HOUSING NEEDS

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Defining the Need for Affordable Housing in Portland

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Portland Housing Context

- The Portland area has defined itself as a world class destination for business and life. Portland consistently ranks high for attracting and retaining residents. The Martin Prosperity Institute ranks Portland in its top 20 for tolerance.
- Amidst the success, concerns persist:
- Housing prices are trending upwards with rapid inmigration and economic expansion.
- Housing affordability is increasingly a problem

Portland Housing Context

- Neighborhood character is rapidly changing with new multifamily and commercial construction
- Existing residents are increasingly being priced out of their own communities
- Questions of social equity and inclusion are foremost in many resident's minds

Portland Housing Context

Using a variety of data and approaches to analysis (lenses), we can begin to address some of the policy questions:

- What is the scope and scale of the need to assist lowincome renter households?
- Does increasing the apartment supply in general bring down rents for low-income renter households?
- How can cost burdened renters be most effectively assisted?
- What role does improving the quality of existing rental housing stock play?

HOUSING DEMAND

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Regional and City Population, 2014



Population Growth, 2014



City Population as a Percent of Regional Population, 2014



Change in City Share of Regional Populations, 2000 - 2014



Age Characteristics



Number of Households, 2014



Household Growth, 2000 - 2014



Persons per Household, 2014



Median Household Income, 2014



Percent of Homeowner Households, 2014





Median Year Structure Built, 2014



Multi-Family Units as a Percent of Total Housing Units, 2008



Building Permits Issued, 2012



Median Rent for 2 BR Apartment, 2014



Percent of Cost Burdened Renter Households, 2012



NAHB Home Opportunity Index, 2013



Average Per Square Foot Costs for Apartment Buildings, 2014



Degree of Land Regulation, 2010



Undevelopable Land Area Within 50 km of City Center, 2010



Total Affordable Housing Units Produced by AMI Level, 2010-2013



Summary and Key Findings

- 3rd fastest growing city after Austin and San Jose, increasing in population by 15% between 2000 and 2010.
- Portland has the fourth lowest median household income
- Highest median age at 37 years after San Francisco and Seattle
- At 2.3 persons per household, Portland's household size close to the mean for all of the comparison cities
- Portland has slightly more owners than renters, in the middle of the comparison cities

Summary and Key Findings

- 2nd second highest rent burden after San Diego
- Portland ranks near the lower end of the comparison cities in terms of rental rates and sale prices
- Moderately older housing stock compared to the comparison cities
- Despite high multifamily production since 2000, very high percentage of detached units compared to the other cities at 35%, only Phoenix and San Jose lower
- Costs near the middle of psf construction costs compared to other cities and regulatory constraints are relatively low

Discussion

Given this initial profile of the existing conditions and need in Portland, should policy objectives be to:

- Help low-income renter households?
- Increase apartment supply in general to bring down rents?
- Improve the quality of the rental housing stock?
- Or reduce the cost burden on renters who otherwise might be forced to spend an outsized share of their incomes on rent?
- Other priorities?