



DuPage County Is Facing an Affordable Housing Crisis

- **Housing Prices Soar.** In 2006, the **median sales price** for a single-family home in DuPage County was the **highest in the state.**¹ The median value for a single-family home in DuPage **rose to \$340,000** in 2006.
- **Housing Prices Outpace Incomes.** Median home values about 40% between 2000 and 2004. However, median incomes rose only 3.4% between 2000 and 2004.²
- **More Homeowners Struggle.** The percentage of homeowners paying more than 30% of their income on housing costs **rose from about 22% to about 34% between 2000 and 2005.**³
- **Two-Wage Earner Families Struggle.** The **combined salary of a firefighter and an elementary school teacher** would still **not be enough** to afford the median home value in DuPage County.⁴
- **Regulatory Barriers Impede Affordability.** A survey of developers and builders in the region revealed that **93% of those surveyed believe that local regulatory barriers impede the development of affordable housing** (e.g. restrictive zoning ordinances and burdensome permit requirements).⁵
- **The “Cost” of the Jobs-Housing Mismatch.** According to a study completed by the Boston Consulting Group, the direct costs of the jobs-housing mismatch are **\$200-\$300 million per year** in the Chicago region.⁶
- **Housing Shortage = Traffic Congestion.** Since 1970, DuPage has seen a **478% increase** in the number of commuters coming into DuPage to work. That’s higher than any of the other 5 counties in the region, including Cook.
- Now, **almost half the commuters** coming to DuPage each day come from elsewhere in the region.

¹ Illinois Association of Realtors 2006.

² U.S. Census 2000 and American Community Survey (U.S. Census) 2005; Multiple Listing Service.

³ U.S. Census 2000 and American Community Survey (U.S. Census) 2005.

⁴ Based on Illinois Department of Employment Security median salary figures for DuPage County 2006.

⁵ *Eliminating Barriers: Letting the Market Help Meet Illinois Housing Needs.* Business and Professional People for the Public Interest. 2003.

⁶ *Recommendations for Developing Attainable Workforce Housing in the Chicago Region.* Chicago Metropolis 2020. 2002.