

In this issue, take a listen to learn more about a report on missing middle housing and how one group in Ontario is urgently advocating for its provincial government to help increase housing supply immediately. Also, hear from a passionate American urban planner turned advocate and politician, who is using her planning knowledge and skills to educate and fight for positive change regarding homelessness in Los Angeles.

Got a podcast about planning you want to share? Contact us with your podcast summary at editor@pibc.bc.ca

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Planning Podcasts

The Push for Missing Middle Housing (Season 7, Episode 2)

Run time 40:00

Podcast summary by Kali Holahan RPP, MCIP, PIBC Communications Committee member

From Urban Land Institute (ULI) Toronto's Electric Cities Podcast – Housing Affordability Crisis Series
Host: Jeremy Warson, Director of Portfolio Development at Infrastructure Ontario
Guest: Craig Ruttan, Policy Director for Energy, Environment, and Land Use with the Toronto Region Board of Trade

Podcast link*

<https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/electric-cities/id1350800103>

Podcast Summary

In this episode, Craig Ruttan, one of the authors of the Toronto Region Board of Trade's *Meeting in the Middle* report, urges the Province of Ontario to eliminate exclusionary zoning on missing middle housing as a means to increase housing supply.

Why Planners Should Listen

Listen to this interview to learn more about the *Meeting in the Middle* report. Ruttan discusses how exclusionary zoning is currently leading to most residential neighbourhoods being protected from modest forms of density, such as triplexes or small apartment buildings. These building types represent the missing middle of residential housing stock between single-detached dwellings and large apartments. Ruttan speaks to incorporating missing middle housing as a way to address housing affordability and availability and provides recommendations for the government to reconsider existing policies.

Visit <https://bot.com/attachment/get/538/2322> to download a copy of the *Meeting in the Middle* report.

Planner and City Official Nithya Raman's Vision to End Homelessness In Los Angeles (Episode 39)

Run time 27:00

Podcast summary by Alison McNeil, Retired Member & PIBC Communications Committee member

From American Planning Association (APA) Podcast – People Behind the Plans Series
Hosts: Courtney Kashima AICP, planner and small business owner of Muse Community + Design
Guests: Nithya Raman, American urban planner and L.A. City Council member

Podcast Link*

<https://www.planning.org/podcast/people-behind-the-plans/>

Podcast Summary

In this episode, Nithya Raman shares her vision for reducing homelessness. She also offers tips for working more effectively with city governments and explains how planners can use their expertise to educate and galvanize communities for positive change.

Why Planners Should Listen

Nithya Raman's election win in L.A. has been described as a political earthquake and she's clearly there to get things done and create positive change. Listening to this interview with Raman challenged me to think again about how I've been reacting to similar issues in my own city – homelessness, housing development, and community engagement – both as a planner and citizen. The depth of her experience is impressive, as is the thoughtfulness of her approach to representing people in her L.A. constituency and working on tough planning issues. The interviewer does a great job in asking questions that help reveal Raman as a whole person – planner, politician, non-profit founder, community developer, and mother. It's also a good starting place for other podcasts in this APA series.



* Podcast links are available on the PIBC Planning Podcasts web page at www.pibc.bc.ca/planning-podcasts