

## **Transcript of Preparing for Your Housing Search Audio**

00:00 – 1:22 “It can be tough to find the perfect home, but the more you plan ahead and prepare, the more likely you are to find what you need, like, and can afford.

There are some key questions you should ask yourself before you start searching for a home. To start, how much are you willing and able to pay? Try to keep it at a third to two-thirds of your income.

The budget worksheet can help you calculate what you can afford in rent and utilities, and check out the tip sheets on how to maximize your income and financial support.

It’s also a good idea to think about the type of unit you are looking for. What does it need to include? And what neighborhood do you want to live in?

Another important thing to consider is, do you have all the documents you need to apply for a unit? A landlord will often ask for ID when you sign a lease.

And have you thought about your housing options?

In privately-owned housing, landlords have to follow legal rules under the Residential Tenancies Act.

Subsidized and rent geared to income housing, also known as community housing, is owned by charities, non-profit organizations, or government and rent is lower – about 30 percent of your income.

Knowing how much you can afford and the type of housing you are looking for can help make your search easier.

For more help, check out all of the tip sheets and worksheets in this section and check back in when you're ready to start searching for housing.”