

Regional Housing & Growth Issues Partnership

WWW.RHGIP.COM | INFO@RHGIP.COM

WEEKLY UPDATE 4/11/22

CONTACT: Kiki Miller

Regional Housing & Growth Issues Partnership

Phone: (208) 661-1778

Email: info@rhgip.com

Welcome to the Weekly Update! The Regional Housing & Growth Issues Partnership Working Group met via Zoom on Monday, April 11. Questions and feedback can be emailed to info@rhgip.com

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Outreach Committee will record a 20-minute video of the presentation that has been shown to over 23 cities, planning and zoning commissions, civic groups, corporate boards and schools that will be shared with the public via social media and the Partnership website.
- A flowchart is being developed listing members of the Working Group, Advisory Group and all Partnership subcommittees. More subcommittees are being added, including the HomeShare Kootenai County subcommittee and a subcommittee focused on affordable housing for veterans.
- The Culver's Crossing development in Bonner County has been approved. The development has deed restrictions that limit home purchases based on a buyer's income and the length of time they have lived and worked in the community. (Information on Voluntary Deed Restrictions can be found in the Partnership's Solutions ToolKit at <https://rhgip.com/purchase-deed-restriction>)

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Open-Space Subcommittee:** David Callahan reported that the county Open Space Commission is exploring funding options for a large land acquisition.
- **Land Acquisition Subcommittee:** Maggie Lyons is developing a brief scope of work outline for Panhandle Affordable Housing Alliances to give at a future work group meeting. She is working on templates for voluntary deed restriction processes and a presentation on Community Land Trusts by Julie Brunner.
- **HomeShare Kootenai County Subcommittee:** The newly formed HomeShare subcommittee has applied for a \$5,000 grant and has received a \$10,000 contribution to help establish a homesharing program in Kootenai County. More information on homesharing is available in the Partnership's Solutions ToolKit at <https://rhgip.com/homesharing-program>. The Partnership's Outreach Committee distributed a press release about homesharing and the story

was picked up by local outlets. Watch KXLY's coverage [HERE](#) and read the article in the Spokane Journal of Business [HERE](#). HomeShare Co-Chair Kandi Johnson updated work in progress.

MORE UPDATES

- **Community Presentations:** Kiki Miller, Maggie Lyons, Gynii Gilliam and David Callahan, have delivered presentations on the Housing Affordability and Availability study and the Partnership's progress and scope of work to most municipalities in the area and several organizations. The schedule for upcoming presentations is on the website: <https://rhgip.com/news-%26-events>
- **Workforce Housing Fund Update:** Cory Phelps from Idaho Housing & Finance Association said the IHFA is working on an allocation plan for the \$50 million of American Rescue Plan Act funding that has been earmarked for workforce housing. Cory said they hope to have a draft plan available for review in May and may have an early August deadline for the first round of applications. It will be a competitive process with a preference for applicants that have a community match either in dollars or in-kind contributions like fee waivers. Of the \$50 million, \$10 million has been set aside for rural areas. The statute does not address equitable distribution, but Cory said the plan the IHFA is crafting will likely look at funding projects in every region of the state. Cory will be updating the Partnership regularly.
- **Multi-Generational Housing:** The Work Group discussed codes applicable to Multi-Generational Housing(Example: In-law quarters). A code from Moscow is being evaluated as a potential model for policy changes local municipalities could incorporate to allow for Multi-Generational Housing if it's not already permissible and to potentially bring clarity and consistency. The Partnership is adding this item to the FAQ section of website.
- **Employer-Funded Housing:** Several local employers have expressed an interest in providing housing for their employees. The Partnership is exploring ways to facilitate this with the various jurisdictions in Kootenai County.

THE NEXT ADVISORY GROUP MEETING IS AT 3 P.M. MONDAY, APRIL 25.