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**Additional Summaries of Workforce Housing Legislation**

You likely recall the passage of four workforce housing loan programs and one bill to provide the assurance that developments will be approved if they follow local land use plans and ordinances that were signed into law this spring. After the passage of bills, the Wisconsin Legislative Council writes additional plain language summaries of each new Wisconsin Act.

Below are the summaries for each bill that recently passed. Please feel free to reference these summaries as you look to build and develop and share this information with municipalities you are working with.

* **2023 Wisconsin Act 16:** relating to judicial review of local governmental decisions related to certain land development, local approval of residential housing development, and amendment of zoning ordinances. [Legislative Council Memo](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/lcactmemo/act016.pdf)
* **2023 Wisconsin Act 17:** relating to housing rehabilitation loans awarded by the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority. [Legislative Council Memo](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/lcactmemo/act017.pdf)
* **2023 Wisconsin Act 14:** relating to residential housing infrastructure revolving loan fund and revolving loan program. [Legislative Council Memo](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/lcactmemo/act014.pdf)
* **2023 Wisconsin Act 15:** relating to a main street housing rehabilitation revolving loan fund and loan program. [Legislative Council Memo](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/lcactmemo/act015.pdf)
* **2023 Wisconsin Act 18:** relating to commercial-to-housing conversion revolving loan fund and loan program. [Legislative Council Memo](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/lcactmemo/act018.pdf)

**State Budget Provides DSPS with Additional Funding and Staff Positions**

**One of the provisions of the 2023-2024 WBA Advocacy Agenda was to find ways to give the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) additional tools to approve new credential applications and to process the renewals of those already in the trades.**

**The recently passed state budget that was signed into law by Governor Evers provides the following funding and staff positions to DSPS:**

* $445,800 for equipment and software upgrades
* 7 additional license processing staff members
* 6 additional call center staff members
* 3 additional plan review staff members
* The previous temporary staff members to review POWTS System were made permanent.

**You can also** [click here](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/budget/2023_25_biennial_budget/101_summary_of_provisions_2023_act_19_july_2023_by_agency/safety_and_professional_services.pdf) **for the comprehensive summary of all the budget provisions related to DSPS.**

**WBA Opposes Moving to 2021 ICC**

**Recently the Senate Committee on Housing, Rural Issues and Forestry and the Assembly Committee on Housing and Real Estate held a joint hearing on an administrative rule brought forward by the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) to move Wisconsin to the 2021 version of the commercial building code. WBA registered against this code update largely because DSPS has been unable to show this code change will affect the cost of construction for all commercial buildings including multifamily buildings.**

**If you build or design multifamily units and would be willing to help WBA by providing some information on how the new 2021 commercial building code would increase the cost of construction, please reach out to** Brad Boycks**. In order to do this analysis, we can send you the information on the proposed code update that has been provided by DSPS.**