

CITY/COUNTY HOMELESS COORDINATION PILOT

WHEREAS Oregon's lack of available housing, high rents and high home prices are driving rapid increases in housing instability and homelessness. Oregon has experienced a significant increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness and unsheltered homelessness. Oregon's funding, resources, and services to address homelessness are not scaled to meet this need and Oregon's lack of housing affordability and availability will not be addressed without cross-jurisdictional collaboration. Communities require coordinated leadership and governance to identify local needs and centralize communication, policy, and services to end homelessness.

5 Pilot Communities = \$5M one-time funding for 2-year pilot

- \$1 million per pilot to fund over two years:
 - Coordinated office director and support staff
 - Stipends for people with current or lived experience of homelessness to support policy development and community outreach
 - Communications and public engagement
 - Technical assistance and capacity support

Each coordinated office will include 1 county and specified cities to:

- Enter into an intergovernmental agreement or MOU covering specific roles and responsibilities
- Create a governance structure/advisory board with a minimum representation from county/city governing bodies
- Develop a 5-year strategic plan that will:
 - Create a funding plan to support coordinated office after 2 year pilot
 - Streamline and increase federal, state, and local resources and services for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness across the county and participating cities relying on national best practices for ending homelessness
 - Decrease homelessness across the county and eliminate racial disparities within homeless services;
 - Support state, regional, and local partners in planning and developing housing affordable to local populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
 - Create a coordinated communication strategy and centralized point of contact
- Coordinate with local Continuum of Care
- Invite/consult with local tribes
- Develop and strengthen partnerships with key regional stakeholders including but not limited to: culturally specific community organizations, Continuum of Care, Community Action Agency, local behavioral health providers, county public and behavioral health, Coordinated Care Organization, other healthcare providers, law enforcement, school district/McKinney-Vento liaison, local DHS office, faith community, business/employers, courts, shelter and homeless service providers
- Reporting
 - 2 annual reports to legislature
 - Populations served, progress on specific projects in strategic plan, partners involved

- Identify challenges/successes to:
 - i. Help inform state model for future local/regional coordination
 - ii. Inform future TA support/needs for OHCS program development
 - iii. Inform best practices for engaging and serving populations that are overrepresented in local homeless data, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, foster youth,

Additional details (not necessarily in text of bill)

Success looks like:

- A local coordinated homeless response system
- 5-year strategic plan with specific deliverables
- Long term funding identified to support coordinated office
- Contribute to a state template/model for additional communities to do this work

Implementation:

- Grants would go through DAS directly to city or county
- OHCS will have informal technical advisory role, pilots will be expected to coordinate with current/existing OHCS policy and program work
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November 16, 2021

Dear City and County Leaders,

Thanks to those of you who have expressed interest in participating in a legislative concept to pilot city/county homelessness response coordination. Unsurprisingly, there is strong local need for and interest in this concept. LOC and AOC have received more initial responses than there are pilots or funding planned in the bill. We are following up today with additional details and a draft bill framework to give communities a better understanding of the intent for the pilot and expectations for jurisdictions that wish to be considered for participation.

The draft pilot framework would fund 5 pilot city/county coordinated offices with \$1 million for 2 years. Each pilot would be expected to meet a basic framework, including requirements to enter into an intergovernmental agreement or MOU to ensure mutual responsibility for the success of the office, create a governance structure/advisory board with a minimum representation from each city/counties' governing bodies, and develop a 5-year strategic plan with specific program deliverables. **Importantly, pilots would receive 2 years of one-time state funding, after which time local jurisdictions would need to identify a long-term funding plan to sustain their coordinated office.**

In order to narrow down those local jurisdictions that are ready and able to fully commit to the draft pilot concept, interested communities are asked to submit a formal letter of interest from the regional jurisdictions (a city, or cities, and a county) you would like to include in your pilot. Your letter should include the following:

- Confirmation that your elected bodies have indicated majority interest in this pilot concept and understand the details of the short and long-term commitment. Include all City/County partners that will be included, and the status of the agreement to move forward.
- Confirmation that there is mutual agreement among the partners to seek out or provide funding after the first two years of state funding.
- Confirmation you have reviewed the draft framework of the bill as proposed, and that there is general agreement to abide by the policy as it is laid out (suggestions are welcome to inform the final bill draft).
- A description of any recent or current local coordination on homelessness response in or among your jurisdictions and local provider partners and how a coordinated office would align with or strengthen current efforts.

Priority will be given to jurisdictions who can successfully meet all framework requirements. While all pilot proposals from a county and city will be considered, preference will be given to pilot proposals that include a county and multiple cities, as the concept is intended as a regional approach.

Please email your letter by no later than December 10, 2021 at 5pm to anelson@orcities.org and latwoodwills@oregoncounties.org.

Thank you again for your interest and your leadership. Please feel free to reach out with additional questions.

Sincerely,

Ariel Nelson, League of Oregon Cities (LOC)
anelson@orcities.org

Lizzy Atwood-Wills, Association of Oregon Counties (AOC)
latwoodwills@oregoncounties.org