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MEDIA CONTACT: David Ferguson Media & Communications Coordinator <u>dferguson@nbtexas.org</u> 830-221-4134

Missing Middle Housing Summit

New Braunfels, TX – The New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce and the City of New Braunfels have teamed up to host a webinar and moderated question and answer session on January 14th, 2021 at 3:00pm. The one-hour webinar, titled <u>Missing Middle Housing: Thinking Big and Building Small to Respond to the Need for More Housing Choice</u>, will feature a presentation and Q&A session with Dan Parolek, founding principal and President of Opticos Design. Mr. Parolek has spent the last two decades focusing on the issue of "missing middle" housing, which is a range of multi-unit or clustered housing types, compatible in scale with single-family homes, that help meet the growing demand for walkable urban living, respond to shifting household demographics, and meet the need for different price points.

The City is exploring the use of missing middle housing solutions as one strategy to address workforce housing needs, which have grown in recent years. "Approximately one-third $(1/3^{rd})$ of every New Braunfels household is cost burdened when it comes to their housing situation. Increasing the production of a wider variety of housing that vary in size and type is one strategy that is being evaluated," said Jeff Jewell, the City's Director of Economic and Community Development. "New Braunfels actually has a mixture of missing middle housing that is blended into some of our older neighborhoods. Production of that housing; however, has declined over the years for various reasons and we are looking at ways to encourage more commonplace construction," he added.

The public is encouraged to attend this virtual event to learn more about missing middle housing. For a link to this webinar, please visit <u>nbtexas.org/missingmiddle</u> at 3:00pm on Jan. 14th and enter meeting ID# 847 4104 2537. Alternatively, dial in to hear the webinar by phone at 833-926-2300 and enter the same webinar ID: 847-4104-2537.

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ONE CITY, ONE TEAM 830.221.4000 | 550 LANDA STREET, NEW BRAUNFELS, TX 78130 | NBTEXAS.ORG