

*“Reducing the distance between homes, shops, and offices also reduces the cost of public infrastructure.”*

**Higher-Density Development:**

# MYTH vs FACT

## Public Services & Infrastructure

### MYTH

*Higher-density development overburdens public schools and other public services and requires more infrastructure support systems.*

### FACTS

- Fewer families with children live in high density housing, creating less demand on schools and other public services than low-density housing.
- The compact nature of higher-density development requires less extensive infrastructure to support it.



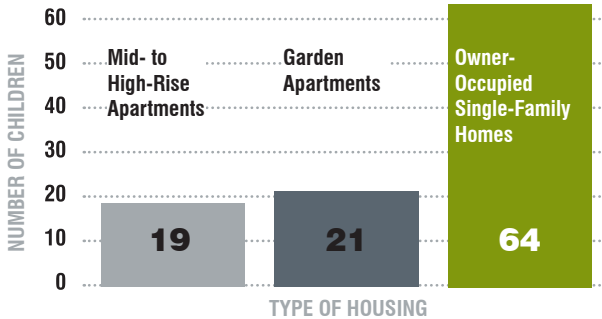
**Urban Land Nashville  
Institute**

# MYTH vs FACT

## Public Services & Infrastructure

# 1

### Number of School Age Children Per 100 Units of New Housing



Source: 1999 American Housing Survey (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1999).

*“Low-density suburbs and exurban areas generally attract families with more school-age children...*

*Multi-family housing attracts predominantly childless couples, singles, and empty nesters.”*

**Higher-Density Development: Myth and Fact** examines widespread misconceptions related to higher-density development and seeks to dispel them with relevant facts and information.

#### **ULI Nashville Civic Leadership Forum Mission Statement:**

To provide elected officials with valuable information for the decisions they make on complex issues that affect our city’s development and growth. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of their role in shaping the built environment and learn tools, strategies and talking points to make the best decisions for their constituents, the city and its future.



#### **High-Density Housing Series**

- 1. Public Services & Infrastructure
- 2. Property Value
- 3. Traffic & Parking
- 4. Crime Rate
- 5. Environmental Effects
- 6. Attractive Development
- 7. Suburban Preference
- 8. Income Groups

**Email:** [nashville@uli.org](mailto:nashville@uli.org) | **For more information:** [nashville.uli.org/get-involved/uli-nashville-civic-leadership-forum](http://nashville.uli.org/get-involved/uli-nashville-civic-leadership-forum)