

Dear Friends,

In December 2018, Housing Resources Bainbridge was requested to evaluate the financial feasibility of developing the Suzuki site as permanently affordable housing. HRB engaged BRIDGE Housing Corporation (BRIDGE) and the results of that work are in the [Suzuki Feasibility Study](#). You can read the full study [here](#).

The Suzuki Property offers value for open space as well as opportunities to create housing that is desperately needed in this community.

The report calls out 3 key points for Council in determining how to move ahead:

1. Donation of the land – City of Bainbridge Island can contribute the full value of the land to achieve public benefits of open space and housing. The open space can be conveyed to an agency such as Bainbridge Island Parks District and the buildable area to HRB for housing.
2. A State Capital budget appropriation is essential to attract the necessary financial resources to execute the project. COBI officials will need to communicate that this is a community priority for state funding.
3. Density of 91 units or *BRIDGE's recommendation of 100 units* is necessary and appropriate for the social and economic sustainability of the community. Therefore, the homeownership phase would consist of a maximum of 40 dwellings for households earning up to 150% of the Area Median Income. A minimum of sixty (60) units would be configured as rental properties for households with incomes between 50-80% of the Area Median Income. Scenarios with fewer units require significantly more public subsidy, private funding sources and/or philanthropy and are more costly per unit.

Council will be discussing the Suzuki Feasibility Study at their study session **this Tuesday, August 6th**.

You can view the agenda and download the packet [here](#).

Please reach out to Council Members and advocate your support of moving ahead with Suzuki as recommended by BRIDGE Housing's Suzuki Feasibility Study.

You can email them at council@bainbridgewa.gov. You can also click [here](#) for their individual email addresses and phone numbers.

There is no public comment at Study Session but you can attend the meeting or watch it [here](#) live or download to watch later.

Council will not take a final vote at this study session but they may come to decision that will be voted on at a business meeting in the near future. Public comment will be taken at a future business meeting.

Thank you for your continued advocacy for a Bainbridge Island that provides housing that is affordable at all levels. It enriches everyone in the community.

With deep gratitude,

Phedra Elliott
Executive Director

Linda Lincoln
Chair, Board of Directors

