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Uber's safety record, city housing and what should have made our list of trending jobs



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HOUSING RESOURCES AT RISK

Housing is foundational (“**Chicago's affordable housing law is unchanged—for now,**” Jan. 21). A stable and affordable place to live is a requisite building block for educational attainment, good health, safety and a ready workforce.

Pivotal to those outcomes, however, are the resources to leverage a vibrant housing agenda that provides community investment and stabilization. The recent delay by the City Council puts increasing housing resources at risk. An amended Affordable Requirements Ordinance is important to aid Chicago's neighborhoods. The poorly named ordinance might suggest to some that developers are required to share fees or units for working Chicagoans to gain housing. In fact, it is a voluntary program triggered only after a developer receives requested benefits.

Our neighborhoods and candidates need to know what investment in affordability does for their community and for the city's well-being. As recognized recently, more than amendments to the ARO will be necessary to support neighborhoods in their economic recovery.

The evolving enhancement of the ARO shows how effective linked development can be in sharing the city's prosperity across all its neighborhoods. The Chicago Rehab Network has encouraged the City Council to consider dedicating a portion of other resources to housing, such as convention and tourism dollars collected through the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority and the hotel tax, or potential revenues from casino or other gambling sources.

Potential state and federal resources for housing need to materialize as well. With innovative approaches and a range of sources, we can build a city where prosperity is widespread and ample housing choices exist for all.

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Chicago