Nearly Two-Thirds of Phoenix-Area Residents Have Considered Moving Because of Housing Costs, New Survey Finds

New survey finds widespread concern about affordability and support for expanding single-family rental housing for Phoenix-area residents

PHOENIX – November 17, 2026 – Nearly two-thirds of Phoenix-area residents have considered moving because of housing costs, and 91% say housing affordability is a serious problem, according to a new survey of Phoenix-area residents. Yet most are unaware that Congress recently passed federal legislation, the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act, to address affordability concerns.

The survey also found support for expanding access to single-family housing, including newly built rental homes. Among the key findings:

- **Affordability pressures are widespread:** Over 91% of Phoenix-area residents say housing affordability is a serious problem, and 65% have considered moving because of housing costs.
- **Residents want housing choices, including access to single-family homes:** 68% believe people should have access to single-family homes whether they rent or own, compared to those who believe they should *only* be available to people to own.
- **A majority of residents support new rental housing:** 55% of Phoenix residents support building more rental homes, nearly 2-to-1 over those opposed.
- **Renters are feeling affordability pressures:** 77% have considered moving because of housing costs.

“Housing affordability challenges are affecting communities across the country, and these results underscore the need for more housing options. No single housing type will solve today’s housing shortage. We need more opportunities for homeownership, more rental choices, and a continued focus on expanding supply so families can find housing that meets their needs,” said Adrianne Todman, CEO of the National Rental Home Council and former Acting Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development during the Biden Administration.

The findings come as Arizona policymakers continue to weigh housing affordability, following federal action this past summer. The 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act authorized several new programs, streamlined existing programs, like the HOME grant program, and placed limits on large institutional investors from purchasing existing single-family homes.

“As state policymakers look ahead to 2027,” Todman said. “the opportunity is to help families find a home that works for them, close to the jobs and communities they’ve built their lives around.”

About the survey
The survey of 600 Phoenix-area residents was conducted by Pollfish in September 2026.

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