Anchorage faces a shortage of diverse housing options that are affordable for many of its residents. Ensuring citizens of all income levels, abilities, and phases of life have access to safe, quality, and affordable housing is critical to achieving a vibrant, economically thriving city that residents desire to live in for the long-term. Alaska Common Ground hosted a 3-part series and discussed the latest findings on Anchorage’s housing needs—for today and the future—with a focus on workforce, senior, supportive, and low-income housing.

March 4 – The Current Supply & Demand

We discussed the latest findings on Anchorage’s housing needs—for today and the future—with a focus on workforce, millennials, senior, supportive, and low-income housing. Listen to the audio here.

Moderated by Thea Agnew Bemben of Agnew::Beck
Alaska Common Ground is at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center tonight for the first of our housing series. Tune in as our panel discusses Anchorage’s #housingcontinuum and the housing we have, what our community wants, and what we need to have a thriving and vibrant city.

Posted by Alaska Common Ground on Monday, March 4, 2019

March 18 – Housing Supply: What are the Barriers?

We learned about the current challenges to addressing Anchorage’s priority housing needs. Listen to the audio from KSKA here.

Moderated by Thea Agnew Bemben of Agnew::Beck

- Shanna Zuspan, Agnew::Beck – Slides
- Tyler Robinson, Cook Inlet Housing Authority – Slides
- Michelle McNulty, Municipality of Anchorage – Slides
- Tim Potter, DOWL
- Greg Cerbana, Weidner Apartment Homes – Slides
March 18th event was recorded in three segments you can find below.

- The first includes our welcome, Thea’s introduction, and the start of Shanna Zuspan’s presentation (and is unfortunately sideways!).
- The second includes the rest of Shanna’s presentation through Tim Potter’s presentation.
- The third segment is Greg Cerbana’s presentation.

Alaska Common Ground is at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center for the second event in our housing series on Anchorage’s “housing continuum.” We are excited to welcome experts from the public and private sectors to speak about housing innovations – and challenges – in meeting our community’s unique supply and demand issues.

Posted by Alaska Common Ground on Monday, March 18, 2019

Watch panelists Shanna Zuspan (Agnew : : Beck Consulting); Tyler Robinson (Cook Inlet Housing Authority); Michelle McNulty (Municipality of Anchorage Planning Department); and Tim Potter (DOWL) in the second event in our housing series on Anchorage's housing continuum/

Posted by Alaska Common Ground on Monday, March 18, 2019

Watch panelist Greg Cerbana (Weidner Apartment Homes) and
April 1 – Opportunities & Solutions

We discussed what policies and efforts are already underway, or are needed, to address priority areas as well as ways community members can get involved.

Moderated by Tanya Iden of Agnew::Beck

- Robin Ward, Municipality of Anchorage – Slides
- Chris Schutte, Municipality of Anchorage – Slides
- Bryan Butcher, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation – Slides
- John Weddleton, Anchorage Assembly – Slides
- Dick Mandsager, Rasmuson Foundation – Slides

We are at our third and final event in our housing series this evening at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center with representatives from the public, private, and non-profit sectors discussing opportunities for bridging the gaps in Anchorage’s current housing continuum. We have so enjoyed presenting and participating in this conversation with you – thank you for your interest and engagement.

Posted by Alaska Common Ground on Monday, April 1, 2019
Resources for more information:

*Under US housing policies, homeowners mostly win, while renters mostly lose*

*Both renters and homeowners could benefit from better housing policy*

*Nine rules for better housing policy*

The mortgage interest deduction is the largest housing tax subsidy in the U.S. and more than HUD’s total department budget.

Matthew Desmond, article in the Atlantic

538.com, economics of the mortgage interest deduction as a tax incentive
https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/the-tax-deductions-economists-hate/

Center for Budget and Policy Priorities
piece
https://www.cbpp.org/research/mortgage-interest-deduction-is-ripe-for-reform

Tax Policy Center
piece

Event Flyer.

Thank you to our partners!