

**DRAFT**

May 5, 2020

Gordon Howard, Community Services Division Manager  
Department of Land Conservation and Development  
DLCD.GFgrant@state.or.us

**Re: DCLD Grant Application for Public Engagement Support for the Middle Housing Code Updates – Clackamas County**

Dear Grant Selection Committee:

The Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) strongly supports the *Public Engagement Support for Middle Housing Code Updates* grant application submitted by the Planning and Zoning Division of Clackamas County. At our May 5, 2020 Policy Session we approved the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) grant application submission.

Community engagement throughout the process of revising our Zoning & Development Ordinance (ZDO) to implement the requirements of HB 2001 is essential. During 2019, the Clackamas County Housing Affordability and Homelessness Task Force recommended addressing many of the issues included within HB 2001 and the BCC then supported the inclusion of the Housing Strategies project in the 2019-21 Long Range Planning work program. The DLCD grant will augment the work of county staff by providing consultant support for an extensive public outreach program to ensure that communities not typically involved are engaged in the discussions on these amendments.

We appreciate this opportunity to expand the public engagement on this important topic. It supports our ability to apply an equity lens to the public engagement activities. These actions are needed to create successful and meaningful modifications of the DLCD model code to fit the unique needs in urban unincorporated Clackamas County by increasing the ability to engage, inform, build understanding and gather input from the public, especially those communities not historically engaged in these processes.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chair Jim Bernard  
Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners