

WEEKLY UPDATE 3/27/23

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The RHGIP/Connect Kootenai *on Housing and Growth* Advisory Group met Monday, March 27, 2023.

Announcements: Bob Seale/City of Post Falls and James Casper/Habitat for Humanity have joined the Connect Kootenai Board.

Transition Update: Greta Gissel said the Connect Kootenai logo looks great and she's working on colors for branding. Once the color scheme finalized, Taryn Hecker will help with a press release to announce the transition and inform the community about Connect Kootenai's regional growth survey which will help identify the community's priorities for Connect Kootenai *on Housing and Growth*.

Advisory Group Survey Results: Hilary Patterson shared results of the Advisory Group Survey. A total of 21 responses were received. The survey asked about the roles Advisory Group members have served in and their areas of interest. Many of the areas of interest are part of Connect Kootenai's broader mission and Greta said she'd like to involve interested people in the areas they want to be engaged in. Connect Kootenai is working on hiring a part-time person to help Greta with the broader mission so Greta can focus much of her time on housing. Most survey respondents favored monthly meetings and there was a preference for virtual only or hybrid meetings. All but one respondent said they wanted to continue serving on Advisory Group. See survey results [HERE](#)

PAHA Housing Availability and Affordability Roadmap: Maggie Lyons/PAHA said surveys may go out the first week in April and the Housing Availability and Affordability Roadmap will be released end of June at the earliest. Maggie said the survey and Roadmap will focus more on the construction side and homeownership versus apartments and rentals.

IHFA Workforce Housing Update: Jack Hawkins said the application deadline for the second round of workforce housing funding was March 10. About \$22 million was remaining after the first round. This round, 15 applications were received totaling more than \$35 million. IHFA is reviewing applications and will likely announce recipients within the next 2-3 weeks.

HomeShare Kootenai County: Carrie Ward said several applications have been received, but there haven't been any move ins yet. She said more applications are needed in order to make matches. Advisory group members are asked to help spread the word. Information is available at www.homesharekc.org.

Resident-Owned Communities: Greta shared an update from Victoria O'Banion. Two manufactured home communities have incorporated and another two or more will incorporate later this month. Idaho statute states owners must notify residents when mobile home park goes on sale. In 2024, there will be

an effort to change the law so owners have to notify residents they intend to sell before the property is listed.

Open Space: David Callahan said bond counsel and municipal advisors presented to the Board of County Commissioners and the commissioners are agreeable to move forward with an open space bond in November. The Trust for Public Land may have money available to use for a scientific poll/survey to get a sense for voter support.

Regional Health Care & Public Safety Subcommittee: Kiki Miller has meetings next week regarding the healthcare worker project and will have an update soon.

Annual Rental Housing Survey: Connect Kootenai plans to send out the annual rental housing survey in May. If you would like to volunteer to help with the survey, contact Greta.

Community Dashboard: Connect Kootenai's new website will have a Community Dashboard where information and resources can be shared (similar to the RHGIP Toolkit).

Connect Kootenai Open House: We found a space, The Cove in Post Falls on Clearwater Loop by NIC Campus ... brand new shared space working center can hold 85-90 people. Thursday June 1 inviting advisory group, working group and community to hear ... in addition to evening event will also host a morning event. Morning of June 2. If interested in helping with both or either event, contact Greta

Upcoming Events/Presentations:

- Inland Northwest Partners (INP) presents "Housing Strategies for the Inland Northwest" 8:30 a.m. March 29 at Red Lion Templin's Hotel in Post Falls. Maggie Lyons will be presenting about PAHA's deed restriction program and Bob Seale will be discussing Post Falls' infill housing initiatives. Info: <https://inwp.org/events/online-event-registration/>
- St. Vincent de Paul will have open houses at noon and 6 p.m. March 29 at the St. Vincent de Paul Help Center, 201 E. Harrison, Coeur d'Alene. The organization will share information on efforts to convert their Post Falls property into a shared use space with workforce and veteran housing.
- Hilary Patterson will be a presenter at the National Planning Conference in Philadelphia speaking on the housing affordability challenges and the region's response with the RHGIP and the recent Coeur Terre annexation's housing covenants that were included in the development agreement. Also, at the conference, McCall's Housing Action Plan will receive a National Planning Award.
- Greta Gissel will present to Coeur d'Alene City Council at 6 p.m. April 4 at City Hall.
- Mark your calendars for Connect Kootenai's Open House. An evening event will be scheduled for June 1 with a morning event on June 2. The event will be held at The Cove, a new shared working center on Clearwater Loop in Post Falls. More information will be released soon. If you can help with this event, please contact Greta.
- If you would like Greta to present to your organization, please let her know!