



# NEWS RELEASE

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## ***CITY OF LAKE STEVENS*** ***Accessory Dwelling Unit Code Amendment***

On June 26, 2018, the Lake Stevens City Council approved a code amendment to create more flexible regulations governing accessory dwelling units (ADUs). ADUs are also commonly known as accessory apartments, mother-in-law units, backyard cottages or granny flats. ADUs are small, self-contained residential units built on a residential lot with an existing single-family home. ADUs can be attached to or detached from the primary home, but are always a subordinate structure in relation (see graphic attached below).

The advantages of ADUs and flexible ADU regulations expand individual uses for residential properties; increase property values by adding site improvements; offer a means for residents to remain in their homes and neighborhoods, despite rising costs of living while obtaining rental income, companionship, security and services; make it possible for adult children to care for a parent or loved one in need of assisted living within their own homes; and create a more diverse housing stock to accommodate a wider variety of affordable housing demands.

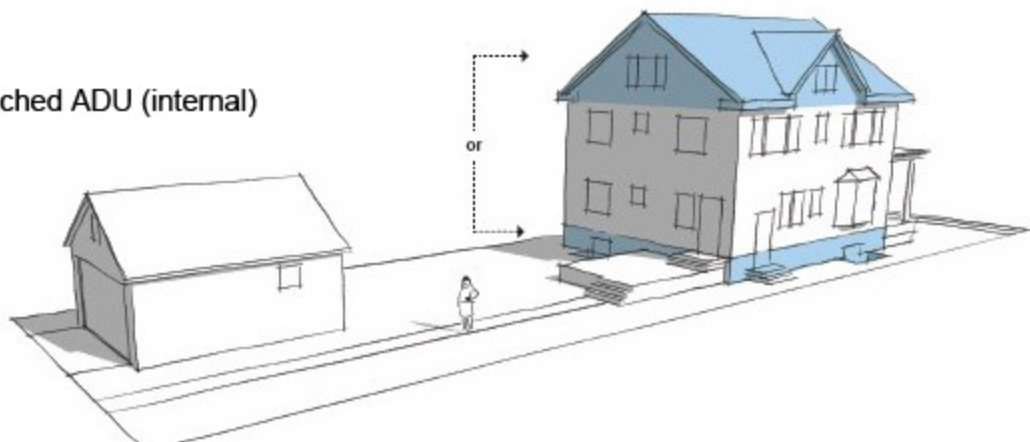
For those property owners interested in building an ADU, you will need to apply for a building permit and the proposal must comply with the new ADU regulations. The regulations may be found online in the Lake Stevens Municipal Code section [14.44.045 Accessory Dwelling Units](#). Additionally, the city can provide a handout to help guide applicants through the permitting process. Anyone is welcome at City Hall Monday – Friday 9am to 4pm to discuss their projects with city staff.

If you have questions about ADUs, please email Dillon Roth at [droth@lakestevenswa.gov](mailto:droth@lakestevenswa.gov).

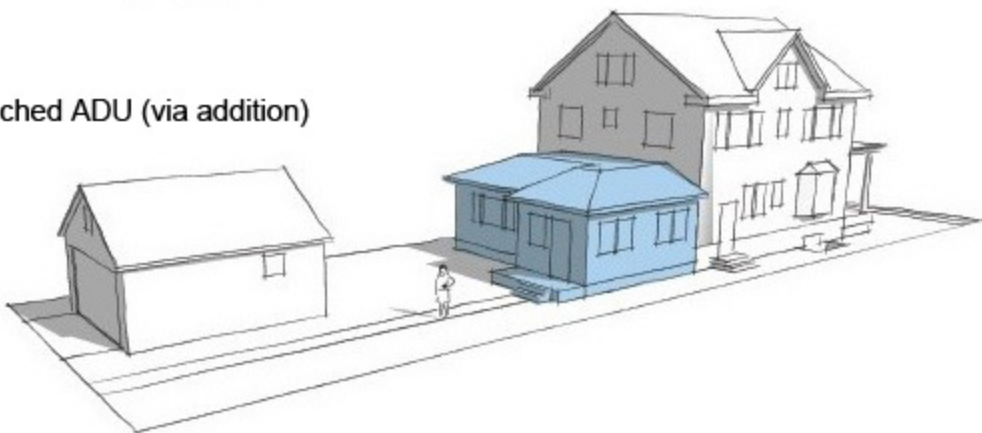
# Examples of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

*ADUs in blue; main residence in white*

Attached ADU (internal)



Attached ADU (via addition)



Detached ADU

