

RESOLUTION No. 37368

Direct the Portland Housing Bureau to create an expungement pilot program to reduce barriers and increase access to housing opportunities (Resolution)

WHEREAS, as many as 100 million U.S. adults – or nearly one-third of the population – have a criminal record of some sort; and

WHEREAS, national data indicates that racial disparities exist in the criminal justice system, these disparities can be evidenced in stop data, data on detentions and in sentencing outcomes; and

WHEREAS, a criminal record is a permanent barrier to housing, employment, and opportunity that disproportionately impacts Communities of Color; and

WHEREAS, while the Portland Housing Bureau continues to develop programs that address displacement and homelessness, ultimately this barrier to housing persists for many individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Housing Bureau protects people already in housing units from displacement through Mandatory Relocation Assistance, and increasing access to affordable housing continues to be a priority; and

WHEREAS, because of criminal records, justice-involved individuals face additional barriers to accessing affordable housing, placing them at risk of housing instability, homelessness, and ultimately at risk of recidivism; and

WHEREAS, as the Bureau moves forward with the N/NE Neighborhood Housing Strategy on rental and homeownership housing opportunities, the issue of being prevented from accessing housing is citywide for people convicted of past minor crimes; and

WHEREAS, an expungement pilot program will provide legal assistance to the community to increase housing opportunity; and

WHEREAS, access to housing provides access and ultimately to intergenerational wealth building through homeownership gives marginalized communities opportunity; and

WHEREAS, in the recent past, using highway expansion, the construction of the Memorial Coliseum, urban renewal in Albina for economic development, the City and State systematically eviscerated a predominantly African American neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Portland's history of red-lining neighborhoods until the 1990's left impacts on minority communities that exist today where people are disadvantaged from birth; and

WHEREAS, as a community, Portland is committed to providing access to housing and prioritizing communities that have been disenfranchised, marginalized, and discriminated against; and

WHEREAS, as Portland's State of Housing report for 2017 shows these disadvantages and discrimination built into the system that has resulted in minorities disproportionately impacted; and

WHEREAS, an expungement pilot program will reduce these barriers as the City seeks to develop a policy for greater access to rental housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council directs the Portland Housing Bureau to develop an expungement pilot program to reduce barriers to housing that disproportionately impact Communities of Color based on Exhibits A & B.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Portland Housing Bureau shall request funding through General Fund contingency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Portland Bureau of Housing shall commit to robust community outreach during the development of proposal which includes private and non-profit landlords, historically impacted Communities of Color and opportunities to engage for the general public. The Housing Bureau shall inform and involve all of its standing advisory bodies in the development of the proposal: the Portland Housing Advisory Commission, the Fair Housing Advocacy Committee, the Rental Services Commission, and the N/NE Neighborhood Housing Strategy Oversight Committee.

Adopted by the Council: JUN 20 2018

Mayor Wheeler

Prepared by: Cupid Alexander

Date Prepared: May 15, 2018

Mary Hull Caballero

Auditor of the City of Portland

By

Susan Parsons

Deputy

Title

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JUN 12 2018

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Mayor Wheeler	CLERK USE: DATE FILED _____
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL Mayor—Finance & Administration – Wheeler <i>KL</i> Position 1/Utilities - Fritz Position 2/Works - Fish Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman Position 4/Safety - Eudaly	Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland By: <i>[Signature]</i> Deputy
BUREAU APPROVAL Bureau: Portland Housing Bureau Bureau Head: Shannon Callahan	ACTION TAKEN:
Prepared by: Cupid Alexander Date Prepared: May 15, 2018	
Impact Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>	
Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances	
City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan	
Council Meeting Date June 20, 2018	

AGENDA
TIME CERTAIN <input type="checkbox"/> Start time: _____ Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)
CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/>
REGULAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: 30 minutes (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:	
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Fish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Saltzman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Eudaly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	