



**NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

**NOTICE OF ONLINE VIDEO PUBLIC HEARING**

**SUBJECT:** Repurposing vacant and underutilized real estate for affordable housing development.

**PURPOSE:** To gather feedback from the affordable housing community on how best to identify and utilize vacant commercial spaces to continue creating affordable rental and homeownership opportunities in a post-COVID landscape.

Tuesday, December 15, 2020  
11 a.m.

Web Link:

<https://www.nyasembly.gov/av/live/>

**ORAL TESTIMONY BY INVITATION ONLY**

New York State and its localities have made significant investments in the development and preservation of affordable housing in recent years, including the implementation of landmark, Statewide spending plans targeting various types of housing and those populations most in need of affordable and supportive options. We've made progress toward achieving our housing goals with these spending plans, but affordable housing shortages, increasing rent burdens and the pervasive threat of homelessness persist – and are now compounded by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our communities.

As the State approaches the close of its multi-year housing capital commitments and evaluates its next steps in tackling the COVID-19 crisis, we must examine the ways in which we can respond to changing market conditions and leverage resources, including shuttered office and hotel spaces, to continue creating much-needed affordable rental and homeownership opportunities. To that end, the Committee seeks testimony from the affordable housing community on how best to identify and utilize existing and newly available capital and resources – as well as how developers can continue and expand their work – to meet our communities' affordable housing needs in a post-COVID landscape.

Persons invited to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified of means by which to testify and/or in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to five minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Attendees and participants at any legislative public hearing should be aware that these proceedings are video recorded. Their likenesses may be included in any video coverage shown on television or the internet.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committee's interest in receiving testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Legislature, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

**Steven H. Cymbrowitz  
Member of Assembly  
Chair  
Committee on Housing**

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PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Testimony will only be heard upon approval by the Committee Chair. Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing on *repurposing vacant and underutilized real estate for affordable housing development* are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and submit a copy of planned testimony. Individuals invited to participate will be notified within 48 hours of the hearing. All replies and testimony submissions must be emailed to:

Annalyse Komoroske  
Analyst  
Assembly Standing Committee on Housing  
Room 520 - Capitol  
Albany, New York 12248  
Email: komoroa@nyassembly.gov  
Phone: (518) 455-4928  
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- I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing on *repurposing vacant and underutilized real estate for affordable housing development*. My statement will be limited to five minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise.
  
- I will address my remarks on the following subjects:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ALL INFORMATION BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_