



# Staff Report

July 6, 2021

City Council Regular Meeting

Resolution 21-006 Regarding the Camas Housing Action Plan

Presenter: Sarah Fox, Senior Planner

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## BACKGROUND

The City of Camas is creating a Housing Action Plan (HAP) to encourage housing diversity and affordability for people of all incomes. The goal of this plan is to further goals and policies of Camas 2035, the city’s comprehensive plan, to achieve a greater variety of housing types and costs to better meet the needs and desires of individuals and families. Funding for the project comes through a grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce.

A public hearing before Planning Commission was held on April 20 and continued to May 18. The Commission forwarded a recommendation of approval that included a prioritization of the draft strategies.

A workshop before Council was held on June 7, 2021. Council directed that the changes as recommended by the Commission be brought forward for a public hearing. At the public hearing before Council on June 21, the Housing Action Plan was unanimously approved. Council directed that the City Attorney prepare a resolution for approval. As directed, Resolution 21-006 is attached to this report.

## Recommendation

**That City Council approve Resolution 21-006 to confirm approval of the Camas Housing Action Plan.**

### EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

*What are the desired results and outcomes for this agenda item?*

*What’s the data? What does the data tell us?*

### FINDING

Continued support from council on the path of this project, and ultimately, adoption of the plan.

Chapters 1 to 6 of the Plan includes the background and data to support the housing strategies and implementation options.

## EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

*How have communities been engaged? Are there opportunities to expand engagement?*

*Who will benefit from, or be burdened by this agenda item?*

*What are the strategies to mitigate any unintended consequences?*

*Does this agenda item have a differential impact on underserved populations, people living with disabilities, and/or communities of color? Please provide available data to illustrate this impact.*

*Will this agenda item improve ADA accessibilities for people with disabilities?*

*What potential hurdles exists in implementing this proposal (include both operational and political)?*

*How will you ensure accountabilities, communicate, and evaluate results?*

*How does this item support a comprehensive plan goal, policy or other adopted resolution?*

## FINDING

Invitations to join the open houses and take the survey were broadly sent on social media, CSD parent newsletter, city newsletter, newspaper advertisements, yard signs, and to Vancouver Housing Authority residents in Camas. Staff sent emails to those who joined the conversation at project website and posted public notices as required by state law.

The Camas Housing Action Plan will benefit our community by creating a future where more housing choices (size, type, price) will be available.

The city can amend development regulations at any time that we become aware of an unintended consequence.

The goal of the initiative is to increase the availability of housing types, sizes, and costs. Greater housing variety and affordability has the potential to better serve residents with disabilities and communities of color.

The goal of the initiative is to increase the availability of housing types, sizes, and costs. This will include housing for the disabled and seniors in our city.

We anticipate that subsequent work on HAP strategies that change development or zoning regulations could be met with both support and opposition. Strategies that are less controversial are typically those that apply to areas that are undeveloped.

We regularly update the city's website, utilize social media, and present draft recommendations at PC and Council workshops.

Neighborhood LU-3.1 "Create vibrant, stable, and livable neighborhoods with a variety of housing choices that meet all stages in the life cycle and range of affordability."

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

FINDING

Citywide Housing H-1, "Maintain the strength, vitality, and stability of all neighborhoods and promote the development of a variety of housing choices that meet the needs of all members of the community."

H-1.7, "Require all new housing developments to provide a range of housing types and sizes that are evaluated through the land use approval process and stipulated on the final plat."

H-3, "Encourage and support a variety of housing opportunities for those with special needs, particularly those with challenges relating to age, health, or disability."

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

The city was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Commerce.