

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Staff Presentation Worksheet

Presentation Date: August 3, 2010 Time: 2:00 to 3:00 Length: 1 Hour

Presentation Title: Development of a County-Wide Housing Plan

Department: Health, Housing and Human Services

Presenters: Cindy Becker, Trell Anderson, Chuck Robbins

Invited: Cam Gilmore, Barb Cartmill, Dan Johnson, Gary Barth

POLICY QUESTION

Should the County conduct a planning effort to establish a county-wide housing plan?

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The Board of County Commissioners is uniquely positioned as the governing body of Community Development funds, the Planning Department, the Urban Renewal agency, the Public Housing Authority, the Community Action agency (social services), the Local Mental Health and Public Health Authorities, and a Federal Qualified Health Center – all which play a role in developing affordable housing and serving the people who live there.

The combination of changing demographics, the economy, our geographic challenges, and federal priorities all point to the need for more thoughtful coordination of housing that is linked with efforts around land use and zoning regulation, transportation, job creation, parks/open space, and supportive services.

A sample of recent topics of interest expressed by BCC members include:

- How do we locate more affordable housing opportunities near supportive services, community amenities, and job opportunities?
- Do we have a planned response to the next mobile/manufactured home park closure?
- How do we facilitate Transit Oriented Development along light rail lines that facilitate mixed-us and mixed income communities?
- How do we respond to the basic housing placement and stabilization of our most vulnerable residents (people with mental illness or addictions, seniors, veterans, survivors of domestic violence, people who are homeless, etc.)?
- How do we foster new communities that promote health and wellness?

The development of a county-wide housing plan would not only provide the framework for responding to the above issues, but would guide future priority setting and resource allocation.

(For additional background about affordable housing in the county, please see the attached summary that was prepared in 2007.)

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

1. Develop a coordinated proposal and plan:
 - a. Direct the departments of Health, Housing, and Human Services, Development & Transportation, and Business & Community Services to develop a proposal that will provide the foundation for a county-wide housing plan.
 - i. The proposal should outline the scope, outline the process for public input, identify barriers, provide linkages to other county initiatives, funding impacts and other resources, and include timelines for key components. Additionally, the proposal should incorporate existing housing-related plans as appropriate.
 - b. Designate a lead/coordinator.
 - c. Return to BCC for review/approval of proposal.
 - d. Develop county-wide plan for discussion with full BCC.
2. Direct individual departments to articulate respective opportunities and goals related to housing.
3. Wait until strategic plan is completed.
4. Do not move forward on this issue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends option #1, working with the Board's Housing Subcommittee. It is anticipated that development of a county-wide plan would take approximately six months from approval of the proposal. Given the changes – and opportunities - we are seeing at the federal level around coordinated planning, we believe it is in the county's best interest to begin work on building this framework as soon as possible.

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____
Department Director/Head Approval _____
County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact _____ @ 503-_____

*06/2009 Version