

## **Majority Leaders' Roundtable on Affordable Housing**

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

In attendance: Sen. Bob Duff (Co-chair), Rep. Geoff Luxenberg, Sen. Marilyn Moore, Sen. MD Rahman, Sen. Ryan Fazio, Comm. Seila Mosquera-Bruno, Nandini Natarajan, Rudy Marconi, Brian O' Connor, Rebecca Augur, Jessica Vonashek, David McCarthy, Neil Griffin Jr., Francis Pickering.

#### **Agenda Item I. Convene Meeting**

#### **Agenda Item II. Remarks by the Chairs:**

The Majority Leaders' Roundtable on Affordable Housing met to hear a presentation from the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA) detailing their thoughts concerning affordable housing and the status of Connecticut's housing market. Additionally, it was requested by Sen. Duff that working group chairs begin providing the roundtable with recommendations.

#### **Agenda Item III. Presentation from CBIA:**

*Chris DiPentima, President, CBIA:*

Mr. DiPentima informed the roundtable of the results of an annual survey performed by CBIA, asking respondents what the greatest challenges facing their industries were. Most respondents stated that workforce recruitment was their greatest challenge. This is claimed to be due to difficulties acquiring childcare and transportation, along with a general lack of affordability. Because of this, housing is viewed as a critical issue, and Mr. DiPentima suggested incentivizing development and providing financial assistance to first-time home buyers and renters.

*Thomas Haynes, President, Haynes Group:*

Mr. Haynes detailed the successes and barriers faced while developing Quarry Walk, a mixed-use development consisting of 162 rental units in Oxford.

*Question and Answer:*

Roundtable members solicited advice from Mr. DiPentima and Mr. Haynes regarding how Connecticut can best provide its residents with the housing they need. Potential solutions to challenges such as local permitting, development costs, and state incentives were considered.

#### **Agenda Item IV. Announcement of Deadline for Working Groups to Complete Their Reports:**

Working groups will submit their completed reports by mid-January. A specific date will be announced during a future meeting.

**Agenda Item V. Announcement of Time and Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Majority Leaders' Roundtable on Affordable Housing will occur on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.

**Agenda Item VI. Adjournment**