Joe Arcus

Dr. Ning Ai

UPP 514: Economic Policy Analysis for Planners

Case Memo 1

25 September 2018

Seattle, WA: Rent Control

Summary:

This memorandum evaluates the impact of rent control on the Seattle housing market.

Economic modeling shows that introducing rent control into the City of Seattle would limit the price of housing while reducing the quantity available. A price ceiling creates excess demand and prevents the market from reaching equilibrium. American cities typically only introduce rent