

Regional Affordable Housing Program (RAHP) Interlocal Agreement

History of RAHP Funds

In 2002, the Washington State Legislature authorized the collection of revenue for a low-income housing fund through document recording surcharge fees (HB 2060, which is codified as RCW 36.22.178). The law directs the local portion of HB 2060 funds to be administered by the County pursuant to a cooperative agreement between the County and its cities and towns.

RAHP Formula

The formula for allocating RAHP resources to the three subregions over three-year periods balances existing need for affordable housing with future need for affordable housing. Existing need is based on the current needs of low-income people in each sub-region, and is determined by the total number of households with incomes at or below 50% of AMI who are cost burdened. Cost burdened is defined as spending more than 30% of income on housing.

Future need is based on each subregion's need to plan for adequate affordable housing stock for households at or below 50% of AMI by year 2031; and is determined by calculating approximately how much affordable housing the subregion would need to add to reach a goal of 24% of the housing stock being affordable to households at or below 50% AMI by 2031. This goal is consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies.

Subregion	Percentage Allocation
City of Seattle	35.8
South	31.9
North/East	32.3

Uses of Funds

Annual collections vary, and are approximately \$2,500,000 annually. Funds are used for homeless shelter operations and capital housing. The RAHP Guidelines reserve \$700,000 as a steady allocation for the shelter operations and the balance for capital housing, awarded through the Housing Finance Program annual funding round.