WHAT DOES "MISSING MIDDLE" HOUSING MEAN?

Let's Talk Housing: Community Discussion Guide

Township of Centre Wellington Housing Action Plan

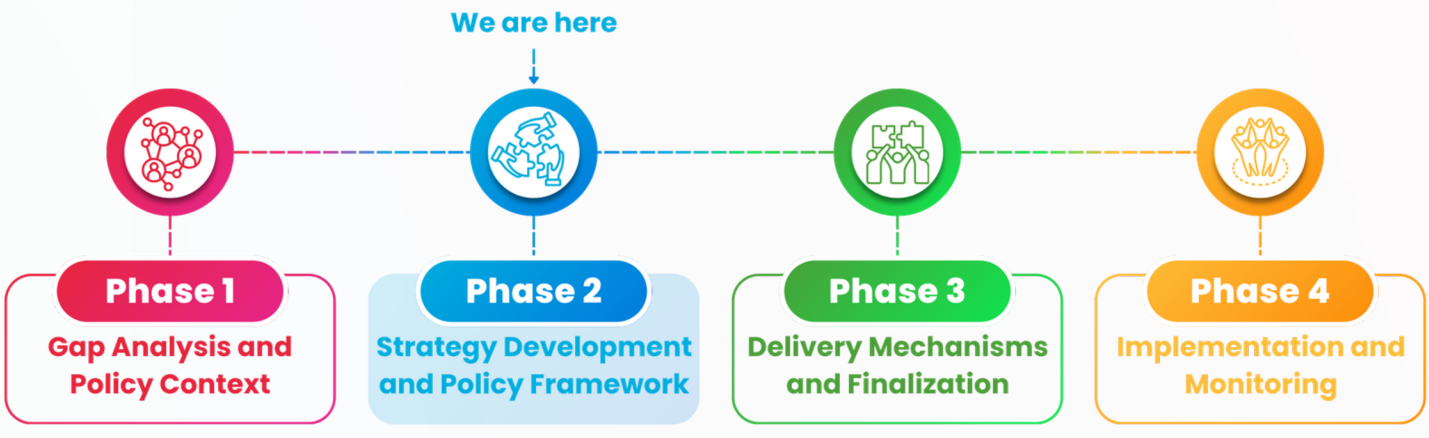
The Township of Centre Wellington is developing a **Housing Action Plan** to guide how the community responds to current and future housing needs. As our community grows and changes, residents of all ages, incomes, and life stages should be able to find housing that meets their needs. Housing influences:

- **Where and how people live**
- **Access to work, school, and services**
- **Connections to neighbours and community**
- **Whether residents can remain in the Township as their needs change**

Providing a range of housing options helps create a complete, inclusive, and resilient community.

This guide is part of a series exploring key housing topics. Your ideas and experiences will help shape the Housing Action Plan and identify ways the Township can support housing that is more attainable, diverse, and responsive to community needs.

Housing Action Plan Process



What is “Missing Middle” Housing?

“Missing middle” housing refers to a range of housing types that fall between single-detached homes and large apartment buildings.

These housing forms are called the “missing middle” because they were commonly built in many communities in the past, but are less common in newer neighbourhoods today.

Examples of missing middle housing include:

- Duplexes
- Triplexes
- Fourplexes
- Townhouses
- Stacked townhouses
- Small apartment buildings (typically 3–4 storeys)

These types of homes often provide more housing options and more moderate densities, while still fitting within the scale of many residential neighbourhoods.

Missing middle housing can support a broader range of households, including young adults, families, seniors, and people looking for smaller or more attainable housing options.



What Does This Look Like in the Township?

Much of the Township's housing supply consists of single-detached homes. While these homes are an important part of the community, they are typically the most expensive type of housing to build and purchase. When communities rely heavily on one housing type, it can limit the range of options available to residents.

Did You Know?

- Over 70% of homes in the Township are single-detached houses.
- Housing types such as duplexes, triplexes, townhouses, and small apartment buildings represent a small share of the housing supply.
- Smaller and medium-density housing types can often provide more attainable options for residents who may not be looking for, or able to afford, a single-detached home.

As the community grows, expanding the range of housing types available can help ensure that residents have more choices that match different household sizes, incomes, and life stages.



Why Does "Missing Middle" Housing Matter?

Many households today are smaller than in the past, and many people are looking for housing that is:

- Smaller and more manageable
- More affordable than a single-detached home
- Located close to shops, services, and amenities

Missing middle housing can help support these needs by providing a greater variety of housing choices within existing neighbourhoods. These housing types can also help communities:

Provide housing choice for young adults and first-time buyers 	**Support seniors downsizing and remaining in the community** 
Create housing opportunities for local workers and families 	**Encourage more efficient use of land and infrastructure** 

Get Involved!

We want to learn from you! Share your thoughts and help shape the future of housing in the Township.

Complete the survey by scanning the QR code or visiting:
www.connectcw.ca/housingactionplan