

OREGON HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES

2020 AAP Agency's Evaluation of Public Comments

A 30 day public comment period was provided for the 2020 Annual Action Plan, and plan attachments. Notice of the public comment period was published in Oregon media outlets of general circulation, distributed by email to interested parties, and posted on the OHCS website in compliance with Oregon's 2016-2020 Citizen Participation Plan.

Oregonians had the ability to examine and provide public comment on the 2020 AAP from May 1, 2020 – May 7, 2020. Five newspapers requesting public comment were utilized and comments were received from May 1, 2020 – May 7, 2010. Advertisements were made in English and Spanish in 'The Bulletin', and an English advertisement with contact information also in Spanish was made available through 'The Oregonian', 'Salem News', 'East Oregonian' and the 'Medford Mail Tribune'. Information was also posted on the OHCS website.

The opportunity for Citizen Participation is a critically important aspect in development of an Annual Action Plan and OHCS received on public comment. The comment was as follows:

“Community Development Partners, a development company that develops only if and when they receive fed or state funding for subsidized housing.

CDP is attempting to purchase property at 506 NE Alberta and at 714 NE Alberta, both of these properties are adjacent to existing large low income housing projects which are already plagued with illegal activity, violence and noise resulting in dozens of call to Pdx Police every month. This comes from the existing low income housing facilities at 5020 NE 8<sup>th</sup> Ave (Avenue Plaza Apartments) , and 4942-56 NE 6<sup>th</sup> (King Dishman Court) – and there are many more converted single fam res to LI multi-unit houses surrounding these larger multi-unit buildings.

Please do not fund or support additional low-income housing in close proximity to these facilities. It will only make the existing problem worse. What is needed is development that supports the existing community, including the facilities mentioned above. Additional Assisted Living or Low Income housing will not do this.”

**Response:** OHCS will not respond to individual development concerns through the AAP process but does recognize the larger concern of assisted housing density. OHCS will consider best practices on this topic and determine if current development award policies should be modified.

In addition to the public comment period for the full 2020 Annual Action Plan, Oregonians were offered the ability to comment on the Community Development Block Grant program individually through a public notice announcing a public hearing and public comment period which was published in 'The Oregonian' on February 20, 2020. The notice was also placed on Business Oregon's website and "pushed out" through the agency's marketing and communications section to persons signed up to receive CDBG listserv notifications. The 30-day public comment period on the MOD was from February 20 through March 21, 2020 and the Public Hearing was held on March 9, 2020. No public comments were made through these processes.

#### **2020 AAP Amendment**

A 10-day public comment period was provided for the 2020 Amended Annual Action Plan. Notice of the public comment period was published in Oregon media outlets of general circulation, distributed by email to interested parties, and posted on the OHCS website in compliance with Oregon's 2016-2020 Citizen Participation Plan. No public Comments were received.