



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

From: City Manager

Report Type: Information

Lead Department: Planning and Development Services

Meeting Date: February 13, 2023

TITLE

Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Annual Report 2022 Year End Summary

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational report and no action is required.

BACKGROUND

The Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Annual Report provides information related to ADU permit applications processed and approved each year by the City of Palo Alto. In June 2017, the City amended Zoning Code (Title 18) to comply with updated State ADU requirements. Subsequently, the State adopted additional ADU legislation in late 2019, effective January 1, 2020. In response, City Council adopted an Interim Urgency Ordinance (Ordinance 5489) for temporary conformance. In November 2020, Council replaced the interim ordinance and adopted the City's current ADU Ordinance (Ordinance 5507) and directed staff to regularly report on the number of ADU permit applications. The last annual report for calendar year 2021 was published on June 20, 2022 (Report ID # 13964¹).

DISCUSSION

Since 2015, Planning and Development Services (PDS) has received 542 ADU/JADU building permit applications and issued 411 permits. In 2022, PDS received the highest volume of ADU applications in a one-year period. These units ranged from 192 to 2,217 square feet, with an average size of 589 square feet; approximately 52% and 48% of the applications were located north and south, respectively, of Oregon Expressway. Further details can be found in Table 1 of Attachment A.

Planning and Development Services publishes the Accessory Dwelling Units Report annually. The next report is expected to be available in Q1 2024. Additionally, PDS will resume providing quarterly reports throughout 2023.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

This is an informational report for the City Council and does not require any stakeholder engagement.

¹<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/city-council-agendas-minutes/2022/20220620/20220620pccsm-amended-final-final.pdf#page=820&zoom=100,0,0>

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

This project is exempt from environment review under Section 15061 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: ADU Annual Report Data for 2022

APPROVED BY:

Jonathan Lait, Planning and Development Services Director

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