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1U7X5WTidpdvV\\_QJTFLMdeMFVIA7kadk](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1U7X5WTidpdvV_QJTFLMdeMFVIA7kadk)
- **New Hampshire Housing’s Housing Challenges and Solutions page**  
Hyperlink: <https://www.nhhfa.org/housing-challenges-solutions/>
- [Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast](#)
- **Rockingham Regional Planning Commission - 2023 Housing Needs Assessment**  
Hyperlink: [http://www.therpc.org/application/files/6916/8736/2426/Regional\\_Housing\\_Needs\\_Assessment\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.therpc.org/application/files/6916/8736/2426/Regional_Housing_Needs_Assessment_FINAL.pdf)

## PLANNING AND ZONING LAWS

These are public information. Here are some helpful resources – within each, you may wish to refine your search by entering *housing*, *dwelling*, or similar.

- Local laws
  - For Portsmouth: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/.../land-use-and-zoning-regulations>
  - can also be found in the [New Hampshire Zoning Atlas](#). The zoning laws of each jurisdiction in the state were coded and form the foundation of this extremely comprehensible tool. Click on the map where you are interested, and information will come up for the jurisdiction and underlying zoning district. Links to the land-use regulations are provided, where available, at the bottom of that jurisdiction’s window. *(from the website)*
- State laws and information about planning and zoning laws may be found:
  - (Portsmouth’s own) Loughlin, Peter, *Land Use Planning and Zoning* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.) This is Volume 15 of the New Hampshire [Municipal Law] Practice Series. According to information provided:  
*This volume deals with the purposes, adoption, amendment and enforcement of zoning ordinances; nonconforming uses; vesting; preemption; variances; special exceptions; subdivision and site plan approval; historic districts; excavations and wetlands.*  
It is available for purchase via LexusNexus, and is more than likely to be found in the public library.
  - [New Hampshire Municipal Association](#) holds workshops and webinars that address land- use regulations, as well an annual day in October for municipal leaders, planners, builders and others with a stake in knowing what the laws say and mean.
  - The [New Hampshire Law Library](#) at the New Hampshire Supreme Court is a treasure trove of information related to zoning in the state.
  - [The Resources page](#) of the New Hampshire Office of Planning and Development offers yet more information about zoning here in the Granite State.
  - And of course, New Hampshire Housing has a page dedicated to [Housing Challenges and Solutions](#), with lots of great information for people expanding housing options in their communities.

In addition, the NH Office of Planning and Zoning has lots of great ‘training’ materials, found [here](#). Scroll down the page for recordings of their monthly webinar series on a variety of related topics.

## OTHER INFORMATION FROM AROUND THE REGION AND STATE

- Cities: <https://lnkd.in/eiVCuv7h> - Sarah Wrightsman podcast re housing in cities

- Towns: <https://lnkd.in/eiVCuv7h> - Sarah Wrightsman podcast re housing in towns
- **New Hampshire Housing Toolbox:**  
Hyperlink: <https://nhhousingtoolbox.org/>
- New Hampshire Housing: [How-Do-We-Talk-About-Housing?](#)
- **Communities and Consequences II** – series of documentaries about the impacts of housing decisions around the state <https://www.nhhfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/NHH-How-Do-We-Talk-About-Housing.pdf>- go [HERE](#) for the NHPBS page to watch
- [Portsmouth Smart Growth](#) is a local organization that focuses on forward-thinking ideas and strategies to create an even better city. It would be good to just see what all they have. Here is a housing-related sessions:

**A SMART-GROWTH APPROACH TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING (January 2016)**

Description: National planning and smart-growth expert Jennifer Hurley joined our community to lead two workshops for the public and business owners to explore affordable housing options in Portsmouth.

Hyperlink: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hago16v8Ao>

- **Affordable homes built in Dover:** *A new neighborhood of tiny homes is being built in Dover to help deal with New Hampshire’s housing shortage.*
  - **Title: Developers build tiny home neighborhood to address workforce housing shortage (Feb. 2023)**  
Hyperlink: <https://www.wmur.com/article/tiny-home-neighborhood-dover-housing-shortage/42781439>
  - **Cottages in Dover open for tenants. Dream of small, affordable homes becomes a reality. (Oct. 2023)**  
Hyperlink: <https://www.fosters.com/story/news/local/2023/10/27/cottages-in-dover-nh-44-affordable-homes-welcomes-first-renters/71293286007/>
- **New Hampshire Business Review:**  
Hyperlink: <https://www.nhbr.com/survey-shows-depth-of-housing-anxieties/>
- [90000-units-needed-new-report-puts-a-big-number-on-nh-housing-crisis](#) (Seacoast Online April 27, 2023)
- **NH housing crisis making it hard to hold on to essential health care workers (May 2023)**  
Description: As employers try to fill essential health care worker vacancies they say the state’s tough housing market - with its high costs and limited options - is standing in the way. Hyperlink: <https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/news/state/2023/05/26/how-new-hampshires-housing-crisis-is-making-it-hard-to-hold-onto-essential-health-workers/70252231007/>
- **Valley News** \$9M fund created to boost Upper Valley housing, backed by area employers.

Hyperlink: [https://www.vnews.com/Evernorth-creates-\\$8-95-million-workforce-housing-loan-fund-for-Upper-Valley-48140601](https://www.vnews.com/Evernorth-creates-$8-95-million-workforce-housing-loan-fund-for-Upper-Valley-48140601)

## OLDER ADULTS

- **New England’s population is graying, its homes are less “aging-ready” (Oct. 2023)**  
Description: Housing for New England’s seniors is in short supply and could worsen as the region’s population ages.  
Hyperlink: [New England’s population is graying, but its homes are less “aging-ready” than rest of U.S.](#)
- **Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies**  
Description: Housing America’s Older Adults  
Hyperlink: <https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/housing-americas-older-adults-2023>
- [“AARP Livable Communities Resources.”](#) Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities
- [Aging in Place – A Toolkit for Local Government](#)
- [a-home-to-grow-old-in-and-no-way-to-leave](#)

## Missing Middle

*In between the large single-family homes on big lots on one end of the spectrum and apartment-style buildings on the other (not including rural spaces) are middle-sized homes that are currently missing in many communities. Portsmouth has a lot from the mid-twentieth century.*

- [Discovering and Developing Missing Middle Housing](#)
- [adaptable-stock-plans-missing-middle-housing](#)
- [missing-middle-combines-cottages-mixed-use](#)
- [this-citys-permanent-middle-housing-rules-should-set-a-statewide-standard](#)

## ISOLATION

[Isolation has been named an epidemic in the US by the Surgeon General.](#) Here are a couple of articles that might be of interest in our context:

- [how-to-design-a-city-that-fights-loneliness](#)
- [fighting-loneliness-through-community-design](#)

## Miscellaneous

Here are some articles related to housing, including its connection to the broader community. These are meant to inform and inspire. This is not an exhaustive list – there are thousands of articles on this topic.

- Frameworks Institute studies how people think about issues, how that that thinking is shaped through language, and how changing language can lead to positive changes in thinking. Here are several tools that are related to talking about housing:

Hyperlink: <https://www.frameworksinstitute.org/search/housing>

- AARPS's [Livability Index](#)
- [Center for Neighborhood Technology](#)
- [CNT's Where Matters Tool](#)
- [Transit-oriented development](#)
- [5-minute-neighborhood-15-minute-city-and-20-minute-suburb](#)
- [Ten features of walkable communities](#)
- [pocket-neighborhood-designed-connection](#)
- [As Chicago Punts On Apartment Safety, Denver Shows What's Possible \(nextcity.org\)](#)
- [pro-housing-yimbys-build-a-zoning-reform-winning-streak-across-us](#)
- [adus-can-help-address-housing-crisis-but-theyre-bad-urban-design?](#)
- [ending-minimum-parking-requirements-was-a-policy-win-for-the-twin-cities](#)
- [5-trends-affordable-housing-2024](#)
- [he-best-evidence-yet-for-the-housing-musical-chairs-theory](#)

## OTHER GREAT RESOURCES

[Public Square](#), articles from the Congress for New Urbanism

[Strong Towns](#)

[Project for Public Spaces](#) – *focuses on the importance of placemaking*

[Next City](#)