

TO: City Council
FROM: Erika Smith-Erickson, Land Use and Housing Planner, and Brad Medrud, Planning Manager
DATE: August 27, 2024
SUBJECT: Black Home Initiative Pledge

1) Recommended Action:

Review the materials on the Black Home Initiative program and discuss whether to join a partner pledge for the program through the Regional Housing Council.

2) Background:

The Black Home Initiative is a regional effort to increase homeownership among Black households. The program currently has a geographic focus in King and Pierce Counties. Pierce County and the Cities of Burien, Tacoma, Tukwila, and Seattle are currently network partners. Thurston County organizations and jurisdictions have been in conversation with the Black Home Initiative and are exploring the possibility of a partnership in the Black Home Initiative network.

Each Regional Housing Council jurisdiction has been asked to consider whether they would like to participate in the Black Home Initiative's efforts by authorizing the Regional Housing Council to sign the Black Home Initiative partner pledge. Signing the partner pledge signifies a commitment to being an active partner in the network to contribute to Black Home Initiative's shared efforts and priorities. While there is not a formal commitment of staff time or a financial contribution with signing the partner pledge, there is an expectation that City staff time will be needed to support the program.

Jurisdictions are asked to report back at the next Regional Housing Council meeting on August 28, 2024, about whether they will sign a partner pledge and the level of the City's support.

Potential ways Tumwater and the Regional Housing Council could participate and support the Black Home Initiative are found on page 3 of the Black Home Initiative Network Partner Pledge (Attachment B).

3) Policy Support:

GOAL H-4: To provide adequate opportunities for housing for all persons regardless of age, race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, familial status, marital status, ethnic background, source of income use of federal housing assistance, or other arbitrary factors.

4) Alternatives:

None.

5) Fiscal Notes:

This is an internally funded program. Additional staff time would need to be allocated to attend meetings and participate in programs as part of the Regional Housing Council.

6) Attachments:

- A. PowerPoint Presentation
- B. Black Home Initiative Network Partner Pledge
- C. Black-Homeownership-7-point-plan-2-7-22
- D. Thurston County Demographic and Lending Data-Maps-iEmergent