



Delaware Housing Coalition

P.O. Box 1633 • Dover, DE 19903-1633

(302) 678-2286 • FAX (302) 678-8645

www.housingforall.org • www.whynimby.org

Press Release

Contact: Gina Miserendino

Phone: (302) 678-2286 x1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sussex Housing Group Supports Rebuilding West Rehoboth

DOVER, DE. -- The Sussex Housing Group today sent a letter to Chairman Robert C. Wheatley of the Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission, in support of the application of West Rehoboth Community Land Trust for a conditional use zoning application that would allow the development of two townhomes in that community.

Community Survival

In the letter, the group emphasized the need to support development which would make the community an affordable place to live and help to anchor and preserve it. "Established in July 2004," the authors write, "the West Rehoboth Community Land Trust has demonstrated a commitment to establishing and building the organization in a prudent way-- garnering technical assistance from local to national experts, collaborating with neighboring faith-based, secular, business, and government entities all the while maintaining community control. Its mission is: To preserve the West Rehoboth community: to create permanent affordable housing and engage in neighborhood revitalization and community-building, through the development of a community land trust. The operative phrase, of course, is affordable housing."

The CLT Model

The group also emphasized the importance of using the community land trust as a way to preserve affordable housing and strengthen community. "The strength of the community land trust, a model that is successfully working throughout the country, is the perpetual affordability of the housing. The essence of the CLT is the maintenance of quality housing while preserving its affordability."

The Sussex Housing Group, a standing committee of Delaware Housing Coalition, has been a supporter of the West Rehoboth Community Land Trust (WRCLT) from its inception. WRCLT was developed by a collaborative effort among the Delaware Housing Coalition, leaders of the West Rehoboth community, and many local and county-wide supporters of community survival and renewal within West Rehoboth.

More information on the Sussex Housing Group and its letter to Sussex County Planning and Zoning is available the website of the Delaware Housing Coalition, www.housingforall.org.

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