



The City of
Worcester

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Vice Chairman / Councilor At-Large

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Vice Chairman Khrystian E. King on the Struggles Facing Renters in Worcester

WORCESTER, MA – Vice Chairman of the Worcester City Council Khrystian E. King released the following statement on the growing challenges facing renters and aspiring homeowners across Worcester and the Commonwealth.

“Worcester and Massachusetts as a whole are in the midst of a housing crisis,” said Vice Chairman King. “Our City, Our State is in desperate need of elected officials to meet the moment and stand up for tenants who are drowning under the rising cost of housing.”

The rental market in Worcester remains severely strained, with housing costs far outpacing local income. In 2025, a resident needs to earn approximately \$59,640 annually to afford a modest two-bedroom apartment. From 2013 to 2022, units priced above \$2,000 increased by 486 percent while more than 7,600 units under \$1,000 were lost, reflecting a clear shift away from affordability. Today, the average rent in Worcester is approximately \$1,837 per month, with two-bedroom units averaging over \$2,100.

“Too many people are being forced to make impossible choices just to stay housed,” said King. “Rental homes are out of reach for working families, seniors, and young people trying to build a future.”

At the same time, first time home buyers of single-family homes are increasingly being shut out of the market, including those entering the workforce and completing higher education.

“We are seeing an entire generation doing everything right and still being locked out,” said King. “That impacts not only individual families, but the long-term stability of our community.”

Families with children continue to account for the largest share of those experiencing homelessness in Worcester County, underscoring the broader impact of this crisis on stability and opportunity.

“We must meet this moment with urgency and clarity,” said King. “Our residents are telling us they are struggling, and it is our responsibility to deliver solutions that keep people housed and communities strong.”

Sincerely,

Khrystian E. King

Vice Chairman / Councilor At-Large

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