Cohousing Options
introduction
Cohousing is

- Inclusive
- Community focused
- Diverse
- Cost effective
- A neighbourhood designed by its residents based on shared values, needs and abilities
Trends behind Cohousing

- Smaller families
- Extended families living apart
- People are living longer
- Desire for more traditional neighborhood where you know your neighbors
- Desire to live a more environmentally sustainability lifestyle that is less car dependent
What can Cohousing look like?

Image by Cohabitat Quebec – 2017 & Kristopher Stevens, Cohousing infographic postcards - 2018
What do Cohousing Communities share?
• Affordable
• Safe
• Proximity
• Social

• Sustainable
• Independent
• Cocare
• Secure

Images by Kristopher Stevens, Harbourside Cohousing, Sooke, BC - 2019
Privacy AND community
What are the challenges?
Considering challenges

• What if I do nothing?
• Am I too young or old?
• What can I afford?
• Can I build community where I am?
• What if I don’t like the people?
• What if they don’t like me?
• Will I have enough privacy
• Will I be able to do my “fair share”
• What are my other fears?
• Is there a market?
• What is your timeline?
What is the process?

PHASE 1: Information
Gathering information & potential members to form a cohousing group

PHASE 2: Group Formation
Forming a group to pursue a cohousing project

PHASE 3: Help!
Contracting with a cohousing consultant

PHASE 4: Planning
Learning how to get cohousing built

PHASE 5: Commitment
Investing as equity members to purchase a site together

PHASE 6: Design
Working with an architect on the design & site permits

PHASE 7: Pre-construction
Preparing financially to put shovels in the ground

PHASE 8: Construction
Building the infrastructure of the community we want to live in

PHASE 9: Move in!
Making a home in cohousing

PHASE 10: Happily ever after...
Sustaining a healthy, connected community

Image by Kristopher Stevens, Cohousing infographic postcards - 2018
In developing cohousing the process is the frame .....
... and the group is the picture

Image by Kristopher Stevens, PDX Commons, Portland, OR - 2019