

# SMALL-FOOTPRINT HOME DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

Community-Led and Citizen-Built



## Project Update

# Four small-footprint home concepts unveiled at Oct. 3 Commission meeting

The Ottawa County Housing Commission and project partners continue to move forward with its **Small-Footprint (Microhome) Development Concept**.

At the Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024 Housing Commission meeting, design consultant Nick Rolinski and Matt Daub – a Hope College student studying civil engineering with a focus on architecture design and Strategic Impact intern – unveiled a series of four small home concepts informed by local contexts, including: “In Town”; “Lake and Dune”; “Forest Rural”; and “Agrarian Rural.”

“Though very preliminary, these small-footprint home designs represent a strong step forward in developing affordable housing stock that will fit in no matter where you construct them,” said Department of Strategic Impact Director Paul Sachs.

Accompanying the home design presentation was a board featuring **127 different sketches** and notes gathered as part of three “Character Defining Feature” architecture tours. Conducted over three Friday afternoons in September, staff and a few Housing Commission members joined Rolinski and Daub on a walking tour of neighborhoods in Zeeland, Grand Haven and Spring Lake.

This unique exercise allowed the small-footprint homes team to observe and catalog real-life historic features that contribute to a “DNA” of a place, ensuring the final residential designs are truly at home in Ottawa County.

The Housing Commission meets the first Thursday of every month at 10 a.m. at the County Administrative Building in West Olive. For more information on the County’s Microhomes Project, visit [miottawa.org/DSI](http://miottawa.org/DSI) and select the “Housing Commission” page.



Hope College undergrad and Department of Strategic Impact intern Matt Daub goes over preliminary small-home concepts during the Oct. 3, 2024 Housing Commission meeting.



From left: Housing Commission members Patrick Harmon and Holly Cole listen as Holland design consultant Nick Rolinski discusses objectives with intern Matt Daub during a “Character-Defining Features” architectural tour of Spring Lake’s historic Strawberry Point neighborhood in late September.