



WEEKLY UPDATE 4/11/23

CONTACT: Greta Gissel

Regional Housing & Growth Issues Partnership/Connect Kootenai *on Housing and Growth*

Phone: (208) 620-1264 **Email:** greta@connectkootenai.org

The RHGIP/Connect Kootenai *on Housing and Growth* Working Group met Monday, April 10, 2023.

Announcements: Connect Kootenai Executive Director Greta Gissel announced that the logo and branding for Connect Kootenai is done. Next up is a press release which will serve the dual purpose of announcing the merger of RHGIP and Connect Kootenai and also inform the community about the regional growth survey which aims to identify the community's priorities for Connect Kootenai *on Housing and Growth*.

Working Group Subcommittees: Several members of the Working Group have expressed an interest in working on specific areas of focus which could result in the formation of Working Group subcommittees. Greta will be reaching out to individuals in the near future.

PAHA Housing Availability and Affordability Roadmap: Maggie Lyons/PAHA said surveys have been going out and the Kootenai County Housing Roadmap will be released at the end of June at the earliest.

Legislative Session Updates: Hilary Patterson said Gov. Brad Little [signed off a new law](#) that would prevent homeowners associations from restricting internal Accessory Dwelling Units. A bill that would allow schools to assess impact fees did not gain traction. Greta suggested creating a subcommittee that would monitor legislative issues for Connect Kootenai *on Housing and Growth*.

Public Hearings: Greta asked Working Group members to keep her apprised of any public hearing opportunities where Connect Kootenai *on Housing and Growth* can speak in support of affordable worker housing. The Working Group discussed opportunities to speak to builders and developers earlier in the process and share items from the ToolKit that they might be able to incorporate into their projects.

Upcoming Events/Presentations:

- **Housing and Economic Summit:** The registration deadline is fast approaching – April 14 – for the NIBCA's Housing and Economic Summit set for 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. April 20 at the Hagadone Event Center. Several Working Group members are planning to attend. For more info and registration visit <https://business.nibca.com/events/details/housing-economic-summit-3367>

- **Connect Kootenai 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!

In The News:

- [American Dream Out of Reach for Many in Kootenai County – The Coeur d’Alene Press](#)
- [Kootenai County Population Growth by the Numbers – The Coeur d’Alene Press](#)
- [Study: Idaho Lacks Affordable Housing – The Coeur d’Alene Press](#)