

*The other side  
of the story...*

# Shrink the Housing Department



Jackson's housing exactions are being challenged, and rightfully so. When given a choice, voters refuse to fund housing. They keep saying NO. But our electeds don't listen. They keep 'hunting' money wherever they can find it.

Our Housing Department was expanded two years ago (exactly what voters didn't want). Pure folly. We now need to shrink it again—limit it to managing the inventory we have already.

Build no more. That's the solution. Let the free market solve our housing needs.

As for the 1,800 public housing units we have already, use them where we most need them. House our critical needs: teachers, nurses, police, and the like. That's what the community needs.

The Housing Department never has run right. Decades of failure. Why? There's no fair way to allocate a half-off house. It's impossible to manage.

When you socialize housing, you invite the big-city problems we see in New York, San Francisco, and LA. We're no smarter than they are. Our housing program is a failure, too.

In a magical place like Jackson Hole, it's impossible to build enough government housing. Once a struggling community eager to grow, we're now over-crowded. Subsidized housing only makes it worse.

Enough housing folly. Any 'real' analyst will tell you government housing spirals out of control. It makes the problem worse.