Tualatin's Equitable Housing Funding Plan

City Council Session
June 12, 2023



Tualatin's Recent Housing Planning Work

Adopted in 2019

Housing Needs Analysis

- Buildable lands inventory
- Housing market
- Demographics & socioeconomic characteristics
- Housing affordability
- Forecast of new housing
- Assessment of land sufficiency

Housing Production Strategy

- Refined understanding of housing need
- Evaluation of gaps in existing policies
- Identification of potential strategies
- Evaluation of new strategies
- Assessment of whether the strategies help achieve fair and equitable outcomes

Adopted in 2021

Project Purpose

- The Equitable Housing Funding Plan provides next steps towards affordable, fair and equitable housing outcomes
 - Will give guidance for financial and regulatory actions
 - Examines HPS strategic actions that produce funding and those that require funding
 - Focuses on financial and equity tradeoffs of these actions

Tualatin's Cost Burdened Households

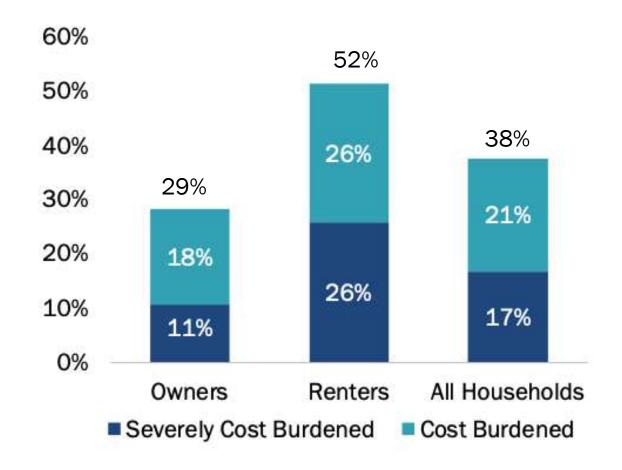
Cost Burden by Tenure, Tualatin, 2016-2020

Cost burdened:

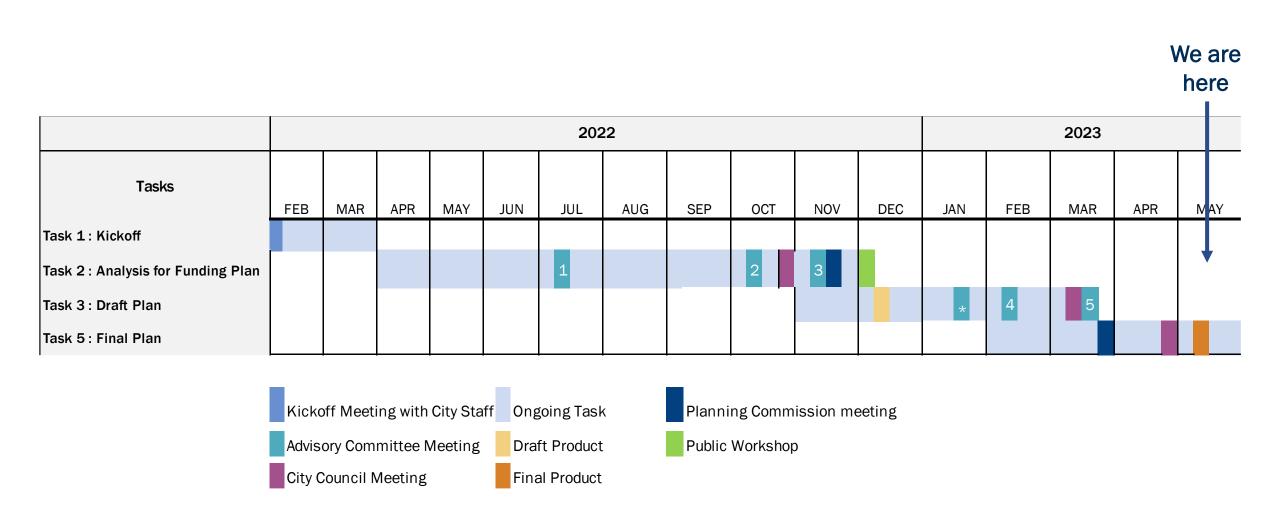
spending more than 30% of income on housing costs

Severely cost burdened:

spending more than 50% of income on housing costs



Project Schedule and Primary Tasks



Housing Funding Plan Summary

HPS Actions Considered in this Plan

- 5.a Consider development of a Funding Action Plan to implement the HPS with attention to Equity
- **1.a** Evaluate a Low-Income Housing Property Tax Exemption Program for affordable rental housing
- **1.b** Evaluate changes to Systems Development Charges
- **1.c** Evaluate implementation of a Construction Excise Tax (CET)
- **1.d** Evaluate support for affordable and workforce rental housing as part of Urban Renewal
- **2.a** Evaluate impediments to homeownership and their removal
- **4.a** Evaluate development of incentives to preserve low-cost rentals for below market-rate privately owned rental housing
- **4.b** Evaluate using the Multiple Unit Property Tax Exemption to slow rental cost increases
- **6.a** Evaluate ways to incentivize inclusion of Workforce Housing Units within new multifamily rental development
- **8.a** Evaluate establishing local housing rehabilitation program

Potential Actions

Construction Excise Tax (CET)	Urban Renewal Area Revenue
Adds revenue to the City through new local regulation	Adds revenue in a specific area through tax increment financing
What does it do: Levies a tax on new construction to fund housing programs and investments	 What does it do: Provides local funding for capital projects to support URA plan goals (including housing)
 How does it work: Allows cities to collect a 1% tax on permit value of new residential development or higher for commercial/industrial. 	How does it work: Uses revenue from tax increment financing (TIF) to make public investments
 Our findings: 0.5% to 1% CET on commercial and industrial development may be worthwhile in Tualatin. 	Our findings: Tualatin's proposed urban renewal area could integrate goals for housing and access TIF dollars.
Impact	
 Estimated to generate \$500,000 in revenue over 5 years for both residential and commercial/industrial CET based on historical permits 	 Impact Estimated \$2.5 million available for all uses in the Core Reinvestment Area based on current approximations, undetermined what share would be for housing.

Potential Actions

Multiple Unit Property Tax Exemption ¹	System Development Charge Exemption
Forgoes revenue to the City for targeted housing type	Forgoes revenue to the City for targeted housing type
What does it do: Provides a partial property tax exemption for private developers of mixed-income housing	What does it do: Reduces upfront development fees for developers who provide new affordable units
 How does it work: Can exempt only city taxes or all taxing districts if at least 51% of the total tax roll agrees to participate. 	How does it work: Can exempt City-controlled system development fees for Parks and Water, but not those collected by other service providers
 Our findings: If providing an exemption from all districts, MUPTE could create an incentive for private developers to offer units at or below 80 percent of area median income 	Our findings: Tualatin could provide an exemption for its two SDCs only but would likely have to backfill the forgone revenue
 Impact Estimated to cost \$144,000 for 100 units over 5 years for City taxes only (~16.5% of total) if rents are discounted for 20% of units at 80% AMI level 	 Impact Estimated to cost approximately \$751,000 for 100 units over 5 years (Parks is a flat rate, but Water is more variable based on meter size)

¹The City has already implemented the Nonprofit Tax Exemption on its own property taxes, which serves households at or below 60% AMI.

Potential Actions

Down Payment Assistance	Home Rehabilitation Programs
Provides funding to support homeownership	Provides funding to stabilize existing residents
 What does it do: Provides direct assistant to pay for upfront down payment costs for new first-time homebuyers. How does it work: Typically works as a one-time grant or deferred interest loan for homebuyers who meet other necessary qualifications for purchasing a home 	 What does it do: Provides direct assistance with home rehabilitation, accessibility improvements, and weatherization for low-income current homeowners. How does it work: Typically functions as a low- or no-interest loan or grant which can be scaled to different types of home repair projects.
Our findings: Partnerships with counties and/or nonprofits have been successful in peer cities to cover the high cost of down payment assistance	 Our findings: Some programs are already available to Tualatin residents, which could be strengthened and supported through partnerships
 Impact Estimated to cost \$250,000 to \$1,100,000 for 10 units over 5 years, depending on subsidy granted 	 Impact Estimated to cost \$750,000 to \$500,000 for 10 units over five years, depending on subsidy granted

Findings

Funding Plan Conclusions

- CET could be the largest source of flexible revenue
- Balance funding allocation for potential projects in the Core Reinvestment Area
- Support development of more units affordable to moderate income households through MUPTE
- Support development of more affordable lower-income housing through partner with nonprofit housing developers and operators
- Periodically review the Housing Funding Plan and HPS to evaluate effectiveness and identify changing priorities
- Continue to track additional funding that may become options

Equity Opportunities

- Establish an Oversight Committee:
 - Membership could ensure representation from underrepresented groups
 - Compensating members allows people of diverse backgrounds to participate
- Partner with nonprofits who provide specific support, like cultural outreach
- Develop an equity framework for decision-making process
 - Consider distribution of costs and benefits to low-income residents, seniors, people of color, and other groups with higher housing needs in Tualatin
 - Align with other City projects, such as the Climate Action Plan
 - Periodically review equity framework assumptions

Explore Additional Funding Sources

- Consider an Affordable Housing Trust Fund to collect and manage housing funds
 - Convene an advisory committee including low-income residents, renters, seniors, people with disabilities, commuters, and POC
- Explore sources for supporting both homeownership and affordable rental housing
 - Federal, state, second round of Metro bond funding

Recommendation

Advisory Committee Recommendation

 The Advisory Committee unanimously recommended that the City adopt and implement the Equitable Housing Funding Plan

Council Action

■ The City Council is asked to consider the adoption of the Equitable Housing Funding Plan by Resolution No. 5700-23

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