

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD (AHB)

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



April 8, 2024

From: Affordable Housing Board, Chair - John Singleton

To: Human Service and Housing Funding Board

Re: Ranking of Housing Applications in the 2024 Competitive Process

The Affordable Housing Board met on April 4, 2024, and discussed the 8 Housing applications and ranked them in the following priority order:

1. HO 5 Housing Catalyst - Village on Eastbrook
2. HO 7 Loveland Housing Development Corp – Larimer Home Improvement Program
3. HO 6 L'Arche Fort Collins – L'Arche Homes at Heartside Hill
4. HO 1 CARE Housing – Greenbriar-Windtrail Rehab
5. HO 4 Housing Catalyst – Remington Parking Lot
6. HO 3 Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity – Harmony Cottages
7. HO 2 City of Fort Collins Forestry Division – Homeowner Hazard Tree Removal Assistance Program
8. HO 8 The Szanton Company -302 Conifer

Comments on ranking exercise:

- This was a very difficult round understanding that all applications were for worthy projects and that the amount of funding available was not sufficient to fund all applications.
- Housing Catalyst's Village on Eastbrook (HO 5) rose to the top because it is ready to go and will add new units to the City's affordable housing inventory.
- HO7 LIHIP and HO 6 L'Arche Homes at Heartside Hill show support for a broader and more holistic approach to housing stabilization.
  - LIHIP will use the funding to match and leverage additional funding, serves Mobile Home Park residents, and provides for emergency repairs.
  - L'Arche serves a target population (people experiencing disabilities) that is lacking in services and could be seen as a pilot program encouraging scaling this up to serve more qualifying residents.
- CARE Housing's rehabilitation (HO 1) is very important and not as time sensitive as the new construction. The AHB hopes to see this application come back next year.
- HO 4, Housing Catalyst's Remington Parking Lot project anticipated needing to return to the Competitive Process in 2025. The Board felt the project is in the early stages and had time so they could refine and expand their request next year.

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- Habitat for Humanity's Harmony Cottages (HO 3) is a great community that the City has always supported. This round, H4H is not the only Community Housing Development Organization and therefore funding can still be deployed even if this application is not funded this round. The Board would support funding this application if there was more funding available.
- HO 2 The City's Forestry Division's Homeowner Hazard Tree Removal is a good support for low-income homeowners. They have yet to spend all the funding provided in the last round and have only helped one household to date. The Board would like to see more activity if this comes back for funding next year. Also, the Board encourages the Forestry Department to look for additional funding sources for the program such as submitting a BFO offer in the City's budget process or seeking grants from other sources more directly related to trees.
- HO 8 The Szanton Company's plans for 302 Conifer seemed to be too early in the process to fund now. It was unclear if they were targeting households earning no more than 80% Area Median Income. It was also unclear what funding sources they were relying on for financing their development. The Board encourages this applicant to return next year if appropriate based on final details for their project.

**Note to HS&HF Board:** The members of the Affordable Housing Board are leaning into their duty to promote citizen participation and public education on City-wide affordable housing issues. To that end, the Board intends to have education components at most of their meetings this year and has formed committees to guide this year's focus. They include:

- **Knowledge Repository**
- **Outreach, Education and Partnerships**
- **Council and Local Legislative Support**
- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Affordable Housing**

Members of the Human Services and Housing Funding Board are invited to attend the Affordable Housing Board's hybrid meetings (in-person or on Zoom) that occur the first Thursday of each month at 4:00 and/or to join any of the committees.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John H.", written over a horizontal line.