DOTENTIAL	ACTION LIST -	- FLIRTHER	F\/ALLIATION
PUICIVIIAL	ACTION LIST -	-	LVALUATION

NOTES & NEXT STEPS

Category 1: Preservation – An important component of an overall strategy is preservation of existing affordable housing stock. Review		
includes evaluating expansion of existing programs as well as new opportunities for preserve existing affordable housing.		
C.3. Provide loans for upgrading and weatherization in exchange for	Loans for repair and upgrades: Evaluate the need and level of	
covenants to preserve affordable units.	funding for the current program and its effectiveness at preserving	
D.9. Expand Bellevue's Major Home Repair Program to assist low-	affordable housing, and how repair loans could be used more to	
income residents with maintaining their homes.	preserve affordable rental units.	
C.6. Pursue opportunities to acquire and preserve existing multifamily	Evaluation will identify existing market rate housing that could	
housing, and upgrade substandard housing – identify most strategic	potentially be preserved as affordable.	
opportunities for existing properties (location, condition, bank owned).		
C.7.b. Inventory existing affordable non-income & rent restricted		
housing.		
C.9. Provide subsidies/tax exemptions to smaller apartment owners (4	Evaluation will explore number of units this may include and	
unit or less) to maintain affordability.	whether it is an effective practice for preserving existing affordable	
	housing stock. May be evaluated with E2 (Category 4), support	
	revisions to MFTE state enabling legislation.	
	**IN ADDITION TO DETERMINING IF THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT	
	AMOUNT OF THIS HOUSING TYPE, WE SHOULD ALSO DETERMINE IF	
	THIS HOUSING TYPE NEEDS SUPPORT TO RETAIN AFFORDABILITY,	
	AND MAKE SURE THAT SUPPORT DOESN'T RESULT IN	
	BURDENSOME REGULATION.	
**ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS: NONE		

Category 2: Direct & Indirect Public Support – Public support of affordable housing can take many forms. This group will look at the effectiveness of various public tools to leverage the production of affordable housing by private and public housing providers.

*A.6. Allow flexible reuse of larger sites (e.g. former school sites, church properties) through a special process to enable denser more diverse forms of housing.

*B.4. Make surplus or underutilized public land available at reduced or no cost for affordable housing developments.

C.7.a. Inventory existing income & rent restricted housing to determine where infill or redevelopment could increase capacity.

<u>Site and capacity evaluation</u>: Inventory different types of sites to inform evaluation of potential for additional capacity by housing type and level of affordability.

**HOW WOULD REUSE OF LARGER SITES WORK? WOULD A
DIFFERENT PROCESS THAN WHAT IS USED NOW RESULT IN SPOT
ZONING, LESS PUBLIC INPUT? WHAT ARE THE MECHANICS OF
HOW THE PROCESS WOULD WORK? WHAT WOULD BE THE
IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS?
IN ADDITION TO SURPLUS PROPERTY, LOOK AT PUBLIC PROPERTIES
IN USE AND LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO CO-LOCATE HOUSING.

POTENTIAL ACTION LIST – FURTHER EVALUATION	NOTES & NEXT STEPS
A.9.a. Encourage affordable housing project partnerships between private and not for profit developers.	Added by TAG 7/25. Could be applied to different groups of actions. There will be additional discussion with the TAG to identify these potential partnerships as the strategy is developed. **COUNCIL ADDED BACK
*B.1. Review/recalibrate multi-family tax exemption (MFTE) for affordable housing requirements and expand program in additional multi-family and transit-oriented development areas.	MFTE review: Review current qualification requirements for Bellevue's MFTE, including unit size and mix that encourages larger units for families e.g. 15% of units being 2 or more bedroom. Analysis will look at Bellevue's housing demand and needs assessment and effective practices in other cities' MFTE programs.
*B.2. Utilize non-cash subsidies, such as credit enhancements and city bonding. B.6. Implement a revolving loan fund for acquisition of land. B.7. Create a revolving housing fund to support 4% tax credit projects. *B.8. Submit an Affordable Housing Property Tax Levy to voters.	Direct funding: The first 3 (B.2., B.6., B.7.) will evaluate effective practices by existing programs (e.g. REDI Fund). Evaluation of levy (B.8.) will include information on what amounts could be generated by different levy rates and how those funds have been effectively applied elsewhere. **ADD TOOL TO EXPAND ACCESS TO LOW-INTEREST LOANS FOR NON-PROFITS (E.G. CITY GUARANTEE OF LOANS)
B.5. Invest in infrastructure (e.g. streetscapes, parks, stormwater improvements) that supports affordable housing development.	<u>Public infrastructure investments</u> : Evaluate what types and levels of public investments are effective at leveraging production of affordable units.
D.10. Down Payment Assistance - Evaluate and as needed update existing program (effectiveness, design features and, funding levels).	Home ownership assistance: One of the few actions directed at home ownership. City contributions to ARCH currently used with state housing finance commission first and second mortgage program. Evaluation will include current funding and utilization, and explore how to leverage employer assistance to broaden program and increase effectiveness.
D.4. Partner with employers including BSD to provide affordable housing for their employees.	Develop new actions or leverage existing actions by partnering with employers e.g. down payment assistance program.
D.5. Partner with other agencies to provide affordable housing in conjunction with transit-oriented development at light rail and other transit centers. Provide for housing in mixed-use neighborhoods with transit access.	Develop new actions or activate existing actions like REDI fund to leverage TOD efforts by other agencies. **If ST3 is approved by voters there is a requirement for ST to make 80% of suitable surplus land available for affordable housing. This should be called out as its own action, and evaluated for how many affordable units it would bring to Bellevue. Include clarity

NOTES & NEXT STEPS

about legislative meaning and uses, may also help for clarity as we develop 130th station.

- **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS (some apply to more than one category):
 - How well do these actions integrate into the City's existing programs through ARCH?
 - It would be good to have defined performance metrics including evaluation tool for consistency with state law.
 - We need to assess if our housing strategy is meeting current needs. Our process to evaluate if our housing strategy is working should include updating our housing needs assessment every 4 years.
 - What are the needs and targets by different types of units and income groups (e.g. family, senior, special needs)?
 - Evaluate actions for legality/constraints/city authority, particularly those that deal with lending of credit, or requirements on property owners.
 - Tie actions to specific Bellevue needs.
 - Identify what is new versus what is already being done by Bellevue. What is an expansion of an existing city program?
 - What other models have we looked at (e.g. Hong Kong, Montgomery County, MD)?
 - In addition to reviewing the effectiveness of the action, we also want to look at the downsides/impacts of implementation.

Category 3: City Regulations & Incentives – Increase capacity in certain zones to leverage market production of housing, including affordable		
units, primarily to households with incomes at greater than 60% AMI. Includes other potential changes to zoning regulations and/or		
processes intended to create greater flexibility of housing types as well as lower development costs.		

- *A.1. Require some amount of affordable housing with certain types or sizes of multi-family development.
- *A.2 Review/recalibrate code incentives for affordable units in exchange for density increase.
- A.4. Zoning and building code provisions to accommodate single-room occupancy units or mini-suites (e.g. micro units) housing in multifamily zones.
- A.5. Allow additional flexibility along with design guidelines and development standards for small-scale housing types (e.g. cottages, duplexes, accessory dwelling units, shared housing) in single family areas for consideration in neighborhood plans.
- A.8. Ensure that zoning provides appropriate opportunities for seniors and special needs housing.

<u>Density incentives</u>: Conduct a pro forma analysis that will consider potential for market and affordable units with mandatory or voluntary density incentives.

**EVALUATE INCLUSIONARY ACTIONS IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC AFFECTS ON INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS ON IMPACT TO OVERALL RATE OF HOUSING PRODUCTION.

Housing type flexibility: Analysis will include research on effective practices elsewhere, including how these types of units are regulated, potential productivity of affordable units, and which single family or multifamily zones could provide flexibility. One objective for greater flexibility in housing type in residential zones is to help seniors and people with special needs remain in their homes or neighborhoods. In terms of mixed use zones, certain Downtown and BelRed zones already effectively allow micro-units but without consideration of relative parking ratios.

POTENTIAL ACTION LIST – FURTHER EVALUATION	NOTES & NEXT STEPS
A.9. Maintain a family-friendly housing focus when implementing other housing actions (e.g. promote family-sized units in MFTE Program). Direct support for affordable housing and other housing actions considers family-friendly units and services. MFTE review covered by B.1. above. A.19. Increase zoning height, density and FAR in multifamily zone districts; change density calculation from units per acre to floor-arearatio (FAR).	**CAN CITY LIMIT NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS/DEFINITION OF FAMILY TO PREVENT OVERCROWDING IN MICRO-UNITS? (APPLIES TO A.4. AND A.19.) **A.8. SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE STUDENTS AND NEW PROFESSIONALS. **COUNCIL ADDED BACK A.9.
*A.10. Revise regulations and permitting requirements to reduce costs and timing. A.11. Provide expedited permitting for projects with affordable housing. A.13. Amend building codes to allow prefabricated and new building technologies (e.g. cross laminated timber) that can reduce construction costs. *A.14. Modify land use and building codes to maximize economical wood frame construction (e.g. increase building height using Type 5 wood frame construction). A.15. Review off-street parking policies (e.g. right-size parking, special studies, parking benefit district). Reduce or eliminate minimum parking when well-served by transit. A.18. Implement building and fire codes that reduce construction costs; update development regulations to match.	Regulatory impediments: Several items in this sub-group may be part of sensitivity analysis for items A.1. and A.2. above to determine which have the most impact on development costs and feasibility. Evaluation will also include effective practices of other cities. **EXPEDITED PERMITTING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING SHOULD CONSIDER EQUITY ISSUES FOR PROJECTS "JUMPING THE QUEUE." SHOULD HAVE EXPEDITED REVIEW FOR ALL PERMITS. **PARKING REDUCTION REVIEW SHOULD CONSIDER USER EXPERIENCE AND IMPLICATIONS FOR NEIGHBORS **NOT SURE CITY CAN ADOPT BUILDING AND FIRE CODES AT A LESSER STANDARD – THIS NEEDS LEGAL REVIEW.
A.16. Promote use of Universal Design to increase accessibility for all ages and abilities.	Although UD may allow seniors and others to remain in their homes which can be more affordable for that household, it does not add affordable units. Could be addressed as part of code update. **COUNCIL ADDED BACK. COULD BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH FUNDING RATHER THAN CODE.
A.17. Encourage energy efficiency and other measures of sustainability in new and preserved housing to reduce costs for residents.	Provides affordability for household but does not add new affordable units. Could be addressed as part of code update. **COUNCIL ADDED BACK. COULD BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH FUNDING RATHER THAN CODE. (E.G. "MASTER SWITCH")
*B.3. Encourage use of multiple incentives with goal of creating more units or increasing affordability.	Does not involve analysis, but will be considered as overall strategy is developed.

**COUNCIL ADDED BACK

- **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS (some apply to more than one category):
 - What are the economic implications of regulations overall, including any new regulations that would be part of the strategy?
 - Want to understand the economic impact of these tools -- how can we increase affordable housing units without increasing the cost of overall housing?
 - Want the review to address Bellevue's unique demographics, economic changes. Can the tools be sensitive to changes in the community so they are deployed when needed?
 - Action needed to help people downsize and free up family-size housing stock.
 - Action needed to produce new housing types, especially projects like Silver Glen.
 - Housing strategy should consider housing need for younger workers and students, result of expansion of Bellevue College and GIX.

Category 4: Pursuing Legislative Changes – The items in this category require changes to state legislation to expand the types of actions that		
Bellevue could consider as part of an overall affordable housing strategy.		
C.5. Limit conversion of rental housing to condominiums.	Market changes or legislation to revise Condominium Act warranty	
	provisions could increase condo conversions at a loss to existing	
	affordable rental housing. Potential tools (limits, fees) may require	
	state legislation. However, condominium conversion is not currently	
	an issue.	
*E.1. Explore options for dedicated local revenue sources that provide	Evaluation will include exploring effective practices and existing	
direct monetary assistance for affordable housing. Examples include:	research to determine whether these are actions that would be	
E.1.a. Establish a Growth Fund funded by sources resulting from	effective in an overall strategy. Will coordinate with ongoing ARCH	
new growth (e.g. sales tax)	review of potential new revenue sources. Although these are not	
E.1.b. Real Estate Excise Tax for Affordable Housing	actions currently available, the evaluation would help to inform	
E.1.c. Transfer tax charged on capital gain ('anti-flipping')	Council discussion of these items for the city's legislative agenda.	
E.1.d. Property tax generated by sold public sites.		
E.1.e. Enact Local Option Sales Tax HB2263		
E.1.f. Hotel Tax on Short-Term Rentals		
E.1.g. Local Voluntary Employers Fund		
*E.2. Support revisions to state law to expand the multi-family tax		
exemption – MFTE (e.g. duration, preservation of existing housing).		
E.4. Support expansion of the State Housing Trust Fund and federal		
housing programs.		

POTENTIAL ACTION LIST – FURTHER EVALUATION	NOTES & NEXT STEPS
*E.6. Evaluate and consider efforts to remove barriers to condo	
development such as revisions to state Condominium Act warranty	
provisions.	
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**ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Review of legislative actions should be at a higher level than other categories; Council will take these up later with the legislative agenda.
- Exempt affordable housing at 30% AMI from construction sales tax and B&O tax.

Category 5: Do Not Evaluate – These actions will be held in reserve for future consideration including layering with other actions. Category 5 includes actions that: (#1) the city is not able to pursue; (#2) at this point do not appear to have as much potential as the other, priority actions for producing affordable units, however the city could consider these in the future and evaluate at that time; (#3) the city is already doing this action at a level that could be reviewed, however evaluation is not necessary at this time.	
*A.3. Adopt linkage fees for commercial development (either for all or increased commercial capacity).	Based on preliminary analysis by City Attorney's office, there is currently not a clear statutory path to enacting these fees. (#1) **COUNCIL DISCUSSED AND DECIDED NOT TO ADD THIS ACTION BACK INTO LIST FOR EVALUATION.
A.7. Provide a flexible development process for environmentally constrained property that accommodates alternative building types, e.g. clustering.	Requires analysis of individual parcels with multiple factors for consideration (#2)
A.12. Provide staffing contingencies to manage peak permit demand. C.1. Implement a rental inspection program.	Already being done per DSD (#3) Does not add new affordable units but could be considered as part of a preservation strategy (#2)
C.2. Promote property maintenance and improvements for energy efficiency in existing affordable housing.	Does not add new affordable units but could be considered as part of a preservation strategy (#2)
C.4. Allow transfer of development rights (TDR) where existing older, more affordable housing could transfer unused development capacity to preserve this housing from redevelopment.	Could be used as a preservation strategy; however, evaluation would require much more legal and economic research in terms of sending and receiving zones (#2)
C.8. Develop a strategy to help preserve housing affordability where public investments indirectly contribute to rising residential costs.	REDI fund and other actions currently target land banking and affordable housing preservation in transitioning areas, particularly near transit (#3)
D.1. Explore ways to increase usage of HUD vouchers, including working with KCHA to target section 8 certificates.	City already working with KCHA, could increase these efforts to make it easier for voucher holders to find and retain eligible housing. Does not require analysis (#3)

POTENTIAL ACTION LIST – FURTHER EVALUATION	NOTES & NEXT STEPS
D.2. Support housing options and services that enable seniors to stay in their homes or neighborhoods.	Apply this lens to other actions to identify which could help address this need (#2)
D.3. Periodically review and revise regulations to assure they meet state and federal fair housing requirements.	Being done as requirement of HUD CDBG funding (#3)
D.6. Provide relocation assistance consistent with State RCW 59.18.440 (Tenant Relocation Assistance).	Limited Relocation Assistance in Code Chapter 9.21, the City could review potential for expanding (#3)
D.7. Increase local rental/operating subsidies to serve the lowest income population.	Some support for rental and operating subsidies through City's Human Services fund (#3) **WHAT ARE WE DOING CURRENTLY TO HELP WITH RENT/OPERATING SUBSIDIES TO SERVE LOWEST INCOME POPULATION? ARE THERE TOOLS TO ADDRESS HIGH RENT COSTS? {HUMAN SERVICES STAFF TO FOLLOW-UP WITH CM SLATTER ON CURRENT PROGRAMS AND FUNDING LEVELS}
 D.8. Increase funding for tenant counseling and landlord education so they can work together to ensure sustainability (#3) a. Provide assistance to tenants with language barriers, mental illness or other challenges (#2) b. Explore solutions to housing for people exiting incarceration (#2) c. Provide 'Community Service Officers' (civilian intermediaries to resolve conflicts among landlords, tenants) (#3) 	Human Services provides Tenant and landlord education as part of efforts to increase fair housing practices, and. Neighborhood Mediation provides resources for (c), resolving landlord/tenant conflicts. (#3)
D.11. Develop financing products that comply with faith-based requirements.	Potential follow-up action or policy; increases fair housing access. (#2)
D.13. Consider ways to support ownership models such as land trusts, 'sweat equity', limited equity condominium / coops. E.3. Encourage self-help and volunteer programs that create or preserve affordable housing.	City supports through ARCH Housing Trust Fund e.g. Habitat, Silver Glen (#3)
D.14. Provide resources to homeowners facing foreclosure such as financial support to homeowner counseling program; funding for higher risk home repair loans; and helping homeowners with temporary financial hardships.	City offers foreclosure mediation program (#3); could evaluate level of funding for direct assistance program (#2)
D.15. Provide resources to tenants facing eviction because of a temporary financial hardship.	City supports some tenant assistance funding through Human Services (#3)

POTENTIAL ACTION LIST — FURTHER EVALUATION	NOTES & NEXT STEPS
D.16. Support organizations that offer services and facilities to those who have special housing needs including capacity building and technical assistance.	City provides funding through ARCH and Human Services to organizations that serve persons with special housing needs (#3)
D.17. Support funding applications by local groups seeking other public/private funders.	City provides funding through ARCH and Human Services to local organizations that are seeking other funding (#3)
D.18. Explore ways to support efforts by affordable housing providers to develop investment funds from socially-minded private investors.	City supports local organizations that are reaching out to these types of funders (#3)
D.19. Cooperate with regional efforts to do an ongoing analysis of the regional housing market.	City works regionally through ARCH, PSRC, and others (#3)
D.20. Work with housing advocates, neighborhood planning groups, property owners etc. to address negative perceptions related to homeless housing, and other housing for special needs.	City partners with housing non-profits to provide community outreach, particularly for homeless housing or housing for persons with special needs (#3)
D.21. Explore and evaluate formation of a housing authority in Bellevue.	Potential follow-up (#2)
 D.12. Support coordinated, culturally appropriate homebuyer education (including financial literacy) and require for all homebuyer assistance programs. D.22. Support programs that increase access to homeownership Financial literacy and first time homebuyer classes Expand low interest loan programs such as Veterans and FHA 	Existing ARCH down payment assistance program includes access to homebuyer education and counseling and partnership with WSHFC mortgage products (#3)
D.23. Support mortgage programs that allow homebuyers that live near their work or transit to qualify for higher mortgage amount	Potential follow-up (#2)
D.24. Support education and training programs that provide a means for low income residents to increase their incomes.	City's economic development program includes coordination with Bellevue College and fostering start-up businesses (#3)
E.5. Support state legislation or enact local provisions to address tenant protections, such as: E.5.a. Eliminate Source of Income discrimination (e.g. spousal support) E.5.b. Require longer period for notice to vacate (currently 20 days) when multiple tenants are being displaced	Could be considered as part of City Council's legislative agenda (#1, #2)

POTENTIAL ACTION LIST – FURTHER EVALUATION	NOTES & NEXT STEPS
E.5.c. Require Notice of Rent Increase	
E.5.d. Enact a Just Cause Eviction Ordinance	
E.5.e. Allow for local portability of Tenant Screening Reports to	
reduce expense of multiple applications for tenants	
E.5.f. Amount of, or process for rent increases of existing	
residents.	
1. Continue membership in ARCH or similar programs to assist in the	Included in initial list of possible actions but are considered policy
provision of affordable housing on the Eastside.	statements or actions that are already in place (#3)
2. Provide adequate capacity to accommodate 20-year housing target.	Community outreach concurrent with development of strategies is
3. Support preservation of existing affordable stock. (See Category 3	included in the Affordable Housing Strategy work program. (#3)
for Actions)	
4. Create and update a database of publicly and privately owned	
underutilized and/or derelict properties that could be used for	
affordable housing.	
5. Develop robust community outreach concurrent with development	
of strategies to increase public awareness of need for affordable	
housing, in order to increase acceptance of affordable housing.	
Include listening to the community, telling the stories of the people	
who are affected, considering how traffic issues affect perceptions	
of denser housing, and being respectful of the neighborhoods.	
**ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS: NONE	