Small-Scale Housing

Quick Guide



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What is small-scale housing?

Also called small-scale multi-unit housing (SSMUH), this type of housing was recently added to the Zoning Bylaw to allow up to 3 or 4 residential units on certain properties.

Can a property have small-scale housing?

- 1. Confirm the property meets all of the criteria below, using the City's web map (maps.chilliwack.com):
 - ☐ In the Urban Growth Boundary
 - ☐ A lot size of less than 4,050m²
 - ☐ Connected to City water and sanitary sewer
 - ☐ In one of the following zones:
 - 1. AL, AR, AS, RR, R1-A, R1-B, R1-C, R3, M1-A; or,
 - 2. Single detached dwelling & duplex areas of CD Zones: 9, 11, 14, 16, 19, 21



- ☐ Protected by the Heritage Designation Bylaw as of December 7, 2023
- ☐ In the designated Transit-Oriented Area
- ☐ Does not have a covenant restricting density

Small-scale housing is allowed if all the criteria are met and no limitations apply.

How big can I build small-scale housing?

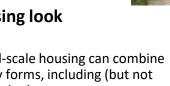
Existing zoning regulations (e.g., R1-A, R1-B, R3, etc.) set out rules for development including (but not limited to): setbacks, floor area ratio, building height, parking spaces, landscaping, and any required amenity areas.

What does small-scale housing look like?

Small-scale housing can combine many forms, including (but not limited to):

- **Accessory Dwelling Unit** (secondary suites, coach houses and/or garden suites)
- Single detached dwelling (with 1 secondary suite)
- Duplex (with 1 secondary suite per unit)
- A triplex or fourplex (as a townhouse or apartment)





Can I just build a single detached house?

Yes. The new small-scale housing regulations add to existing Zoning rules. Any existing zoning permissions and regulations remain as before.

e.g., An R1-A zoned property is still allowed to have one single detached house.

An R1-B zoned property is still allowed to have one duplex building without any extra suites.







I want to redevelop a property with small-scale housing. What should I do next?



Research & Drafting

Confirm Eligibility

(does SSMUH apply, contact Planning Department)

Review Requirements

(Zoning Bylaw, BC Building Code, other City bylaws)

Create Plans

(contact an architect/ designer/builder)

Submit Applications

Required

Form and Character Development Permit (DP)

Planning Department

Building Department

Building Permit (BP)

If necessary

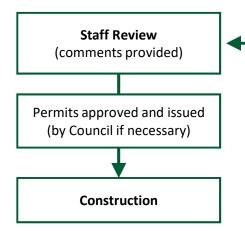
Development Variance Permit (DVP)

Planning Department

Other DPs

Land Development Department

Review & Approval



Disclaimer: This guide is not a legal document and does not include all applicable regulations. For further details, the applicable provincial law, City bylaws, plans, and policies should be referenced.





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^{*}A BP cannot be approved until all required DPs and DVPs have been issued; however, applications may be submitted at the same time