



EAST TENNESSEE QUALITY GROWTH

Achieving Quality Growth through Regional Cooperation and Local Action

July 31, 2018

Show Your Support:

Choose ETQG as your Charity of Choice when you shop AMAZON and we will receive .5% of your purchase price as a donation. Learn more about [Amazon Smile](#).

Upcoming Events

August 4th, 10am-1pm
[Butterfly Festival](#), UT
Arboretum

August 11th, 11am-5pm
[Heritage Day Festival](#),
Frozen Head State Park

August 25th, 10-5pm
[Green! Summer Fest](#),
Cove Lake State Park

September 15th, 11am-1pm
[SturgeonFest](#), Seven
Islands State Birding
Park

September 21, 10am-3pm
[PARK\(ing\) Day](#),
Gay Street downtown
Knoxville

"Why Are Developers Only Building Luxury Housing?"

All is not as it seems. This [article](#) provides

Regional Cooperation and Local Action: Tennessee's Changing Housing Needs



THE LOWDOWN:

Last Month, ETQG hosted an Affordable Rental Housing Workshop. We had a great turnout and are thankful to all our speakers and attendees who took the time out of their day to discuss rental housing issues in East Tennessee.

Brief overview of the workshop: The workshop began with a welcome by Monty Ross, the Executive Director of East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association and a member of the ETQG's Board of Directors, Executive Committee. After the welcome, Joe Speer and Katie Moore with the Tennessee Housing Development Agency gave a presentation on the rental housing status of the region and highlighted agency assistance programs. Following THDA's presentation, Diane Davidson, a member of ETQG's Board of Directors, Executive Committee, lead a White Boarding Q & A session, where attendees identified affordable rental housing problems. The workshop ended with a panel discussion addressing affordable housing issues lead by, Kathy Trawick-- Executive Director of the Tennessee Fair Housing Council, Chris Osborn-- COO of Home Source, Chris Martin-- President of the the Knoxville Leadership Foundation and

insight to the barriers that do not allow for more affordable new housing to be built.

"Fourplexes Everywhere? Bold Reform Proposed in Minneapolis"

A [potential solution](#) to increasing housing supply and lowering rents.

"Out of Reach: The High Cost of Housing 2018" Report

"Out of Reach 2018 shows that both average renter wages and prevailing minimum wages are insufficient to afford modest rental apartments throughout the country, and the disparity is severe for those with the lowest incomes."

Look up your zip code in the 'Live in a Metropolitan Area?' search box, and compare your own experience with the cost of renting with the data presented. If you have any insights, reach out to us via email or Facebook!

Citizen's Academy for Planning: Anderson County

Our next Citizens Academy for Planning is underway! We are working on setting up a workshop in Anderson County in the next few months. If you are interested in helping to host an Anderson County event, please [contact us](#)! Stay tuned!

Executive Ministries, Ben Bentley-- Executive Director of Knoxville Community Development Corporation and David Borowski-- Environmental Epidemiologist with the TN Department of Health.

The Tennessee Housing Development Agency's presentation that was given at the workshop is available on our [website](#). We will be hosting another workshop on Affordable Housing for developers in the coming months, so stay tuned for more information! If you attended the July workshop and have any suggestions for how we can improve future workshops, please contact us at info@etqualitygrowth.org!



Housing Preservation Grants

The US Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is providing grants to sponsor organizations for the repair and rehabilitation of housing owned or occupied by low and very low income rural citizens. USDA will award a total of \$10 million in Housing Preservation Grant Program funding for the repair and rehabilitation of rural housing units. The deadline to apply is August 9th. For more information on the grant and how to apply [click here](#).

More Than 500 Units of Workforce Housing to be Built in Sevier County

In November 2016, Sevier County suffered through the loss of thousands of structures by a deadly wildfire, depleting an already low supply of available rental housing. The area is still in recovery but thanks to the Tennessee Housing Development Agency, Sevier County will be getting more than 500 units of affordable rental housing in the next few years. This will be made possible through Low Income Housing Tax Credits the THDA is providing


Climate Resiliency Training in East Tennessee

East Tennessee Quality Growth board and staff received climate resilience training from the [City of Knoxville Office of Sustainability and Oak Ridge National Lab's Climate Change Science Institute](#) earlier this year. We would like to present this information to civic groups in the region. If you would like to host this presentation in your community, please [contact us](#).

Share Your Stories!

Have something for the ETQG Newsletter?

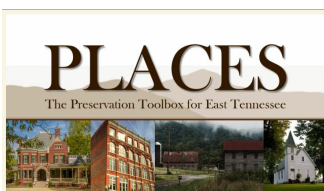
Fill out this short form and we'll make sure to share. [Submit Newsletter Information Here.](#)

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[East Tennessee Preservation Alliance](#)
Preservation Toolbox

to developers. You can read more about the project [here](#).

Disability Friendly City Survey

Help the City of Knoxville Mayor's Council on Disability Issues make Knoxville the most friendly for people with disabilities and seniors!

Please complete this [survey](#) based on what you feel would make Knoxville (or your city) the most disability friendly. Even if you don't live in Knoxville, completing this [survey](#) will help us understand the factors and facilities that are important to you! To complete the survey, visit <http://bit.ly/codisurvey>

For additional information or feedback, contact Misha Byrne at 865-215-2423 or mbyrne@knoxvillekn.gov.

Become a Friend of Quality Growth!



SUPPORT
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IN
EAST
TENNESSEE

East Tennessee Quality Growth advocates for protecting the region's scenic beauty and natural resources, identifying a regional voice through dialogue among local citizens, and building an understanding of how quality growth is implemented. Through regional dialog and local action we move towards a sustainable and prosperous future.

Become a Friend of Quality Growth!

As a Friend of Quality Growth, you will help support our projects and our mission of regional cooperation and local action. You will have the opportunity to serve on our committees, and will receive invites to participate in round tables and planning sessions. Your donation is tax-deductible.

To tell us your story,
click [here](#).

[\\$25 Introductory Membership](#)

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<http://etqualitygrowth.org>

The East Tennessee Quality Growth (ETQG) mission is to achieve quality growth through regional cooperation and local action.

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