



Portland Housing Bureau

Mayor Ted Wheeler • Director Shannon Callahan

Portland Housing Advisory Committee

August 4, 2020

3:00 – 5:00pm

Zoom Meeting

August 4, 2020 Meeting Overview

Members Present: Nate McCoy, Fernando Velez, Cameron Herrington, Felicia Tripp Folsom, Ramsey Weit, Sarah Stevenson, Stef Kondor, Taylor Smiley Wolfe, Julia Delgado, Kimberly Horner

Members Excused: Diane Linn, Jessy Ledesma

Staff Present: Shannon Callahan, Molly Rogers, Jessica Conner, Norma Trujillo, Jill Chen, Dana Shephard, Stella Martinez, Leslie Goodlow, Jennifer Chang, Gena Scott

Agenda Topic	Key Topics Covered	Recording Time
Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair McCoy welcomed everyone to the virtual August PHAC meeting. • New Commissioner introductions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kimberly Horner – Executive Director of Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives (PCRI). Her interest in PHAC: be a bridge between affordable housing and City Government. ○ Julia Delgado – Vice President of Urban League. Her interest in PHAC: to make sure there are affordable housing opportunities for Black Portlanders. • Commissioner roll call. 	00:00:00 – 00:05:40
Public Testimony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public testimony. 	00:05:41 - 00:07:06
Director's Update	<p>Shannon Callahan gave updates on the following housing-related items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metro Regional IGA for Implementation of the Metro Bond Funds going to Council Aug. 18th. • Three Vacant Jobs posted on Monday. • In the midst of programming approximately \$32 million of Cares Act funding. • Shannon proposed potential changes in how PHAC is approaching work and advising the organization. Potential occurrence and structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Six regular meetings of PHAC occurring every two months ○ Potentially be able to invite external parties ○ PHAC would work on topics well in advance so they are able to dive deeply into some topic areas 	00:07:07 - 00:29:51

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PHAC to potentially convene a community forum – focused on budget ● Continued conversation around PHAC’s role and guidance. 	
<p>Emergency Response Program Updates: Affordable Housing Rent Assistance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gena Scott walked PHAC through the Affordable Housing Rent Assistance slides. ● Gena assured Commissioner Horner that the rent assistance will be awarded to the agencies/owners and then they will apply that toward the rent. Commissioner Horner has concerns that it could be viewed as income for the individual. ● Chair McCoy asked how PHB plans on distributing the funds equitably. Gena explained that there is a short timeline to distribute the funds, but it will be based on the following preferences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Households that identify as BIPOC, Latinx, or other non-white origin ○ Participating in PHB’s N/NE Preference Policy Program ○ Projects that have a high level of people identifying as having disabilities ● As far as arears; the contracts will identify the months the funds will be used for. HUD says that the money can’t go back past April 1st. 	<p>00:29:52 – 00:40:00</p>
<p>Emergency Response Program Updates: Rental Assistance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jennifer Chang spoke about the larger set of resources for COVID related rent assistance. ● Key areas of focus for rent assistance funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reaching and serving BIPOC communities disproportionately impacted by the current pandemic ○ Households who are at 80% of area median income or below ○ Financial or health impact due to COVID and must live within Multnomah County ● Emphasize and encourage providers to work with households around using rent assistance resources towards current and future rent. ● Jennifer shared how the collective \$35 million will be allocated in the community. ● Conversation around Partner networks and STRAW organizations. ● Commissioner Herrington asked whether renters would need to apply to multiple organizations. Jennifer recommends that Individuals or households who have an existing 	<p>00:40:25 – 01:02:04</p>

	relationship with a service provider that is receiving some of these funds should apply through them. For those not connected to a service provider should contact 211 Info.	
Emergency Response Program Update: Homeowner Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dana Shephard shared the Homeowner Stabilization & Recovery presentation with PHAC. • Commissioner Herrington spoke about the potential of incentivizing sellers to sell properties to disadvantaged buyers. 	01:02:05 – 01:17:34
Homeowner Response Program Update: Cash Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leslie Goodlow gave her presentation on the Portland COVID-19 Household Assistance Fund. • This is a separate pot of money that is for household assistance gift cards of \$500. • Targeting BIPOC Organizations and will do a General population card through United Way. • Commissioner Horner expressed her concern that money going to residents could be considered income. Commissioner Herrington commented that based on IRS rules – since COVID has been declared as a national emergency, that these kinds of funds fall under rules for emergency relief and do not trigger any sort of tax liability for the recipients, even if it is above \$600. Leslie clarified that the issue was not tax liability but rather a benefits issue – if an individual in an income-based program could lose their benefit if they receive more that \$600 in a quarter. 	01:17:35 – 01:30:33
Good of the Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Callahan thanked Commissioner Herrington for his service, guidance, and feedback. • Commissioner Stevenson adjourned the meeting. <p>Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2020</p>	01:30: 34 – 01:32:35