

Regional Housing & Growth Issues Partnership

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WEEKLY UPDATE 3/30/22

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Welcome to the Weekly Update! The Regional Housing & Growth Issues Partnership Advisory Group met via Zoom on Monday, March 28. All Advisory Group meetings are recorded, so if you couldn't attend and would like to watch the meeting, visit our website www.rhgip.com. Questions and feedback can be emailed to info@rhgip.com

Here's a recap of Monday's meeting:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Gov. Brad Little signed off on HB701, creating the Idaho Workforce Housing Fund. Using \$50 million from the American Rescue Plan Act, the housing fund will be used to provide gap financing for the development of local worker housing. The Idaho Housing & Finance Association will oversee the program, but how the funds will be allocated has not been finalized. We will be getting regular updates from IHFA and the Governor's office.
- Kiki Miller shared an article about an innovative affordable housing project in Colorado as an example of ideas that can be shared within the community:
<https://coloradosun.com/2022/03/25/net-zero-affordable-housing-basalt-solar/>.
- There have been multiple discussions throughout the county regarding Multi-Generational Housing. If there is any news on this topic, it will be shared in a future meeting.
- Local builders recently held a panel discussion. Some builders are looking for ways to reduce purchase prices: <https://cdapress.com/news/2022/mar/25/if-you-build-it/>

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Resident-Owned Communities Subcommittee:** Kerri Thoreson is continuing to research how Resident-Owned Communities could benefit residents of manufactured home communities in the area. A Resident-Owned Community is a neighborhood of manufactured homes that's owned by a cooperative of homeowners who live there as opposed to an outside landlord.
- **Land Acquisition Subcommittee:** Maggie Lyons reported that the Panhandle Affordable Housing Alliance has hired legal counsel to explore how PAHA could be a conduit for land purchases for Community Land Trusts. She has also been exploring the legality of owner deed restrictions that would allow landowners and developers to restrict purchases to individuals who have lived in

the area a certain length of time or work in a specific field (like public safety or health care workers). Information on voluntary deed restrictions is included in the Solutions ToolKit at www.rhgip.com

- **HomeShare Subcommittee:** This subcommittee is new and will be headed by Tom Lucas of ElderHelp. Homesharing Homesharing enables two or more unrelated people to share housing for their mutual benefit. A person offers a private bedroom and shared common area in exchange for rent, help around the house, or a combination of the two. More information will be shared at the next Advisory Group meeting.
- **Rentals Subcommittee:** Kiki Miller is meeting with a group of volunteers who will gather data on the rental housing market, evaluate needs and explore potential solutions for local workers.
- **Funding-Revenue-Trust Fund Subcommittee:** This subcommittee will be tasked with exploring options to fund and support local worker housing.
- **Developer/Builder Outreach Subcommittee:** This subcommittee is still being formed, but will serve as outreach to builders and developers in the area.

MORE UPDATES

- **Community Presentations:** Kiki Miller, Maggie Lyons, Gynii Gilliam and David Callahan, have delivered presentations on the Partnership's progress and scope of work to several groups in the community, including the Hayden City Council, Kootenai County Commissioners and Coeur d'Alene City Council. The schedule for upcoming presentations is on the website: <https://rhgip.com/news-%26-events> A recorded version of the community presentation will be available on the website soon.
- **Website/Social Media:** The Community Outreach committee is working on short informational videos based on Frequently Asked Questions. The Solutions ToolKit on the website has been expanded. Website traffic is increasing, but it would be helpful if Advisory Group members could share the website and social media posts to improve outreach efforts.
- **Live Poll:** Advisory Group members present at the meeting were polled to gauge the community's awareness of the Partnership. Live poll results are available on the website under Meetings/Agendas.

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