

Summer 2023 Affordable Housing Funding Recommendations

Thurston Regional Housing Council moves forward with funding recommendations from the Affordable Housing Advisory Board.

Thursday, August 24, 2023

UPDATE: The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners approved these funding recommendations on September 12, 2023.

The Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board presented their funding recommendations to the Thurston Regional Housing Council (RHC) Wednesday. The RHC accepted the recommendations and will formally make these recommendations to the Thurston County [Board of County Commissioners](#) for approval on September 12, 2023.

In June, [Thurston County Office of Housing & Homeless Prevention](#) invited community service providers to apply for the Thurston County Affordable Housing -Summer 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP). Applications submitted by the due date, July 20, 2023, were reviewed and scored by the Regional Housing Council's [Affordable Housing Advisory Board](#). The Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board worked together selecting the applications to recommend for funding.

"We did not take the task lightly," said Talauna Reed, Chair of the Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board. "Through a lens of equity, the advisory board reviewed and scored 15 eligible applications. The discussions were rich, and every member contributed valuable insight. The recommendations are unanimously supported by the members of the Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board."

The recommendations are to fund seven programs or projects at six different organizations for a total amount of \$5,525,401. Eight eligible applications were not recommended to be funded since the total amount requested among eligible applications exceeded the amount of available funding. The total amount requested among the eligible applications was \$14,123,194.

These funds, which come from the City of Olympia and County-wide Local Home Funds, SHB 2060 document recording fees, SHB 1406 sales tax, and the federal HOME American Rescue Plan, will be used for a variety of affordable housing activities. These include, rental housing for seniors, affordable homeownership, rental assistance, homeowner rehabilitation, and both single-family and multifamily rental housing. Approximately 137 new units of affordable housing will be created with this funding.

"These funds will make a big difference for hundreds of people caught in the affordable housing crunch," said Carolyn Cox, chair of the Regional Housing Council and Lacey City Councilmember. "There is still much to do, but I'm proud of how well our city and county governments are working together on regional solutions."

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Attachment: Summer 2023 Affordable Housing Funding Recommendations

Regional Housing Council Members

Carolyn Cox, Chair
City of Lacey
Councilmember

Carolina Mejia, Vice-Chair
Thurston County
Commissioner

Dani Madrone
City of Olympia
Councilmember

Michael Althausen
City of Tumwater
Councilmember

Brian Hess
City of Yelm
Councilmember

Summer 2023 Affordable Housing Funding Recommendations

Applicant Name	Project Name	Recommended Award
Housing Authority of Thurston County	Sequoia North	\$1,653,745
South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity	Talich Townhomes Phase 2	\$504,600
Homes First	Homes Purchase for Affordable Housing	\$300,000
Rochester Organization of Families	Rental Assistance	\$16,000
228 Olympia, LLLP (Interfaith Works & Together We Grow)	228 Olympia	\$2,751,056
Homes First	O'Farrell Senior ADUs	\$225,000
Rebuilding Together Thurston County	Critical Home Rehab Program	\$75,000
TOTAL		\$5,525,401
Available funding to award		\$5,525,401