

Affordable Housing Committee Member-Driven Initiatives

Background

The concept of member-driven initiatives emerged from conversations between the Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) Chair and other Committee members who shared their desire to empower AHC members to take more ownership over information-sharing and education. Recognizing that the annual work plan has a narrow focus, the Chair sought alternative ways to allow AHC members to surface and advance other actions that implement the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Five Year Action Plan.

Purpose

The purpose of member-driven initiatives is to give AHC members opportunities to track and highlight housing issues of importance or showcase affordable housing best practices from their cities or organizations. The AHC is a body dedicated to regional collaboration; this concept is a new method for members to collaborate in creating more affordable housing in the region and reducing cost-burden among low-income communities.

Structure and Outcomes

1. Repurpose the 15-minute emerging issue section of AHC meetings for members to present on their work on promising housing solutions related to the Action Plan. King County staff, working with the Chair and HIJT Core Group, will consider topic areas for member-driven initiative presentations for the benefit of all Committee members. Selected topics will be timely, scalable or replicable, and/or showcase a unique solution developed by an entity represented on the AHC and could include:
 - Sharing model ordinances for jurisdictions
 - Examples of new or creative ways to speed the production of affordable housing
 - Sharing best or promising practices
2. Over time, create a tracker that collects and propagates the work of AHC members and others that helps to implement and advance the strategies and actions on the Action Plan. The tracker will include actions taken by jurisdictions, non-profits and others and serve as a resource for the region.

Staffing

AHC members will be in the lead to develop their initiatives of interest from beginning to end, including presenting, collaborating with others, and developing work products. Members will be the primary source of information for the tracker. King County staff will be available to provide support such as:

- Scheduling presenters and initiative topics for AHC meetings
- Providing technical assistance (A/V or remote access) or printing materials for presentations
- Creating shared document templates for AHC members to input information
- Updating the dashboard to reflect progress on member-driven initiatives
- Sharing information via AHC website