Regional Housing Conference Zoning Updates

2:00-2:50 PM

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY, RODNEY ESLINGER, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIR.

CITY OF ALTOONA, TAYLOR GREENWELL, PLANNING DIRECTOR

CITY OF EAU CLAIRE, NED NOEL, PLANNING MANAGER

Eau Claire County Title 18 Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Comprehensive Revision

Eau Claire

Project Purposes

- Consistency with state law, case law, best practice
- Address needs identified by users (residents, staff, committees)
- Make code easier to understand and use



Zoning Ordinance — 9 towns Brunswick, Clear Creek, Drammen, Lincoln, Otter Creek, Pleasant Valley, Seymour, Union, Washington

Subdivision Ordinance – all 13 towns

Process and Schedule

- Kickoff Meetings
- Town Meetings, Public Meeting
- Staff Working Meetings
- Draft Review (Committees, Towns, Public)
- Agency and Legal Review
- P&D Committee Review
- County Board Introduction, Adoption
- Town Adoptions

- March 2023
- May 9, May 23, 2023
- July 18, 2023
- until July 2024

Nonpolicy and Policy Changes

Nonpolicy

- Put similar material all in one place
- Use tables and graphics (e.g. use table)
- Replace paragraphs with lists
- Remove/update expired content

Policy

- Eliminating inconsistencies wherever state law has changed
- Increased flexibility for County staff to approve things not clearly addressed in the ordinance
- Replacing vague, subjective standards with language that is more easily interpreted and enforced
- Additions to implement ideas in the towns' and county's comprehensive plans
- Changes to address public comments and requests during this process

Non-Policy Examples

18.09.010 Permitted principal uses. The following principal uses are permitted in the R-1-M district:

- A. Single-family housing;
- B. Parks and playgrounds. (Ord. 126-69 Sec.10(part), 1983; Ord. 126-16 Sec.3(part), 1982).

 $\underline{18.09.015}$ Permitted principal structures. The following principal structures are permitted in the R-1-M district:

- Single-family dwellings;
- B. Park and playground related structures. (Ord. 138-68, Sec. 17, 1994; Ord. 129-74 Sec.18, 1986; Ord. 126-69 Sec.10(part), 1983; Ord. 126-16 Sec.3(part), 1982).

 $\underline{18.09.020\ Permitted\ accessory\ uses}.$ The following accessory uses are permitted in the R-1-M district:

- Private storage of motor vehicles;
- B. Home occupations, as defined in Chapter 18.23;
- C. Private recreational uses, including but not limited to swimming, tennis, horticulture and playground activities.
- D. Beekeeping subject to Chapter 8.25. (Ord. 160-005, Sec. 4, 2016; Ord. 126-69 Sec.10(part), 1983; Ord. 126-16 Sec.3(part), 1982).

18.09.025 Permitted accessory structures. The following accessory structures are permitted in the R-1-M district:

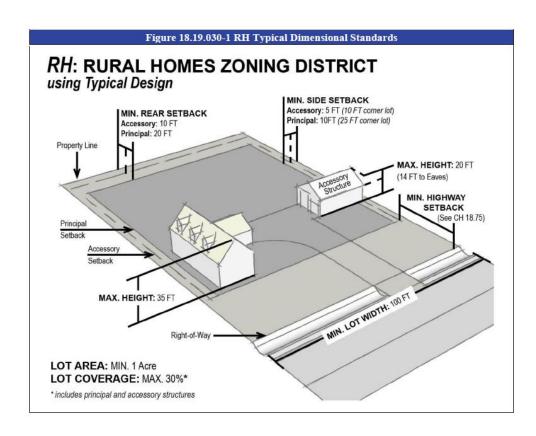
- Private garages;
- Private recreational structures as allowed in Chapter 18.30;
- C. Noncommercial greenhouses, storage sheds and play-houses. (Ord. 126-69 Sec.10(part), 1983; Ord. 126-16 Sec.3(part), 1982).

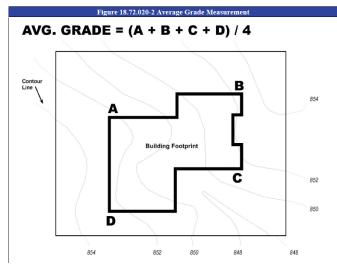
 $\underline{18.09.030\ \ Conditional\ uses}.$ The following conditional uses may be allowed in the R-1-M district, and are subject to the provisions of Chapter 18.21:

- Planned unit developments;
- B. Two-family housing;
- C. Governmental and religious uses;
- Public recreational uses, including golfing, swimming and archery;
- Public and private schools;
- F. Cemeteries;
- G. Hospitals and nursing home related uses;
- Nursery schools and day care centers.
- (Ord. 138-68, Sec. 18, 1994; Ord. 135-92, Sec.14, 1992; Ord. 134-36 sec 6, 1990; Ord. 126-69 Sec.10(part), 1983; Ord. 126-16 Sec.3(part), 1982).

RESIDENTIAL																		
	A- P	A-1	A-2	A-3	A-R	AC- R	RH	R-L	R-1	R-2	R-3	C-1	C-2	C-3	I-L	I-1	F-1	F-2
Residences:																		
Caretaker Residence*													А	Α	А	Α		
Dwelling, Accessory*			Α	Α		Α	А	Α	Α									Α
Dwelling, Multiple-Family											Р	С	С					
Dwelling, Single-Family*			Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	С	Р		С				Р
Dwelling, Two-Family			С		Р	С	С	С	С	Р	С		С					
Farm Residences, up to 2 Dwelling Units	ıΡ	Р																
Farm Residences, more than 2 Dwelling Units	D.	С																
Modular Home*			Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	С	Р		С				Р
Manufactured Home Community											С							
Manufactured Home	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р					С					Р		Р
Tiny House*			Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р								
Group Living:																		
Community-Based Residential Facility									Р	Р	Р							
Community Living Arrangement (8 or fewer persons)			Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р							
Community Living Arrangement (9-15 persons)									С	С	Р							
Community Living Arrangement (> 15 persons)									С	С	С							
Continuing Care Retirement Community											Р	Р	С					
Residential Care Apartment Complex											Р	С	С					
Residential Care Facility										С	Р	Р	Р	Р				
Rooming & Boarding House											Р	Р	Р					
Single-family, two-family and multifamily housing without public water and sewer service.											С							

Non-Policy



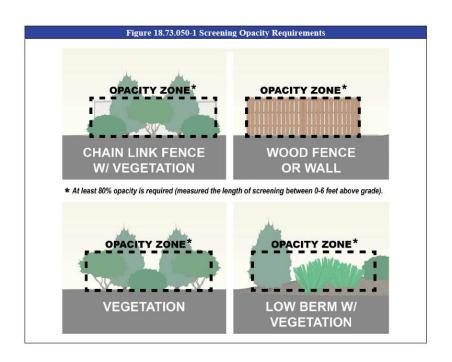


General Policy Changes Highlights

- The introduction now clarifies that the code is a parcel based code, and that zoning districts follow parcel boundaries and each parcel may have only one district.
- The Agricultural-Conservation Residential (AC-R) District is added to enable scattered rural housing on marginal farmland while providing more explicit protections for surrounding ag activities.
 - Minimum lot size 1.5 acres, minimum width 150', minimum side setback 50', Up to 3 parcels and a total of 5 acres may be rezoned to AC-R per quarter-quarter section
- The Light Industrial (I-L) District is created to provide more flexibility for the siting of uses such as light manufacturing
 or assembly that can be compatible with nearby residential or commercial use. The unused "Sewered Industrial" (I-2)
 district is removed. (18.27)
- The Planned Unit Development (PUD) District replaces the current Planned Unit Development chapter, treating this customized zoning tool as a district rather than as a conditional use, and providing a more specific process for how the rules will be established each time it is used. (18.31, 18.107)
- Larger accessory structures allowed by right in the residential districts, increased from 1,200 SF now to a sliding scale of 1,600 SF for lots under 1 acre to 2,400 SF for lots over 5 acres. (18.41.010)
- Accessory Dwelling Units are now allowed to be rented, may be used year-round, and the maximum size is increased to the lesser of either 1,200 square feet or the area of the principal dwelling unit. (18.47.010)
- "Short-Term Rentals" (e.g. Air BnB) are listed as a permitted use in all districts. The ordinance requires a Land Use Permit and also references other applicable regulation by the State and County. (18.52)

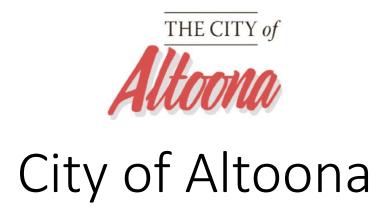
Development Policy

- Road setbacks are reduced to match Highway Department requirements (18.71.030)
- The landscaping and tree preservation standards are consolidated and expanded, applicable to the commercial and industrial districts (C-1, C-2, C-3, I-L, and I-H), multiplefamily residential uses in the R-3 district, and off-street parking areas with 6+ spaces. Standards address minimum plant size at the time of planting, minimum planting amounts, and requirements for installation and maintenance. (18.74)
- Sign ordinance changes include elimination of any rules related to the content of the sign, roof signs are not allowed, greater flexibility with monument signs (18.78)
- A conservation subdivision ordinance is provided (18.87).



Sections with No Substantive Changes

- Submittal Requirements
- Agencies
- Legal Provisions
- Airport Overlay
- Groundwater Overlay
- Shoreland Overlay
- The ZONING MAP



Zoning & Development Code Update



Summary

- Last comprehensive update: 1970
- Two sections being addressed: Title 18 (Land Division), Title 19 (Zoning)
- City updated its Comprehensive Plan (2022)
- Currently gathering community input; estimated completion date –
 Winter 2024



General Priorities

- Sync with 2022 Comprehensive Plan
 - Three planning lenses: Climate Action, Social Equity, Economic
- Modernize regulations
- Increase user-friendliness
- Ensure predictable and high-quality neighborhood design
- Compliance with state and federal statute



Housing Affordability

- Eliminate exclusionary zoning provisions
- User-friendly
- Streamline development approval processes
- Encourage housing choice
- Infill and redevelopment
- Regional coordination



Regional Housing Conf.

Eau Claire Zoning Timeline



1923

1952

1990

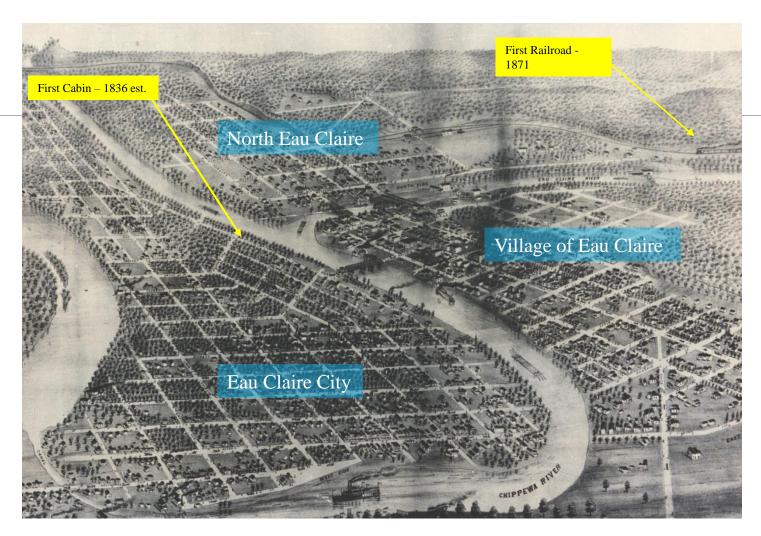


Eau Claire's first zoning code was adopted and divided the City into 5 districts. Fun fact, the entire code was only 7

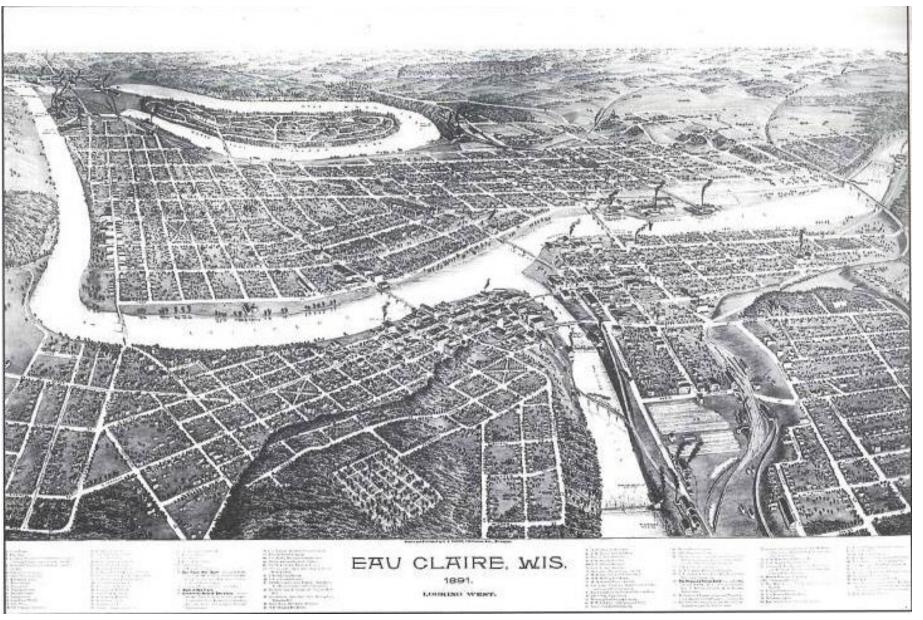
pages long.

This was the first major overhaul to the 1923 code and many of the City's current dimensional standards and use separations were established during this update.

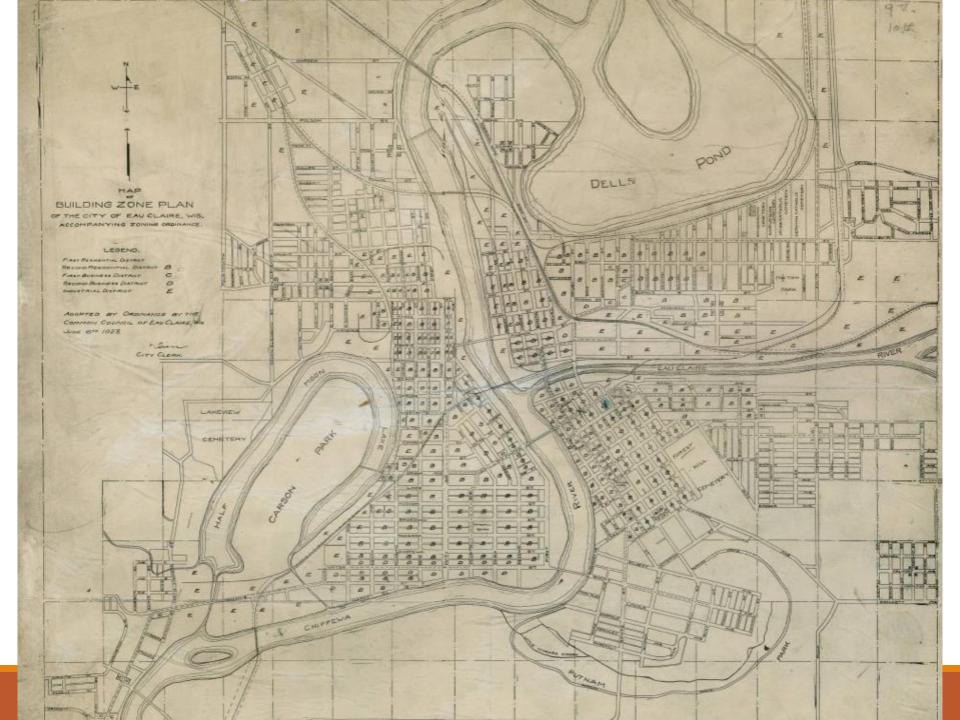
The latest overhaul to the City's code occurred in 1990. A lot has changed in the past 33 years requiring the City take another holistic look at its code.

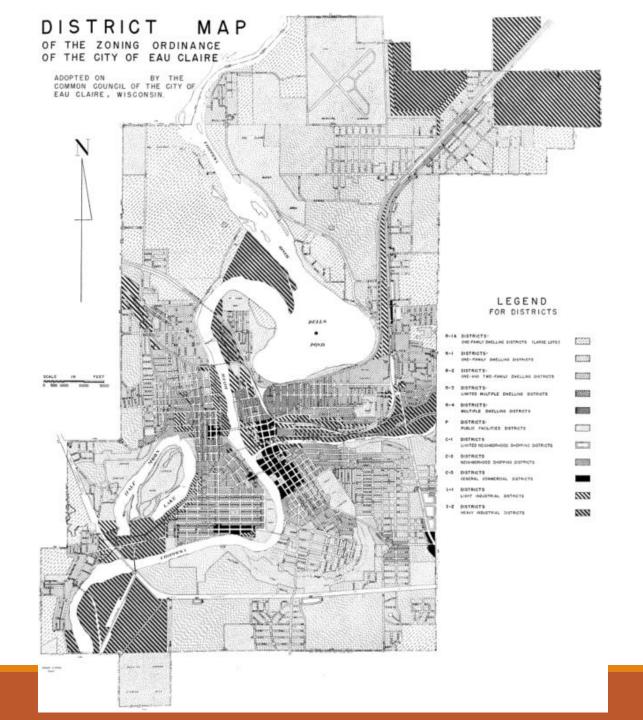


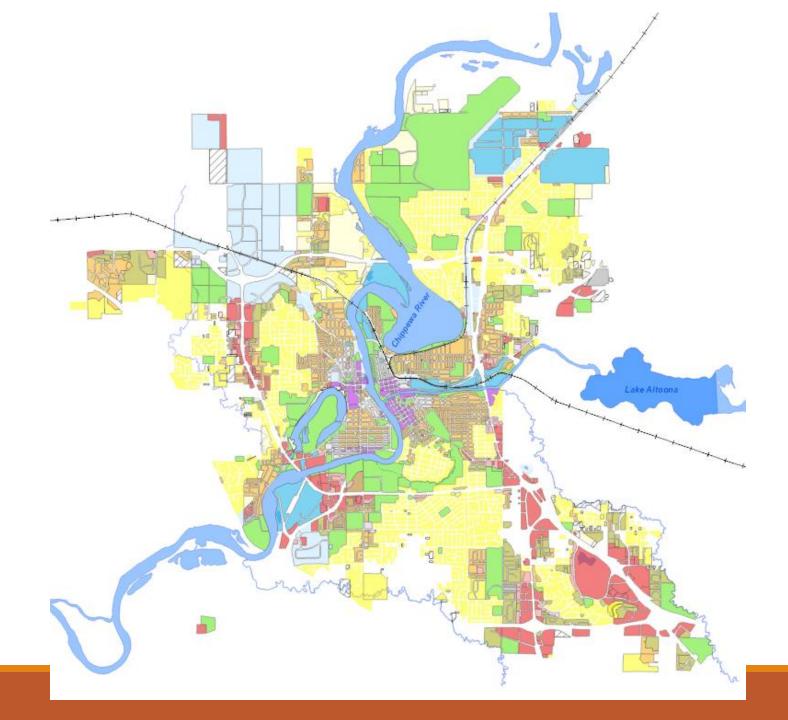
1872 Birds Eye – population of 2,293



1891 Birds Eye – population of 17,415









2023 Update Purpose

Undertake a public process that fairly addresses the issues and solutions and includes as many voices as possible

Educate with evidence-based literature/data on the need for zoning reforms and the associated co-benefits

Improve user-friendliness

Align zoning with Comprehensive Plan vision of compact and sustainable development

Improve development process certainties

Produce more housing supply, diversity of choices, and affordability

2023 Update Purpose

Lessen pressure on sprawl and environmental and habitat degradation

Lower carbon emissions of development and transportation in support of goal for city-wide carbon neutrality by 2050

Take a more active role in city planning

Produce better site and building design

Produce more complete streets and neighborhoods with housing choices, commercial and jobs within walkable distance

Reduce exclusionary zoning practices

1 **Project** Initiation 2 Community **Engagement Current Code Analysis** & Preliminary Recommendations 4 District & Use **Standards** 5 **Development &** Sign Standards **Planned Development** & Zoning Procedures **Draft & Final Zoning Code**

Century Code Update Process

- 1. Project Initiation
- 2. Community Engagement
- 3. Current Zoning Code
 Analysis &
 Preliminary
 Recommendations
- 4. District & Use Standards
- 5. Development & Sign Standards
- 6. Planned Development & Zoning Procedures
- 7. Draft & Final Zoning Code

CONSULTANT TEAM





Multifaceted Approach – Online & In-Person

Project Website

Videos

Questionnaire

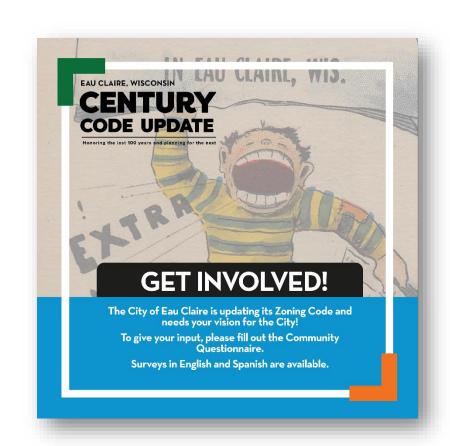
Social Media

Open House & Events

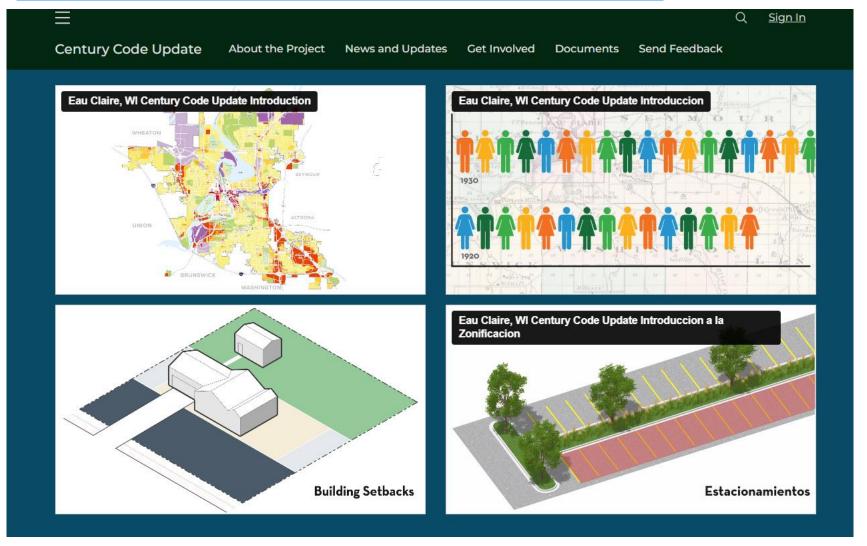
Boards & Committees Input

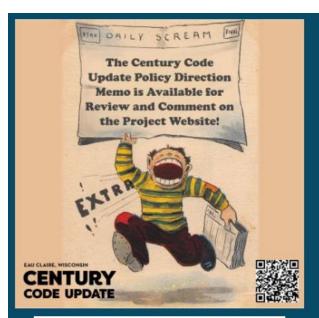
Stakeholder Interviews

hla.fyi/centurycodeupdate



https://eau-claire-zoning-code-rewrite-hlplanning.hub.arcgis.com/

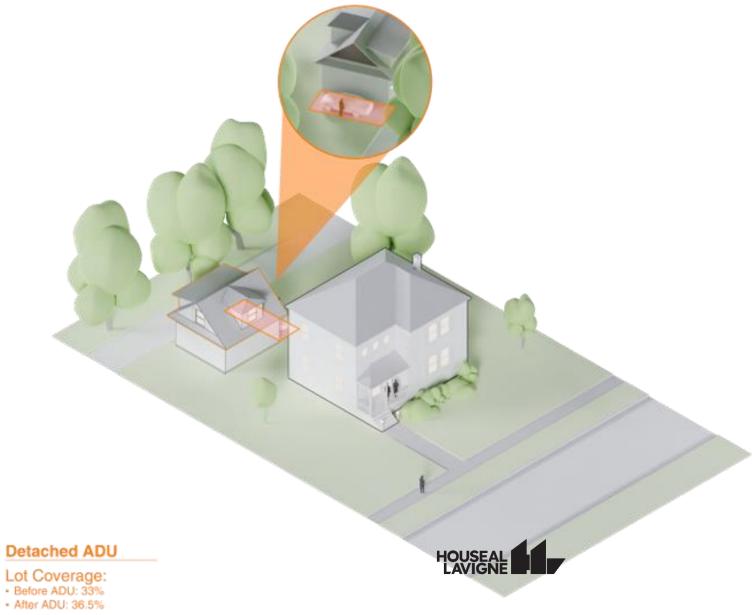








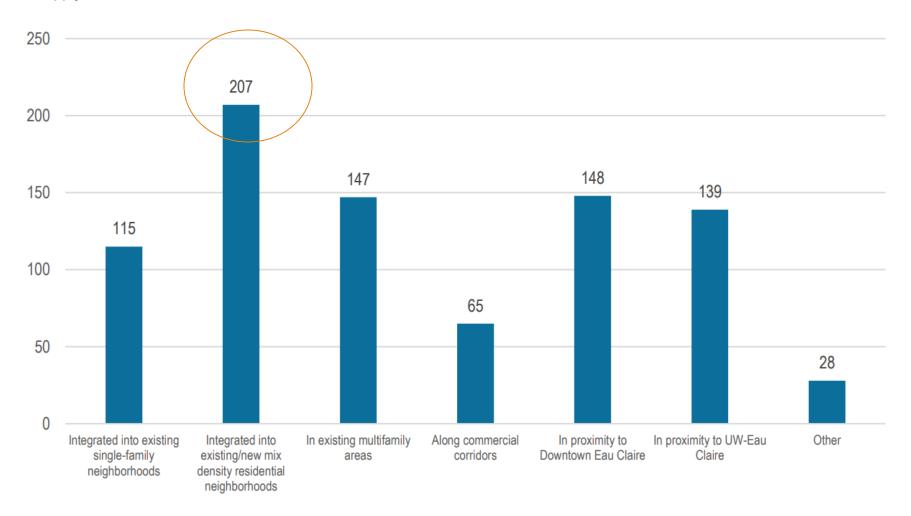




Residential low-density housing types

Question 15:

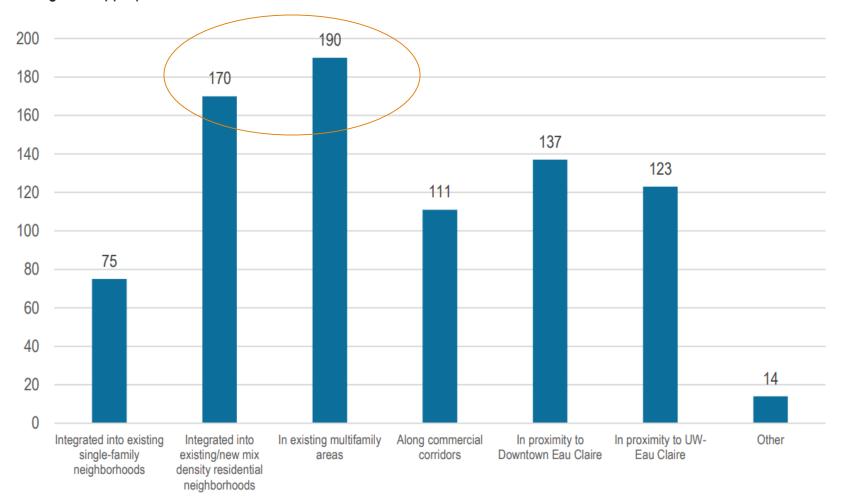
Which location in the community do you think tiny homes, accessory dwelling units, and duplexes are appropriate in? Select all that apply.



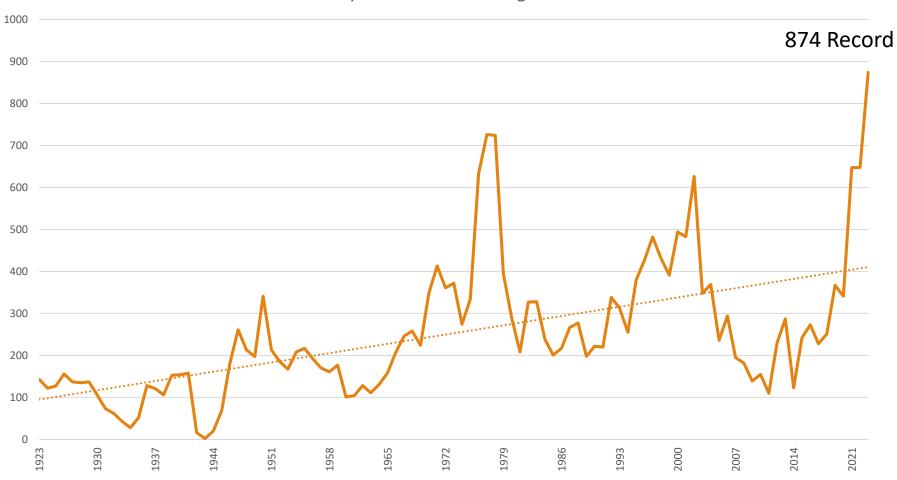
Residential medium-density housing types

Question 16:

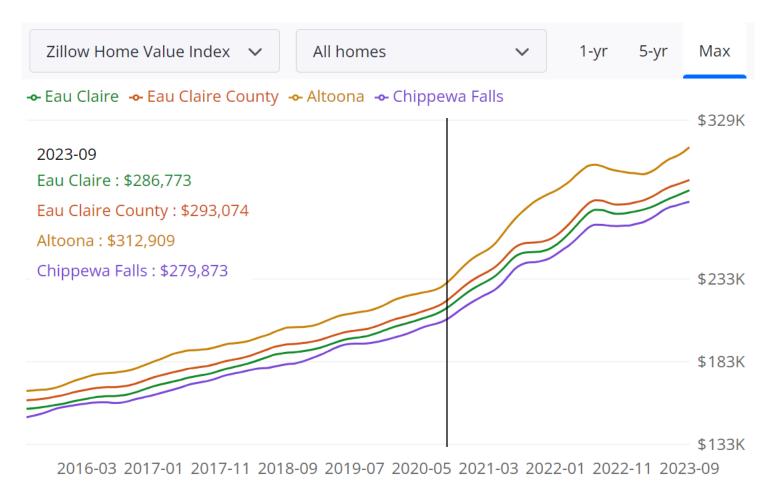
Which location(s) in the community do you think triplexes, townhomes/rowhomes, cottage courts, and medium-size multifamily buildings are appropriate in?



100 Years - City of Eau Claire Dwelling Units Per Year







Est. Home Values vs. 2022 New Construction Costs (no lot) SFU \$342k, Duplx \$420k, Multi \$137k



URBAN ISSUES

Zoning Changes Have Small Impact on Housing Supply

A new report from the Urban Institute attempts to measure the impact of a broad array of zoning reforms on housing supply and cost. The effects are significant, but very small, researchers found.

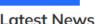
April 10, 2023 • Jared Brey











INFRASTRUCTURE

Texas Surpasses California V Solar Power

Oct. 27, 2023

POLITICS

According to a new study from the Urban Institute, it's true that zoning reform helps create more housing units, but there's no evidence it makes housing cheaper.

Questions?