

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Authorize a grant agreement to Portland State University in the amount of \$51,765.57 in FY 2015-16 for use by Portland State University's Institute on Aging for the Age-Friendly Portland initiative. (Ordinance)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

To provide financial assistance to Portland State University to partially support the Age-Friendly Portland initiative.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

This legislation authorizes a grant agreement and provides \$51,765.57 to partially support the Age-Friendly Portland initiative. Funds are available in the FY 2015-16 Special Appropriations.

Community impacts and community involvement:

Established in 1969, Portland State's Institute on Aging was one of the first centers in the United States to focus on the social, psychological, and economic issues related to aging. Their research is funded by federal, state, and private sources, with projects designed to advance knowledge that serves an aging society. Educational programs are offered at the baccalaureate, postbaccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels.

The Age-Friendly Portland Initiative is an outgrowth of the City of Portland-Institute on Aging (PSU) partnership that originated in 2010 as part of the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

The initiative strives to prepare Portland for the needs and opportunities that are inherent to the rapid and unprecedented aging of Portland which is already underway. Portland's initiative is globally recognized as a model for age-friendly cities and the unique partnerships between the university, city, and community stakeholder has furthered the ability of Portlanders to age in an active, healthy, and engaged manner.

Portland is facing a housing crisis. By 2035, 120,000 new households are expected to be added to the City of Portland; of these, 40-45% will include someone aged 65+. Add to that a limited stock of affordable and accessible (e.g., low-barrier, bathroom on ground level) housing and our aging population is faced with housing that fails to meet its needs along two of the most basic facets of housing.

The City of Portland's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) has created a Residential Infill Project Stakeholder Advisory Committee (RIP-SAC) to guide the City's rewrite of the single-family housing code. The Age-Friendly Portland initiative has convened a Housing committee to increase the availability of housing that meets the needs of Portlanders of all ages and abilities. PSU faculty members have experience leading service-learning projects that translate research into policy and practice.

RIP-SAC is composed of developers, designers, neighborhood-based advocates, and other members of the community. Although affordable housing was mentioned by many members of the Committee, little mention of accessible housing was conveyed, outside of the PSU faculty member who serves on the Portland Commission on Disability (PCoD) and the Age-Friendly Portland Advisory Council.

The Age-Friendly Portland Housing Committee has been dormant for approximately one year due to lack of funding and the need to focus efforts toward maintaining the Advisory Council and other Committees: Health, Transportation, Economic Development & Employment, and Civic Engagement.

An understanding of the challenges faced by an increasingly aging population – and a growth in people with disabilities living in community based settings – is needed with respect to affordability and accessibility. Research is needed to understand how public processes such as RIP-SAC are working to alleviate affordability and accessibility barriers for older adults and people with disabilities.

Portland State University faculty member Alan DeLaTorre serves on RIP-SAC, is a Commissioner with PCoD, and chairs the Age-Friendly Housing Committee. Funding from this grant agreement will be used to carry out three actions that would be completed by June 30, 2016:

- a) Reconvene and staff the Age-Friendly Housing Committee. The primary objectives of the Committee would include: revising the Housing Action Area of the Age-Friendly Portland Action Plan, identifying priorities to increase the age friendliness of Portland's housing stock, and developing proposals to external funders to conduct further translational research aimed at informing policy and practice.
- b) Study RIP-SAC to understand how affordable and accessible housing for older adults and people with disabilities is being advanced (or not advanced) through the City-sponsored project. The study would include an analysis of RIP-SAC's structure, meetings, and outcomes.
- c) Offer a six-credit PSU University Studies Capstone course that builds on a course Creating Livable Communities for an Aging Society, previously taught by Dr. DeLaTorre. This research-intensive service-learning course would focus on age-friendly housing and would offer an opportunity for students enrolled in a program designed to mentor students transitioning from community college (called BUILD EXITO) to participate in a learning community that utilizes the WHO's active aging framework.

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