

“Members should incorporate adaptation strategies with their clients to anticipate extreme weather events and minimize adverse effects on the environment, economy and public health”

AIA Code of Ethics

EQUITABLE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING IT IS TIME TO TAKE ACTION

WHY ITS NEEDED MORE THAN EVER

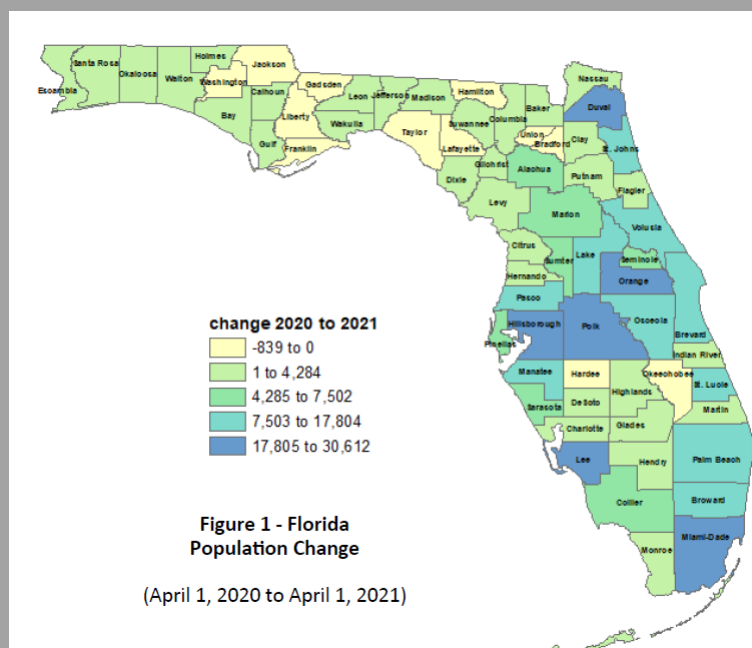
Florida is suffering from a lack of equitable and affordable housing with a shortage of more than 344,000 affordable homes for low-income families, and affordable housing becoming increasingly more difficult to access for the middle class. Florida’s housing problem is exacerbated by the reduction of dedicated housing assistance and a continued population growth with an existing housing stock that is being impacted by flooding and extreme weather due to climate change. This lack of affordable and equitable housing will continue to perpetuate poverty and slow the growth of equity. By continuing access to dedicated housing assistance funds and by investing in quality housing that promotes equitable development, communities in Florida will see economic benefits and strengthen housing resilience.

FAST FACTS

- Local building codes and land development codes can often work against potential opportunities for equitable and affordable housing that could include accessory dwelling units, tiny homes, multifamily housing types.
- The cost of real estate has priced many people out of areas.
- A home is affordable when a household pays no more than 30% of its gross income for housing costs, including basic utilities.
- Florida has an estimated 27,000 people experiencing homelessness on any given day.
- The lack of available affordable workforce housing is having a direct negative impact to local businesses and economies.

TALKING POINTS FOR POLICYMAKERS

- By working together we can protect and improve a community’s stability and livability. Everyone benefits when residents in our communities live in equitable, affordable, and quality homes.
- If the Florida Legislature fully appropriates the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund for housing, it will create nearly 33,000 jobs and have \$4.9 billion in positive impact in just one year while creating homes lasting far into the future.
- One tool that is increasing in popularity is the Community Land Trust (CLT) model. The Hannibal Square Community Land Trust is a successful CLT in Winter Park.
- Having safe, stable housing has proven benefits to economic stability, health, and educational performance.



SOURCES

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