

## WEEKLY UPDATE 2/23/23

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**Welcome to the Weekly Update!** The Regional Housing & Growth Issues Partnership Working Group met February 13 via Zoom. Here are some highlights of the partnership's ongoing activity:

**RHGIP transition to Connect Kootenai on Housing and Growth:** CDA2030 is in the process of rebranding to Connect Kootenai and is taking over the work of RHGIP as Connect Kootenai on Housing and Growth. A new logo, website and press release are in the works. For the time being, the Working Group and Advisory Group meetings will continue as scheduled, at least through June. Connect Kootenai plans to have two co-chairs as part of the Working Group along with a Connect Kootenai board member who will serve as a board liaison and report back to Connect Kootenai. More information is coming soon!

**Upcoming Survey:** RHGIP will soon launch a survey very similar to the one conducted in Spring 2021 to gauge the community's current priorities for addressing growth-related issues. Nearly 2,700 people responded to RHGIP's Spring 2021 survey and identified the following as their priorities:

1. Preserving Open Space
2. Traffic and Transportation
3. Housing
4. Water/Aquifer Protection
5. Legislative Action

**Cohousing/Communal Living Projects:** Kiki Miller introduced a new item for RHGIP's ToolKit – cohousing or communal living projects. If you would like to hear more about cohousing there's a workshop scheduled for Saturday, March 4, part of the [Innovative Urbanism Symposium](#) in Spokane. Grace Kim, one of the workshop facilitators, has a Ted Talk titled "[How Cohousing can make us happier \(and live longer\)!](#)"

**Presentations:** Greta Gissel recently gave a presentation to Kootenai County Democrats about the transition to Connect Kootenai on Housing and Growth and RHGIP's progress to-date. Greta will also be presenting at the [Post Falls Chamber of Commerce's](#) Connect4Lunch on March 21. Anyone wanting to schedule a presentation can call Greta at (208) 620-1264 or email [greta@cda2030.org](mailto:greta@cda2030.org)

### In the News:

[Washington Trust Economic Perspective](#) on rent and housing affordability (Feb. 17)

[HomeShare Kootenai County opening program applications](#) (Jan. 31, The Coeur d'Alene Press)

[CDA2030 rebranding to Connect Kootenai](#) (Jan. 20, The Coeur d'Alene Press)

[Rising Rents Drowning Washington Cities](#) (Mentions Kootenai County and UI Housing Availability and Affordability Study)