

Memo

To: King County Affordable Housing Committee Members
From: Melissa Aguilar, Regional Affordable Housing Specialist
cc: Housing Interjurisdictional Team
Date: June 9, 2023
Re: Community Partners Table Update

Purpose of June 15 AHC Meeting

At the June 15 Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) meeting, AHC staff will brief members on the continuation of the Community Partners Table (Table) and their draft 2023-2024 work plan. AHC members will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Background

In January 2022, the Table formed to support the AHC in advancing regional housing solutions and eliminating housing cost burden among low-income households in King County. Headwater People Consulting established and managed the Table last year. The Table was composed of leaders from seven community organizations representing people who were:

- Low-income;
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color;
- Gender diverse;
- Experiencing homelessness;
- Have developmental/intellectual and physical disabilities;
- Aging adults or elders;
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and more;
- Youth and families;
- Cost-burdened renters;
- Immigrants and refugees; and
- Undocumented individuals.

Throughout 2022, the Table met nearly monthly to build relationships with each other, deepen their knowledge of technical housing topics, develop shared priorities, and encourage the AHC to adopt a recommendation for equitable housing need allocations. Table members and Headwater People Consulting attended every AHC meeting to offer their perspectives on AHC work. The AHC expressed gratitude in learning from Table members and ultimately selected housing need allocations in line with Table priorities.

Before the Table contract ended in December 2022, the Table reflected on what went well, what to change, and how to continue effectively engaging housing cost-burdened communities in housing efforts. This information is included in the Table's December 2022 Recommendations Report.¹ The Table's recommendations included continuing to convene the Table in 2023 and beyond to inform AHC activities, King County comprehensive planning efforts, and/or or King County's Equity and Social Justice strategic planning processes.

This year, King County secured additional funding to extend the Table contract twice: once in March to support Table engagement at a Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) meeting to share

¹ Community Partners Table December 2022 Recommendations Report [\[link\]](#)

their perspectives on the AHC's GMPC Motion 21-1 recommendations² and again in May to support Table efforts from June 2023 to December 2024. Under the latest contract extension, Headwater People will continue to manage the Table and Table member organizations will still receive organizational stipends for their engagement.

Draft 2023-2024 Table Work Plan

AHC staff developed a draft work plan for Community Partner Table member consideration at their first meeting this summer. The draft work plan proposes the Table will partner with the AHC to advance housing priorities of communities most disproportionately impacted by housing cost burden in 2023 and 2024 by informing:

- new Regional Affordable Housing Dashboard structure,
- AHC charter amendments, and
- AHC review of comprehensive planning strategies intended to identify and repair harms to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities.

The Table will also advise the King County Department of Community and Human Services Planning, Policy, and Special Projects Team or the Housing, Homelessness, and Community Development Division on community engagement best practices or characteristics of a new structure for informing broader housing efforts starting in 2025. The draft work plan is subject to change upon Table review and will remain flexible to align with shifting Table priorities. Reference Table 1 for draft work plan details.

Table 1: Draft 2023-2024 Community Partners Table Work Plan

Work Plan Item	Timeframe
1. Inform new dashboard structure with progress metrics, comparative standards, and annual reporting procedures for jurisdictions to demonstrate they are planning for and accommodating housing needs	Aug 2023-April 2024
2. Inform AHC charter amendments	Aug-Dec 2023
3. Recommend to AHC staff how to better review comprehensive planning strategies intended to identify and repair harms to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities and develop recommendations for equitable comprehensive planning and community engagement processes	Dec 2023-June 2024
4. Recommend to the King County Department of Community and Human Services Planning, Policy, and Special Projects Team or the Housing, Homelessness, and Community Development Division community engagement best practices or characteristics of a new structure for informing broader housing efforts for future implementation	June-Dec 2024

What's Next

Timeframe	Actions
July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table convenes to review 2023 AHC progress and review and provide input on the draft 2023-2024 Table work plan
Aug 2023-Dec 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table meets every other month starting in August and attends/provides comment at every AHC meeting beginning in September

² March 22, 2023 Growth Management Planning Council Meeting Summary [\[link\]](#)