

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA SCORECARD

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MassHousing encourages housing development that is consistent with sustainable development designs and green building practices. Prior to completing this form, please refer to the Commonwealth's Sustainable Development Principles (adopted May 2007) available at: [Sustainable Development Principles](#)

### DEVELOPER SELF-ASSESSMENT

(for consistency with the Sustainable Development Principles)

#### Redevelop First

Check "X" below if applicable

*If Rehabilitation:*

- Rehabilitation/Redevelopment/Improvements to Structure
- Rehabilitation/Redevelopment/Improvements to Infrastructure

*If New Construction:*

- Contributes to revitalization of town center or neighborhood
- Walkable to: 
  - (a) transit
  - (b) downtown or village center
  - (c) school
  - (d) library
  - (e) retail, services or employment center
- Located in municipally-approved growth center

Explanation (Required)

**Optional - Demonstration of Municipal Support:**

Check "X" below if applicable

- Letter of Support from the Chief Elected Official of the municipality\*
- Housing development involves municipal funding
- Housing development involves land owned or donated by the municipality

*\*Other acceptable evidence: Zoning variance issued by ZBA for project; Minutes from Board of Selectman meeting showing that project was discussed and approved, etc.*

**Explanation (Required)**

**Method 2:** Development meets a minimum of **five (5)** of the Commonwealth's *Sustainable Development Principles*, as shown in the next section below.

If the development involves strong **municipal support** (evidence of such support must be submitted as an attachment), the development need only meet **four (4)** of the *Sustainable Development Principles*. However, one (1) of the Principles met must be **Protect Land and Ecosystems**.

Please explain at the end of each category how the development follows the relevant *Sustainable Development Principle(s)* and explain how the development demonstrates each of the checked "X" statements listed under the *Sustainable Development Principle(s)*.

**(1) Concentrate Development and Mix Uses**

Support the revitalization of city and town centers and neighborhoods by promoting development that is compact, conserves land, protects historic resources, and integrates uses. Encourage remediation and reuse of existing sites, structures, and infrastructure rather than new construction in undeveloped areas. Create pedestrian friendly districts and neighborhoods that mix commercial, civic, cultural, educational, and recreational activities with open spaces and homes.

Check "X" below if applicable

- Higher density than surrounding area
- Mixes uses or adds new uses to an existing neighborhood
- Includes multi-family housing
- Utilizes existing water/sewer infrastructure
- Compact and/or clustered so as to preserve undeveloped land
- Reuse existing sites, structures, or infrastructure
- Pedestrian friendly
- Other (discuss below)

**Explanation (Required)**

**(2) Advance Equity & Make Efficient Decisions**

Promote equitable sharing of the benefits and burdens of development. Provide technical and strategic support for inclusive community planning and decision making to ensure social, economic, and environmental justice. Ensure that the interests of future generations are not compromised by today's decisions.

Promote development in accordance with smart growth and environmental stewardship.

*Check "X" below if applicable*

- Concerted public participation effort (beyond the minimally required public hearings)
- Streamlined permitting process, such as 40B or 40R
- Universal Design and/or visitability
- Creates affordable housing in middle to upper income area and/or meets regional need
- Creates affordable housing in high poverty area
- Promotes diversity and social equity and improves the neighborhood
- Includes environmental cleanup and/or neighborhood improvement in an Environmental Justice Community
- Other (discuss below)

Explanation **(Required)**

**(3) Protect Land and Ecosystems**

Protect and restore environmentally sensitive lands, natural resources, agricultural lands, critical habitats, wetlands and water resources, and cultural and historic landscapes. Increase the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces and recreational opportunities.

*Check "X" below if applicable*

- Creation or preservation of open space or passive recreational facilities
- Protection of sensitive land, including prime agricultural land, critical habitats, and wetlands
- Environmental remediation or clean up
- Responds to state or federal mandate (e.g., clean drinking water, drainage, etc.)
- Eliminates or reduces neighborhood blight
- Addresses public health and safety risk
- Cultural or Historic landscape/existing neighborhood enhancement
- Other (discuss below)

Explanation **(Required)**

**(4) Use Natural Resources Wisely**

Construct and promote developments, buildings, and infrastructure that conserve natural resources by reducing waste and pollution through efficient use of land, energy, water and materials.

Check "X" below *if applicable*

- Uses alternative technologies for water and/or wastewater treatment
- Uses low impact development (LID) or other innovative techniques
- Other (discuss below)

Explanation **(Required)**

**(5) Expand Housing Opportunities**

Support the construction and rehabilitation of homes to meet the needs of people of all abilities, income levels and household types. Build homes near jobs, transit, and where services are available. Foster the development of housing, particularly multifamily and single-family homes, in a way that is compatible with a community's character and vision and with providing new housing choices for people of all means.

Check "X" below *if applicable*

- Includes rental units, including for low/mod households
- Includes homeownership units, including for low/mod households
- Includes housing options for special needs and disabled population
- Expands the term of affordability
- Homes are near jobs, transit and other services
- Other (discuss below)

Explanation **(Required)**

## (6) Provide Transportation Choice

Maintain and expand transportation options that maximize mobility, reduce congestion, conserve fuel and improve air quality. Prioritize rail, bus, boat, rapid and surface transit, shared-vehicle and shared-ride services, bicycling and walking. Invest strategically in existing and new passenger and freight transportation infrastructure that supports sound economic development consistent with smart growth objectives.

*Check "X" below if applicable*

- Walkable to public transportation
- Reduces dependence on private automobiles (e.g., provides previously unavailable shared transportation, such as Zip Car or shuttle buses)
- Increased bike and ped access
- For rural areas, located in close proximity (i.e., approximately one mile) to a transportation corridor that provides access to employment centers, retail/commercial centers, civic or cultural destinations
- Other (discuss below)

Explanation **(Required)**

## (7) Increase Job and Business Opportunities

Attract businesses and jobs to locations near housing, infrastructure, and transportation options. Promote economic development in industry clusters. Expand access to education, training and entrepreneurial opportunities. Support growth of local businesses, including sustainable natural resource-based businesses, such as agriculture, forestry, clean energy technology and fisheries.

*Check "X" below if applicable*

- Permanent jobs
- Permanent jobs for low- or moderate-income persons
- Jobs near housing, service or transit
- Housing near an employment center
- Expand access to education, training or entrepreneurial opportunities
- Support local businesses
- Support natural resource-based businesses (i.e., farming, forestry or aquaculture)
- Re-uses or recycles materials from a local or regional industry's waste stream
- Support manufacture of resource-efficient materials, such as recycled or low-toxicity materials
- Support businesses that utilize locally produced resources such as locally harvested wood or agricultural products
- Other (discuss below)

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- Other (discuss below)

Explanation **(Required)**

**(8) Promote Clean Energy**

Maximize energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities. Support energy conservation strategies, local clean power generation, distributed generation technologies, and innovative industries. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and consumption of fossil fuels.

*Check "X" below if applicable*

- Energy Star or equivalent\*
- Uses renewable energy source, recycled and/or non-/low-toxic materials, exceeds the state energy code, is configured to optimize solar access, and/or otherwise results in waste reduction and conservation of resources
- Other (discuss below)

\*All units are required by MassHousing to be Energy Star Efficient. Please include in your explanation a description of how the development will meet Energy Star criteria.

Explanation **(Required)**

**(9) Plan Regionally**

Support the development and implementation of local and regional, state and interstate plans that have broad public support and are consistent with these principles. Foster development projects, land and water conservation, transportation and housing that have a regional or multi-community benefit. Consider the long term costs and benefits to the Commonwealth.

*Check "X" below if applicable*

- Consistent with a municipally supported regional plan
- Addresses barriers identified in a Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing
- Measurable public benefit beyond the applicant community
- Other (discuss below)

Explanation **(Required)**

*For further information regarding 40B applications, please contact Greg Watson, Manager, Comprehensive Permit Programs, at (617) 854.1880 or [gwatson@masshousing.com](mailto:gwatson@masshousing.com)*