

261—48.2(15) Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

“*Authority*” means the economic development authority created in Iowa Code section 15.105.

“*Average dwelling unit cost*” means the costs directly related to the housing project divided by the total number of dwelling units in the housing project.

“*Board*” means the members of the economic development authority appointed by the governor and in whom the powers of the authority are vested pursuant to Iowa Code section 15.105.

“*Brownfield site*” means an abandoned, idled, or underutilized property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. A brownfield site includes property contiguous with the site on which the property is located. A brownfield site does not include property which has been placed, or is proposed for placement, on the national priorities list established pursuant to the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. §9601 et seq. In order to administer similar programs in a similar manner, the authority will attempt to apply this definition in substantially the same way as similar definitions are applied by the brownfield advisory council established in Iowa Code section 15.294 and may consult members of the council or other staff as necessary.

“*Community*” means a city or county.

“*Costs directly related*” means expenditures that are incurred for construction of a housing project to the extent that they are attributable directly to the improvement of the property or its structures. “Costs directly related” includes expenditures for site preparation work, surveying, construction materials, construction labor, architectural services, and engineering services. “Costs directly related” does not include expenditures for property acquisition, building permits, building inspection fees, furnishings, appliances, accounting services, legal services, loan origination and other financing costs including interest on construction loans, syndication fees and related costs, developer fees, or the costs associated with selling or renting the dwelling units whether incurred before or after completion of the housing project.

“*Disaster recovery housing project*” means a qualified housing project located in a county that has been declared a major disaster by the President of the United States on or after March 12, 2019, and that is also a county in which individuals are eligible for federal individual assistance.

“*Grayfield site*” means a property meeting all of the following requirements:

(1) The property has been developed and has infrastructure in place but the property’s current use is outdated or prevents a better or more efficient use of the property. Such property includes vacant, blighted, obsolete, or otherwise underutilized property.

(2) The property’s improvements and infrastructure are at least 25 years old and one or more of the following conditions exists:

1. Thirty percent or more of a building located on the property that is available for occupancy has been vacant or unoccupied for a period of 12 months or more.

2. The assessed value of the improvements on the property has decreased by 25 percent or more.

3. The property is currently being used as a parking lot.

4. The improvements on the property no longer exist.

In administering the program, the authority will attempt to apply this definition in substantially the same manner as similar definitions are applied by the brownfield advisory council established in Iowa Code section 15.294.

“*Greenfield site*” means a site that does not meet the definition of a brownfield site or grayfield site. A project proposed at a site located on previously undeveloped or agricultural land shall be presumed to be a greenfield site.

“*Housing business*” means a business that is a housing developer, housing contractor, or nonprofit organization that completes a housing project in the state.

“*Housing project*” means a project located in this state meeting the requirements of rule 261—48.4(15).

“*Laborshed area*” means the same as defined in 261—Chapter 173.

“*Laborshed wage*” means the same as defined in 261—Chapter 173.

“Multi-use building” means a building whose street-level ground story is used for a purpose that is other than residential, and whose upper story or stories are currently used primarily for a residential purpose, or will be used primarily for a residential purpose after completion of the housing project associated with the building.

“New dwelling units” means dwelling units that are made available for occupancy in a community as a result of a housing project and that were not available for occupancy as residential housing in the community for a period of at least six months prior to the date on which application is made to the authority under the program. If a dwelling unit has served as residential housing and been occupied during the six months preceding the date on which application is made to the authority under the program, then the dwelling unit shall be presumed not to be a new dwelling unit.

“Program” means the workforce housing tax incentives program administered under this chapter.

“Project completion” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 15.355(2).

“Qualifying new investment” means costs that are directly related to the acquisition, repair, rehabilitation, or redevelopment of a housing project in this state. For purposes of this rule, “costs directly related to acquisition” includes the costs associated with the purchase of real property or other structures.

(1) The amount of costs that may be used to compute “qualifying new investment” shall not exceed the costs used for the first \$150,000 of value for each dwelling unit that is part of a housing project.

(2) “Qualifying new investment” does not include the following:

1. The portion of the total cost of a housing project that is financed by federal, state, or local government tax credits, grants, forgivable loans, or other forms of financial assistance that do not require repayment, excluding the tax incentives provided under this program.

2. If a housing project includes the rehabilitation, repair, or redevelopment of an existing multi-use building, the portion of the total acquisition costs of the multi-use building, including a proportionate share of the total acquisition costs of the land upon which the multi-use building is situated, that are attributable to the street-level ground story that is used for a purpose that is other than residential.

3. Any costs, including acquisition costs, incurred before the housing project is approved by the authority.

“Refund notice” means a notice provided by the authority of the amount that an eligible housing business may claim as a refund of the sales and use tax under Iowa Code section 15.355(2).

“Rehabilitation, repair, or redevelopment” means construction or development activities associated with a housing project that are undertaken for the purpose of reusing or repurposing existing buildings or structures as new dwelling units. Rehabilitation, repair, or redevelopment does not include new construction of dwelling units at a greenfield site. Rehabilitation, repair, or redevelopment includes new structures at a qualified grayfield site.

“Small city” means a city that meets the applicable criteria in rule 261—48.3(15).

“Tax credit certificate” means a certificate issued by the authority stating the amount of workforce housing investment tax credits under Iowa Code section 15.355(3) that an eligible housing business may claim.

“Urban area” means any city or township, except for a small city, that is wholly located within one or more of the 11 most populous counties in the state, as determined by either the most recent population estimate produced by the United States Bureau of the Census or the most recent decennial census released by the United States Bureau of the Census.

[ARC 1801C, IAB 12/24/14, effective 1/28/15; ARC 3581C, IAB 1/17/18, effective 2/21/18; ARC 4724C, IAB 10/23/19, effective 10/3/19; ARC 6086C, IAB 12/15/21, effective 1/19/22; ARC 6467C, IAB 8/24/22, effective 9/28/22]