

## : Sample JADU Ordinance

(Lilypad Homes at <http://lilypadhomes.org/>)

### Draft Junior Accessory Dwelling Units (JADU) – Flexible Housing

#### Findings:

1. Causation: Critical need for housing for lower income families and individuals given the high cost of living and low supply of affordable homes for rent or purchase, and the difficulty, given the current social and economic environment, in building more affordable housing
2. Mitigation: Create a simple and inexpensive permitting track for the development of junior accessory dwelling units that allows spare bedrooms in homes to serve as a flexible form of infill housing
3. Endangerment: Provisions currently required under agency ordinances are so arbitrary, excessive, or burdensome as to restrict the ability of homeowners to legally develop these units therefore encouraging homeowners to bypass safety standards and procedures that make the creation of these units a benefit to the whole of the community
4. Co-Benefits: Homeowners (particularly retired seniors and young families, groups that tend to have the lowest incomes) – generating extra revenue, allowing people facing unexpected financial obstacles to remain in their homes, housing parents, children or caregivers; Homebuyers - providing rental income which aids in mortgage qualification under new government guidelines; Renters – creating more low-cost housing options in the community where they work, go to school or have family, also reducing commute time and expenses; Municipalities – helping to meet RHNA goals, increasing property and sales tax revenue, insuring safety standard code compliance, providing an abundant source of affordable housing with no additional infrastructure needed; Community - housing vital workers, decreasing traffic, creating economic growth both in the remodeling sector and new customers for local businesses; Planet - reducing carbon emissions, using resources more efficiently;
5. Benefits of Junior ADUs: offer a more affordable housing option to both homeowners and renters, creating economically healthy, diverse, multi-generational communities;

#### Therefore, the following ordinance is hereby enacted:

This Section provides standards for the establishment of junior accessory dwelling units, an alternative to the standard accessory dwelling unit, permitted as set forth under State Law AB 1866 (Chapter 1062, Statutes of 2002) Sections 65852.150 and 65852.2 and subject to different provisions under fire safety codes based on the fact that junior accessory dwelling units do not qualify as "complete independent living facilities" given that the interior connection from the junior accessory dwelling unit to the main living area remains, therefore not redefining the single-family home status of the dwelling unit.

- A) *Development Standards.* Junior accessory dwelling units shall comply with the following standards, including the standards in Table below:
- 1) *Number of Units Allowed.* Only one accessory dwelling unit or, junior accessory dwelling unit, may be located on any residentially zoned lot that permits a single-family dwelling except as otherwise regulated or restricted by an adopted Master Plan or Precise Development Plan. A junior accessory dwelling unit may only be located on a lot which already contains one legal single-family dwelling.
  - 2) *Owner Occupancy:* The owner of a parcel proposed for a junior accessory dwelling unit shall occupy as a principal residence either the primary dwelling or the accessory dwelling, except when the home is held by an agency such as a land trust or housing organization in an effort to create affordable housing.
  - 3) *Sale Prohibited:* A junior accessory dwelling unit shall not be sold independently of the primary dwelling on the parcel.

- 4) *Deed Restriction:* A deed restriction shall be completed and recorded, in compliance with Section B below.
- 5) *Location of Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit:* A junior accessory dwelling unit must be created within the existing walls of an existing primary dwelling, and must include conversion of an existing bedroom.
- 6) *Separate Entry Required:* A separate exterior entry shall be provided to serve a junior accessory dwelling unit.
- 7) *Interior Entry Remains:* The interior connection to the main living area must be maintained, but a second door may be added for sound attenuation.
- 8) *Kitchen Requirements:* The junior accessory dwelling unit shall include an efficiency kitchen, requiring and limited to the following components:
  - a) A sink with a maximum waste line diameter of one-and-a-half (1.5) inches,
  - b) A cooking facility with appliance which do not require electrical service greater than one-hundred-and-twenty (120) volts or natural or propane gas, and
  - c) A food preparation counter and storage cabinets that are reasonable to size of the unit.
- 9) *Parking:* No additional parking is required beyond that required when the existing primary dwelling was constructed.

#### Development Standards for Junior Accessory Dwelling Units

SITE OR DESIGN FEATURE	SITE AND DESIGN STANDARDS
Maximum unit size	500 square feet
Setbacks	As required for the primary dwelling unit
Parking	No additional parking required

- B) *Deed Restriction:* Prior to obtaining a building permit for a junior accessory dwelling unit, a deed restriction, approved by the City Attorney, shall be recorded with the County Recorder's office, which shall include the pertinent restrictions and limitations of a junior accessory dwelling unit identified in this Section. Said deed restriction shall run with the land, and shall be binding upon any future owners, heirs, or assigns. A copy of the recorded deed restriction shall be filed with the Department stating that:
  - 1) The junior accessory dwelling unit shall not be sold separately from the primary dwelling unit;
  - 2) The junior accessory dwelling unit is restricted to the maximum size allowed per the development standards;
  - 3) The junior accessory dwelling unit shall be considered legal only so long as either the primary residence, or the accessory dwelling unit, is occupied by the owner of record of the property, except when the home is owned by an agency such as a land trust or housing organization in an effort to create affordable housing;
  - 4) The restrictions shall be binding upon any successor in ownership of the property and lack of compliance with this provision may result in legal action against the property owner, including revocation of any right to maintain a junior accessory dwelling unit on the property.
- C) *No Water Connection Fees:* No agency should require a water connection fee for the development of a junior accessory dwelling unit. An inspection fee to confirm that the dwelling unit complies with development standard may be assessed.

- D) *No Sewer Connection Fees:* No agency should require a sewer connection fee for the development of a junior accessory dwelling unit. An inspection fee to confirm that the dwelling unit complies with development standard may be assessed.
- E) *No Fire Sprinklers and Fire Attenuation:* No agency should require fire sprinkler or fire attenuation specifications for the development of a junior accessory dwelling unit. An inspection fee to confirm that the dwelling unit complies with development standard may be assessed.

**Definitions of Specialized Terms and Phrases.**

“Accessory dwelling unit” means an attached or a detached residential dwelling unit which provides complete independent living facilities for one or more persons. It shall include permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel as the single-family dwelling is situated. An accessory dwelling unit also includes the following:

- (1) An efficiency unit, as defined in Section 17958.1 of Health and Safety Code.
- (2) A manufactured home, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code.

“Junior accessory dwelling unit” means a unit that is no more than 500 square feet in size and contained entirely within an existing single-family structure. A junior accessory dwelling unit may include separate sanitation facilities, or may share sanitation facilities with the existing structure.