



Housing diversity

LT3.4 | Possible point

Glossary

Intent

To promote socially equitable and engaging communities by enabling residents from a wide range of economic levels, household sizes, and age groups to live in a community.

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Requirements

Meet the requirements of one or more options below.

Option 1. Diversity of housing types

Include a sufficient variety of housing sizes and types in the project such that the total variety of planned and existing housing within the project achieves a Simpson Diversity Index score greater than 0.5, using the housing categories below. Projects of less than 125 acres (50.5 hectares) may calculate the Simpson Diversity Index for the area within 1/4 mile (400 meters) of the project's geographic center. The Simpson Diversity Index calculates the probability that any two randomly selected dwelling units in a project will be of a different type.

$$\text{Score} = 1 - \sum (n/N)^2$$

where n = the total number of dwelling units in a single category, and N = the total number of dwelling units in all categories.

Table 1. Points for housing diversity

Simpson Diversity Index score	Points
> 0.5 to < 0.6	1
≥ 0.6 to < 0.7	2
≥ 0.7	3

Housing categories are defined according to the dwelling unit's net floor area, exclusive of any garage, as listed in Table 2.

Table 2. Housing categories

Type	Square feet	Square meters
Detached residential, large	> 1,250	> 115
Detached residential, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 115
Duplex or townhouse, large	> 1,250	> 115
Duplex or townhouse, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with no elevator, large	> 1,250	> 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with no elevator, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with no elevator, small	≤ 750	≤ 70
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 4 stories or fewer, large	> 1,250	> 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 4 stories or fewer, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 4 stories or fewer, small	≤ 750	≤ 70
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 5 to 8 stories, large	> 1,250	> 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 5 to 8 stories, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 5 to 8 stories, small	≤ 750	≤ 70
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 9 stories or more, large	> 1,250	> 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 9 stories or more, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 115
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 9 stories or more, small	≤ 750	≤ 70
Live-work space, large	> 1,250	> 115
Live-work space, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 115
Accessory dwelling unit, large	> 1,250	> 115
Accessory dwelling unit, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 115

For the purposes of this credit, townhouse and live-work units may have individual ground-level entrances and/or be within a multiunit or mixed-use building. Double counting is prohibited; each dwelling may be classified in only one category. The number of stories in a building is inclusive of the ground floor regardless of its use.

AND/OR

Option 2. Affordable housing

Include a proportion of new rental and/or for-sale dwelling units priced for households earning below the area median income (AMI). Rental units must be maintained at affordable levels for a minimum of 15 years. Existing dwelling units are exempt from requirement calculations. A maximum of 3 points may be earned by meeting any combination of thresholds in Table 3.

Rental dwelling units				For-sale dwelling units			
Priced up to 60% AMI		Priced up to 80% AMI		Priced up to 100% AMI		Priced up to 120% AMI	
Percentage of total rental units	Points	Percentage of total rental units	Points	Percentage of total for-sale units	Points	Percentage of total for-sale units	Points
5	1	10	1	5	1	8	1
10	2	15	2	10	2	12	2
15	3	25	3	15	3	--	--

AMI = area median income.

Option 3. Mixed-income diverse communities

A project may earn 1 additional point by earning at least 2 points in Option 1 and at least 2 points in Option 2 (at least one of which must be for providing housing at or below 100% AMI).

Meet the requirements of one or more of the following options.

Option 1. Diversity of housing types (1-3 points)

Include a sufficient variety of housing sizes and types in the project such that the total variety of planned and existing housing within the project achieves a Simpson Diversity Index score greater than 0.5, using the housing categories below. Projects of less than 125 acres (50.5 hectares) may calculate the Simpson Diversity Index for the area within ¼ mile (400 meters) of the project’s geographic center. The Simpson Diversity Index calculates the probability that any two randomly selected dwelling units in a project will be of a different type.

Score = $1 - \sum (n/N)^2$

Where

n = the total number of dwelling units in a single category, and
 N = the total number of dwelling units in all categories.

Table 1. Points for housing diversity

Simpson Diversity Index score	Points
> 0.5 to < 0.6	1
≥ 0.6 to < 0.7	2
≥ 0.7	3

Housing categories are defined by the dwelling unit’s net floor area, exclusive of any garage, as listed in Table 2.

Table 2. Housing categories

Type	Square feet	Square meters
Detached residential, large	> 1,250	> 116
Detached residential, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 116
Duplex or townhouse, large	> 1,250	> 116
Duplex or townhouse, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with no elevator, large	> 1,250	> 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with no elevator, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with no elevator, small	≤ 750	≤ 70
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 4 stories or fewer, large	> 1,250	> 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 4 stories or fewer, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 4 stories or fewer, small	≤ 750	≤ 70
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 5 to 8 stories, large	> 1,250	> 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 5 to 8 stories, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 116
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Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 9 stories or more, large	> 1,250	> 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 9 stories or more, medium	> 750 to ≤ 1,250	> 70 to ≤ 116
Dwelling unit in multiunit building with elevator, 9 stories or more, small	≤ 750	≤ 70
Live-work space, large	> 1,250	> 116
Live-work space, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 116
Accessory dwelling unit, large	> 1,250	> 116

Accessory dwelling unit, small	≤ 1,250	≤ 116
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Option 2. Affordable Housing (1-3 points)

Include a proportion of new rental and/or for-sale dwelling units priced for households earning less than the area median income (AMI). Rental units must be maintained at affordable levels for a minimum of 15 years. Existing dwelling units are exempt from requirement calculations. Meet any combination of thresholds in Table 3, up to a maximum of 3 points.

Table 3. Points for affordable housing

Rental dwelling units				For-sale dwelling units			
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10	2	15	2	10	2	12	2
15	3	25	3	15	3	—	—

Option 3. Housing types and affordable housing (1 point)

A project may earn an additional point by earning at least 2 points in Option 1 and at least 2 points in Option 2 (at least one of which must be for providing housing at or below 100% AMI).

Meet the requirements of one or more of the following options.

Option 1. Diversity of housing types (1-3 points)

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