



Parking and Supportive Housing

The issue of parking in supportive housing can be a stumbling block. Most communities in Connecticut have parking space requirements for any multi-family housing. The normal requirement is for 1.5 parking spaces for each unit of housing. So a developer Creating 30 units would need enough space to allow for 45 parking spaces. This can add substantial cost to any project since land costs in Connecticut are so high.

But in a survey of nine supportive housing projects, urban and suburban, totaling 346 units, the number of parking spaces actually used was no more than 30% of the number of units. In most of the projects, wherever they were located, car ownership was usually less than 20%, So the amount of parking actually needed for a 30 unit project is closer to 10 spaces than to 45.

One reason for the reduced need for parking is that supportive housing projects are often sited near public transportation or near needed amenities like shopping and employment opportunities, because many supportive housing tenants do not have the financial resources to afford a car of their own. People with disabilities are also less likely to have driver's licenses or to own a vehicle.

SITE NAME	TOWN	TOWN PARKING REG CARS/UNIT	# OF UNITS	# OF VEHICLES ALLOWED	# OF TENANTS WITH VEHICLES	PERCENT	TYPE
Fairfield Apartments (CCCYMCA) Harrison	Bridgeport	1.5	34	51	13	38%	supportive
Fairfield Apartments (CCCYMCA) The Crescent Building	Bridgeport	1.5	102	153	10	10%	supportive
Fairfield Mary Seymour Place	Bridgeport	1.5	38	57	6	16%	supportive
Soromundi Commons	Hartford		30		6	20%	supportive
Atlantic Park (St. Luke's LifeWorks)	Hartford		48		10	21%	supportive
The Colony (St. Luke's LifeWorks)	Stamford		27		5	19%	supportive
Homes With Hope	Stamford		29		7	24%	supportive
Brick Row	Westport	1.5	8	12	5	63%	supportive
	Willimantic	1.0	30		6	20%	supportive
TOTAL			346		68	231%	
AVERAGE			38		8	26%	