# COMING HOME HOUSING THE NEXT GENERATION

he American Dream of home ownership is becoming elusive for many millennials and middle-income households, as property values soar in parts of the country. In Greater Boston, young people are finding it increasingly difficult to purchase a home within a reasonable commuting distance from work. High housing costs prevent families from building equity and limit their ability to afford childcare, transportation, and other needs.

The lack of affordable housing options can also result in overcrowding of small or substandard apartments, or even homelessness.

Insufficient housing supply and lack of affordability are constraining businesses and limiting job growth, making housing a top issue for corporate and government leaders.

Pioneer Institute's 2020 Better Government Competition seeks ideas that will address the lack of housing availability, affordability and accessibility to transportation options.



## **Potential Areas of Focus**

- How can we facilitate growth in workforce housing, or meet the needs of younger, single renters?
- How can we avoid exacerbating construction costs by, for example, relaxing parking requirements, streamlining permitting and zoning processes, and other actions?
- How can we leverage private sector innovation to build transit-oriented housing units?
- How can we expand access to affordable housing, for example, by improving state rental voucher or affordable housing tax credit programs, or creating effective pathways for renters to become homeowners?

- Can we create new housing options for college students that do not constrain local residents' access to properties near campuses?
- How can people and institutions collaborate to create community housing opportunities?
- How can we create pathways for individuals in subsidized housing, so they can achieve self-sufficiency and perhaps even home ownership?
- How can we ensure proper upkeep and maintenance of public housing for populations that are unlikely to achieve self-sufficiency?

Other ideas?



## How to Enter

Submit a paper of five or fewer pages describing the problem you are addressing and a new solution or recently implemented program that is demonstrating promising results. Include:

- A description, with relevant background, of the problem you are addressing.
- An explanation of the proposed solution and how it will change current practice.
- If possible, include the costs and benefits of your approach compared to current practice.
- Potential obstacles to implementation.

## Entry Deadline Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5:00 PM ET



### **Two Ways to Submit**

#### Online BGC.PIONEERINSTITUTE.ORG

Email SLITTLEHALE@PIONEERINSTITUTE.ORG include your paper as an attachment