

# Memo

**To:** King County Affordable Housing Committee Members

**From:** McCaela Daffern, Regional Affordable Housing Implementation Manager

**cc:** Housing Interjurisdictional Team

**Date:** May 14, 2021

**Re:** Countywide Planning Policies and Community Partners Table Project Updates

---

## Background

This briefing provides updates on two Affordable Housing Committee (AHC or Committee) work plan items not on the agenda for discussion at the May 19 AHC meeting.

## Countywide Planning Policies Housing Chapter Update

The King County Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) released the public review draft of the Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) on April 5, 2021, including the draft policies recommended by the AHC. The draft can be viewed on the [CPP webpage](#),<sup>1</sup> which includes overviews for each chapter translated into several languages to increase access to more King County residents during the public comment period, which closed on May 5.

During the public comment review phase, staff to the AHC participated in meetings to solicit input from Housing Development Consortium members, unincorporated King County residents, and King County Planning Directors. Engagement with the Planning Directors focused on Committee members' concerns about the burden on small cities in meeting reporting requirements. The GMPC also received several emails and letters commenting on aspects of housing chapter. Common themes in the written comments include a desire for guidance and specificity on affordable housing need at the jurisdictional scale and the equitable distribution of affordable housing throughout the county.

Staff revised the chapter to address input from the public review phase, which now includes defined terms and the Housing Chapter technical appendix. Staff has also prepared a range of options for guidance on planning for the jurisdictional share of countywide need. The revised chapter and draft options will be presented to the Growth Management Planning Council on May 26 for their consideration and may result in further revisions to the Housing Chapter. Staff will keep the AHC apprised when a revised draft is released. The GMPC is expected to take action on the CPPs on June 23.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-planning/CPPs.aspx>

## **Community Partners Table Consultant Selection**

On April 22, 2021, an evaluation panel of King County staff and Housing Interjurisdictional Team members recommended that King County award a contract to Headwater People Consulting to establish and manage the Community Partners Table of the AHC. The Department of Community and Human Services approved the recommendation, and the two parties began negotiating a contract for services through April 2022.

Headwater People Consulting has served as an intermediary between government and BIPOC communities previously with King County's Race and Social Justice Cabinet and Communities of Opportunity's System Change Policy Agenda. They proposed an inclusive and anti-racist approach focused on building trust and relationships through individual support for Table members, coaching for Committee members, and thoughtful planning and facilitation of their work together. They will begin by recruiting and selecting a diverse group of Table members who represent all geographic areas of the county, focusing on Black and Indigenous representation and including other lived experiences, including LGBTQ residents, immigrants and refugees, and people with disabilities.