



## **Top 9 Reasons To Consider Building Cohousing in Urban Settings**

1. **Sense of community** among members make it possible to build in marginal neighborhoods.
2. **Tight urban space** -- often seen as a detriment in housing -- **is appealing to cohousers** because it enhances neighborliness. Cohousing is compatible with urban density needs.
3. Once the community is in place, **there is a critical mass of people** in the neighborhood who are experienced in making collective decisions to bring about positive change.
4. Cohousing can be **used as a leading wedge strategy** to bring about revitalization. Everywhere a cohousing community is built, the neighborhood invariably improves.
5. Cohousing communities **function as an anchor of stability** in a neighborhood.

6. **Clustered housing** is in tune w/ urban housing landscape
7. Because cohousing is adaptable to rehabbing and retrofitting, building cohousing can take advantage of **reusing existing residential or commercial building stock.**
8. Cohousing communities fit within the definition of most Planned Unit Development (PUD) ordinances. Therefore, **generally, no new zoning ordinance definition is necessary.**
9. With parking on the periphery of the community as one of the key site design principles, **on the street parking is not only not a liability, it's preferable.**
10. Except in “hot” urban markets, urban centers and “first ring” suburban areas often have sites available for revitalization.

First five courtesy of the late Don Lindeman, former Editor  
“CoHousing.”