

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** Accept the Office of Neighborhood Involvement FY16-17 Housing Emergency Community Engagement Plan (Report)

**Contact name:** Brian Hoop, Manager, ONI Community Neighborhood Involvement Center

**Contact phone:** 503-823-3075

**Presenter name:** Brian Hoop

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

Many community members, especially those with lived experience with being houseless and low-income residents who are at-risk of becoming houseless, have historically not had an active presence in government decision making processes with a direct impact on their lives. In addition, many community and neighborhood activists have identified a need for more public information about the City's strategy for addressing the housing crisis and opportunities for community engagement to be a constructive part of the solution to housing instability in Portland.

As part of the FY17 budget approval on May 18, 2016 Council directed the Office of Neighborhood Involvement to work with the Portland Housing Bureau, the City and County Joint Office for Homeless Services, and A Home for Everyone to develop a community engagement proposal prior to spending \$350,000 allocated in its budget for this purpose.

As proposed, the project will provide resources for community and neighborhood groups to affect the current housing crisis and its impacts on our communities and neighborhoods, particularly engaging individuals and improving the lives of people experiencing housing insecurity and houselessness. These resources will be used for outreach and information sharing in coordination with relevant government agencies about the City and County's action plan, building community and neighborhood-based organizational capacity including leadership development and public policy advocacy efforts, and, funding small grant projects to engage more people in creative community-based projects addressing the housing crisis.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

This is a one-time pilot project budgeted at \$350,000. Most of the funds, \$332,500, will be allocated as grants to community- and neighborhood-based organizations distributed through a competitive process. The remaining 5%, \$17,500, will be allocated to ONI staff administration and grant management coordination.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

This project was a community-driven proposal originating in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement's Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) FY17 process in early 2016. BAC stakeholders reached out to numerous homeless and tenants' rights organizations for input and support. Over the summer, over 55 neighborhood and community-based

organization leaders participated in eight planning meetings, including four ONI BAC meetings, to further develop the proposal.

Participants included representatives from all seven neighborhood District Coalitions, Urban League of Portland, Center for Intercultural Organizing (now Unite Oregon), Native American Youth and Family Center, Latino Network, Immigrant Refugee Community Organization, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, Elders in Action, Resolutions Northwest, Bradley Angle House, Community Alliance of Tenants, Right To Survive, East Portland Action Plan, Historic Parkrose Alliance, Living Cully, OPAL, Street Roots, Wilkes Community Group, Goosehollow Foothills League, Portland Downtown Neighborhood Association, and Centennial Neighborhood Association.

Per the Council budget note, ONI was directed by the Portland Housing Bureau and Commissioner Saltzman's office to collaborate with their representative, Marc Jolin, director of the City and County Joint Office for Homeless Services, and A Home for Everyone. Marc Jolin met with community stakeholders, ONI staff, and Commissioner Fritz three times and provided valuable feedback as well as the Joint Office's endorsement of the plan.

Regarding impact, project stakeholders identified the following outcomes to benefit community and neighborhood constituencies:

1. Community-based organizations working with individuals and families experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness have **expanded capacity** to be able to **engage people** and **provide a forum** for the community to express their concerns, needs and problems that need to be resolved, and effectively **organize to build power** to affect policy change and long-term solutions towards ending the City's housing emergency;
2. The community is **more informed** about A Home for Everyone's action plan – A United Community Plan to End Homelessness for Portland/Multnomah County, and; **opportunities to engage** in constructive efforts to end the City's housing emergency.
3. ONI's partner organizations have **expanded capacity to collaborate** with community-based organizations and government agencies to inform, provide a forum, engage, and organize their constituencies to affect policy change and long-term solutions towards ending the City's housing emergency.

The project directs \$320,000 in funds to be distributed evenly four ways through organizations working with the homeless, tenants, communities of color, immigrants and/or refugees, and ONI's 14 partner grantee organizations. Another \$12,500 will be distributed through competitive small grants to community and neighborhood-based organizations proposing small-scale, volunteer-based community engagement projects addressing the housing crisis.

### Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.

☒ **NO:** Skip this section

| Fund | Fund Center | Commitment Item | Functional Area | Funded Program | Grant | Sponsored Program | Amount |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|-------------------|--------|
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CITY OF  
**PORTLAND, OREGON**

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

**AMANDA FRITZ, COMMISSIONER**

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**Community & Neighborhood Involvement Center**  
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Portland, Oregon 97204

*Promoting a culture of civic engagement*

Tuesday, October 11, 2016

To: City Council

From: Commissioner Fritz

RE: Amendment request for Council Agenda Item 1126

Accept the Office of Neighborhood Involvement FY16-17 Housing Emergency Community Engagement Plan (Report introduced by Commissioner Fritz)

In response to requests from Commissioner Fish's office to clarify how the various project partners will coordinate communications the following changes are needed on **page 3** of Exhibit A – Housing Emergency Community Engagement Plan. The amendment will be presented at the Council meeting on Wednesday, October 12, 2016.

Proposed strategy #4 is changed to read:

- 4. Information coordination and communication** – ~~Informing public about A Home for Everyone's action plan—A United Community Plan~~ Project grantees work together with A Home for Everyone and the City and County Joint Office for Homeless Services to inform the public about the Action Plan to End Homelessness for Portland/Multnomah County, the Mayor's Homelessness Toolkit, One Point of Contact, campsite cleanup info, and opportunities to engage in efforts to end the housing emergency.

Proposed project coordination includes an additional bullet point:

- **Distribution of information** – Grantee organizations will work closely with staff coordinator and AHFE and City and County Joint Office for Homeless Services on a communication strategy.