

Summary of Survey Results

ARUs in the Urban Area:

Between March 28, 2023 and October 31, 2023, the survey regarding ARUs in the Urban Area received 375 responses. 86 per cent of respondents were homeowners and 7 per cent were renters, of an urban property in Milton.

A little over half (53 per cent) of survey respondents believe there are significant benefits and opportunities that arise from having ARUs in urban communities:

- Respondents emphasize that ARUs provide multi-generational living options and allow for seniors to downsize and age in place.
- The ability for homeowners to generate income to offset cost of living is one of the top reasons in support of ARUs.
- Respondents also believe that ARUs can improve housing affordability in Milton and increase the Town's rental housing stock.

Of the respondents interested in constructing an ARU(s) on their urban property:

- The top reasons are for earning income by renting out to long-term tenants and providing housing for children, parents or in-laws.
- 51 per cent would like to create one unit in the basement, 31 per cent might want to add two units and 25 per cent might want to build a unit in a detached accessory building.

On the other hand, 45 per cent of respondents have concerns with the potential impact of ARUs in urban communities, which include:

- Parking and fire safety being the top two concerns;
- Impact of increased density within existing neighbourhoods;
- Increase of traffic on roads and strain on community services and facilities (i.e. schools, parks, etc.);
- Concerns relating to building design including height and scale relative to existing buildings; and
- ARUs being utilized for short-term rentals.

56 per cent of respondents answered yes to whether legal ARUs should be listed on a registry on the Town's website, while 17 per cent answered no. The other 27 per cent was unsure or specified another response.

ARUs in the Rural Area:

Between March 28, 2023 and Oct. 31, 2023, the survey regarding ARUs in the Rural Area received 269 responses. 52 per cent of respondents own and live on a property within a hamlet, 30 per cent own and live on a rural residential property not located within a hamlet and 5 per cent own and live on a commercial farm in Milton.

A significant percentage of respondents (67 per cent) would like to add additional units on their rural property. Of the respondents interested in constructing an ARU(s):

- The top reasons are for providing housing for children, parents or in-laws, and allowing seniors to downsize and age in place.
- The majority are interested in constructing one unit within a detached accessory building.

A smaller percentage (23 per cent) of respondents have concerns regarding the potential impacts of permitting ARUs within the rural area. Survey results show:

- The greatest concern is with height and scale of ARUs, while separation from adjacent properties and impact on the character of the rural area are of lesser concern.
- Water and sewage servicing capacity and impact on environmental lands/features are somewhat of a concern.

The majority of respondents are not very concerned about potential impact on farmland and agricultural operations.

The majority of respondents would not want ARUs being utilized for short-term rentals.

37 per cent of respondents answered yes to whether legal ARUs should be listed on a registry on the Town's website, while 19 percent answered no. The other 44 percent was unsure or specified another response.