

Memo

To: King County Affordable Housing Committee Members
From: McCaela Daffern, Regional Affordable Housing Implementation Manager
cc: Housing Interjurisdictional Team
Date: January 12, 2024
Re: Affordable Housing Committee Charter Amendment Workshop

Purpose of January 19 AHC Meeting

At the January 19 Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) in-person meeting, members will engage in a workshop to discuss the foundation of the Committee and how the AHC should evolve to capitalize on its strengths and current opportunities. AHC staff will use the results of this preliminary scoping conversation to inform development of draft AHC charter amendments for future consideration by the AHC and the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC).

To prepare for this meeting, members should read the linked reference materials and prepare to discuss the questions listed on page 2 of this memo.

Background

The GMPC formed the AHC in 2019 to serve as a regional advisory body that recommends action and assesses progress toward implementation of the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force (RAHTF) Five Year Action Plan and functions as a point of coordination and accountability for affordable housing efforts across King County.

According to the [AHC charter](#), the Committee:

- adopts an annual work plan;
- releases an annual report to measure progress to implement the RAHTF Action Plan and the countywide need (executed through the dashboard);
- reviews and makes recommendations to other governing bodies or organizations regarding actions to implement the Action Plan, including but not limited to revising land use policies, alignment of comprehensive plans with the Action Plan, and amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies;
- coordinates support for increased federal funding for affordable housing;
- coordinates with subregional collaborations;
- meets at least through the end of 2024, at which time the Committee will consider recommendations to the GMPC to continue the work of the AHC, including development of a new Five Year Action Plan; and
- periodically reviews and evaluates the effectiveness of the AHC in furthering the Action Plan. Based on this evaluation, recommend alternative governance structures and/or charter revisions needed to better accomplish the Action Plan and Committee goals.

In November 2023, the AHC adopted a 2024 work plan item to scope charter amendments and/or other governance structures to the GMPC to improve AHC effectiveness in meeting its goals. These charter amendments should reflect the AHC's new role in housing comprehensive plan review,

monitoring, and jurisdictional accountability to plan for and accommodate housing needs.

The Committee will begin this process by engaging in a workshop at the January 19 meeting to evaluate its strengths and weaknesses and assess what changes will need to be made to capitalize on the Committee's future opportunities.¹ At the end of this workshop, the Committee will direct AHC staff on next steps towards drafting and adopting charter amendments. The Committee will have time at the February 1 AHC meeting to review the results of the workshop and reach consensus on topics discussed at

Meeting Preparation

To prepare for the workshop exercise, AHC staff encourage members of the Committee to read the following materials:

- **Read** pages 32 and 37-52 of the [Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Final Report and Recommendations](#)
- **Read** pages 48-51 of the [Engrossed 2021 King County Countywide Planning Policies](#) – last amended August 15, 2023
- **Scan** the [Affordable Housing Committee Charter](#)
- **Scan** the June 2023 [draft charter amendments staff report](#)

Members should prepare to discuss the following questions at the meeting:

Small group discussion

1. Where was the AHC successful and why?
2. Where was the AHC ineffective and why?
3. Considering the AHC's key strengths and weaknesses, what should the Committee keep, stop, and start doing?

Large group discussion

1. What changes are needed to the AHC to support the areas identified as keep and start doing?
2. What should the AHC do about the areas identified as stop doing?

¹ 2024 AHC Work Plan [\[link\]](#)