# South Weber City Moderate Income Housing Plan 2019

# A Part of the South Weber General Plan

## WHAT IS MODERATE INCOME HOUSING

In accordance with section 10-9a-403 Utah Code Annotated, South Weber is providing reasonable opportunities for a variety of housing including housing which would be considered moderate income housing to meet the needs of people of various income levels living, working, or desiring to live or work in the community, and to allow people with various incomes to benefit from and fully participate in all aspects of neighborhood and community life.

Moderate income housing is defined in the Utah Code as:

Housing occupied or reserved for occupancy by households with a gross household income equal to or less than 80% of the median gross income for households of the same size in the county in which the city is located.

According to this definition, any dwelling occupied by an individual or family with income equal to or less than 80% of the median income of the county would qualify as moderate income housing, regardless of the circumstances under which the dwelling is occupied. For instance, it could be that the house was inherited and though valued at something far more than a family of moderate income could afford to purchase; it is nevertheless, occupied by a family whose income is below 80% of the regional median. That house, therefore, is a moderate-income house by definition. The same could be said for homes that have been in the same ownership for a long time and for which the mortgage was established prior to many years of inflation and rising housing costs. The occupants might be able to afford what, if mortgaged today, would be far out of their financial reach.

 This type of Moderate-Income Housing is the least quantifiable type. Without extensive surveys and analysis of household incomes and home values, we have no way of knowing what existing single-family housing units fall into this category. We can, however, deduce how many of this kind of dwelling units there are. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 24% of South Weber Residents fall into the moderate-income category. We know that approximately 5% of existing housing is currently being rented

at a rate that would qualify it as moderate-income housing. This tells us that 79% of the current moderate-income households are in dwellings of this type.

# WHAT IS MODERATE-INCOME IN SOUTH WEBER:

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the 2017 median household income for Davis County is \$75,961 (\$95,000 for South Weber City). Eighty percent of that County median income is then \$60,768. Information extrapolated from the Utah Affordable Housing Manual indicates that a household with this income level could afford to purchase a dwelling which has a maximum purchase price of 3.1 times the annual income. In the case of South Weber that translates **to a maximum purchase price of \$188,380**. The same manual indicates that 27% of the monthly income could be spent on rent which would mean a **maximum monthly rent of \$1,367**.

### PRESERVING AND ENCOURAGING MODERATE INCOME HOUSING:

There are many factors that affect the cost of housing. It is the duty and responsibility of the City to take necessary steps to encourage moderate income housing.

Utah Code Annotated 10-9a-403 (2) (b) (iii) requires the City to choose at least three from a list of 23 ways, A through W, in which it can and will pursue the encouragement of moderate-income housing in the next five years. South Weber chooses the following:

(B) facilitate the rehabilitation or expansion of infrastructure that will encourage the construction of moderate-income housing;

South Weber is currently in Phase One of a multi-year plan that will increase the sewer system capacity which will handle potential future multi-family and mixed-use developments in this area.

(L) preserve existing moderate-income housing;

South Weber will take no action that would put the continued existence of moderate-income housing at risk. Existing housing areas will not be rezoned in such a way as to jeopardize their status as legal permitted uses. The zoning ordinance will not be modified in any way that jeopardizes their continued existence as legal permitted uses. South Weber will make every effort to keep costs of municipal services to these dwellings within reasonable bounds.

 (U) apply for or partner with an entity that applies for programs administered by a metropolitan planning organization or other transportation agency that provides technical planning assistance;

South Weber plans on utilizing Wasatch Front Regional Council grants wherever possible. We have partnered and applied for planning assistance in the past, have received great value, and intend to partner and apply again.

### **MODERATE-INCOME HOUSING NEEDS:**

An analysis the existing housing and household incomes using available information leads to some reasonable conclusions as to need.

Number of Dwelling Units 2017	1724
2017 Population	7310
Persons Per Household 2017	4.24
2017 Median Davis County Annual Household Income	\$75,961
2017 Annual Household Moderate Income	\$60,768

Once again by extrapolating from information contained in the Utah Affordable Housing Manual, we find that a household with this income level could afford a mortgage of approximately 3.1 times the annual income or could afford to spend 27% of their monthly income on rent.

It appears that rental units are the most attainable type of new moderate-income housing likely to be established in South Weber. There are currently 87 rental units in the City, 60 being in one apartment complex and the rest are basement type apartments. Rental units comprise 5% of the existing housing stock in the City.

 As previously stated, 79% of current moderate-income households are residing in existing single-family dwellings; 326 dwelling units. It is reasonable to expect that, as existing residents age in-place (stay in their current homes as they move into higher age categories), there will be a significant number of owner-occupied dwellings that transition into moderate-income housing. The number of dwellings that will do this is difficult to predict, but if the current percentages persist, there would be an additional 257 additional owner-occupied dwellings move into moderate-income status within the next 20 years for a total of 583 such dwellings.

### Adopted 11.19.19

It is estimated there will be a total of 3,076 dwelling units in South Weber at build-out. If 24% of them are moderate-income, there will be 738 such units. There are currently 87 rental units and 326 owner occupied moderate-income households; a total of 413 units. Of a total build-out need for 738 moderate-income units, 413 are existing and an expected 257 additional units will be owner occupied. This means there will be a need for an additional 68 rental units at build-out in 20 years. That would be an additional 17 rental units needed in the next five years.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

If current trends continue, owner-occupied housing, both single-family and multi-family dwellings, will be the primary type of moderate-income housing. Multi-family rental units will play a smaller part in meeting future demand.

It is a given that South Weber will need to increase its stock of moderate-income housing as the population grows. It seems likely that the bulk of the future demand will be met by existing dwellings as the occupants age in-place. There will be a limited demand for rental type dwellings. It is very realistic to believe the City will be able to accommodate the estimated need of 68 additional rental units.

It is recommended that South Weber continue to support the existing moderate-income housing by finding appropriate locations for the needed rental units.