



Hearing Record & Response

Draft 2027 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) State Plan for Oregon

Compiled by Joy Aldrich

Oregon Housing and Community Services

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Hearing Notices



DRAFT 2027 LIHEAP STATE PLAN FOR OREGON

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Date: July 23, 2026

[Public hearing notice link](#)

PUBLIC HEARING

Date: August 6, 2026

Location: Virtual – [Teams meeting](#)

[Public hearing notice link](#)

Additional posting on Oregon's public meetings calendar: [Oregon Transparency: Public Meetings](#)

Engagement Summaries



PUBLIC HEARINGS

The public hearing on the Draft 2027 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) State Plan for Oregon was convened on August 6, 2026, at 8:30 AM (PST).

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Eleven people attended, two of whom are OHCS staff:

- David Kaufman, OHCS
- Lisa Goben-Toninato, OHCS
- Rebekah Martin, Community Connections of Northwest Oregon (CCNO)
- Michele Schaefer, Community Action Partnership of Oregon (CAPO)
- Patrick Hemann, CCNO
- Lauren Kolojejchick-Kotch, CAPO
- Andrew Haley, Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)
- Daysi [*unknown last name and organization if any*]
- Benjamin Ayer, Multnomah Department of County Human Services Weatherization Assistance Program
- Connie Johnson, Community Services Consortium (CSC)
- Lacey LaCosse, Homes for Good of Lane County

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND OHCS RESPONSES

One person in attendance provided comments at the hearing (in order of speaking), which is summarized.

Lauren Kolojejchick-Kotch, CAPO: Requested OHCS to provide a summary of the stakeholder engagement or public engagement process for the state plan.

- **OHCS response:** OHCS gathers input from the Community Action Agency (CAA) network and other community partners throughout the year, and the State Plan is treated as a living document shaped by ongoing feedback. OHCS deeply respects the knowledge and day-to-day expertise of the people doing the work in the field and values all feedback with an open-door policy.

Engagement Materials and Meeting Transcript



MEETING TRANSCRIPT

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARING

August 6, 2026, 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. (PST)

GOBEN Lisa * HCS

All right, David, are you ready to go?

KAUFMAN David * HCS

All right, good morning, everybody. The time is approximately 8:30 AM and the hearing is now open. This hearing is being recorded and will be transcribed into the public record. My name is David Kaufman, and I will be serving as the Oregon Housing and Community Services Hearings Officer. The purpose of this hearing is to take public comment on the Draft 2027 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program State Plan. Copies of the plan are available on the OHCS website, by e-mail, or through USPS upon request. Because we will not have a traditional attendance list, we'll attempt to ask each person in attendance if they would like to offer comments. Before offering comments, please state your name, the organization you represent, if any, and then present your comments. If you have written material to enter into the record, please say so and, if you wish, summarize it briefly. If you have not already submitted your comments to OHCS, please provide us a copy via either e-mail, in person or USPS. No responses to questions or comments will be provided at this time. OHCS will review issues raised during the public comment period and the hearings officer's report will contain all comments provided to us. In addition to presenting oral comments at this hearing, anyone may submit written comments until 5:00 PM August 29th—I think...that may be right—which is the close of the public comment period. Comments received after this time will not be reviewed or considered by the agency unless the agency decides to extend the public comment period for everyone. So, would anyone like to begin?

KAUFMAN David * HCS

So, unless anyone has comments, we'll pause the meeting. Lisa, I believe we have to continue recording, don't we?

GOBEN Lisa * HCS

I'm just going to let it go just to be safe. Yeah.

KAUFMAN David * HCS

Okay. *[Responding to a written comment in chat]* Yeah, I thought there was something off about that, right, thank you about that date. Andrew, good morning. Did you have any comments to offer?

Andrew Haley

Good morning. No, I'm mostly here just to gather information.

KAUFMAN David * HCS

Okay, alright.

Andrew Haley

We're, I work for IRCO, we're a contractor with OHCS and do a bunch of housing programs, and we have a lot of clients we work with who are in need of utility assistance. So, I was here to see what resources may be arising.

KAUFMAN David * HCS

Sure. Okay. Well, and feel free to get in touch if we can answer any other questions if it's not, anything not related to the state plan.

Andrew Haley

I will, for sure. Thank you.

KAUFMAN David * HCS

It looks like we had someone just join. Is it? I'm sorry, is it Daisy?

KAUFMAN David * HCS

Well, that's fine. Welcome.

GOBEN Lisa * HCS

Go ahead, Lauren. I see you have your hand up.

Lauren Kolojejchick-Kotch

I probably don't need to raise my hand. Good morning, Lauren Kolojejchick-Kotch, Utility Policy Manager for the Community Action Partnership of Oregon. I don't have a kind of consensus comment from the network, but I am—and if I'm getting this terminology wrong, please correct me—but I am hoping that in the hearing report or whatever kind of public account comes out of this hearing that OHCS might speak to the stakeholder engagement or public engagement process on the state plan to date? That would just be helpful for me to understand. Thank you.

KAUFMAN David * HCS

Thanks, Lauren. Looks like somebody else just joined. Benjamin, good morning. Did you have any comments you wanted to offer?

BENJAMIN

No, I'm just here to learn and listen. Thanks. I'm with the weatherization team in Multnomah County.

KAUFMAN David * HCS

Okay, all right, welcome and thanks for stopping by.

BENJAMIN

Thank you. Yeah.

GOBEN Lisa * HCS

[Responding to comment in chat] Connie, you're good. There's nothing's being said right now. We're just pausing to see if anybody has anything they would like to share. If you have any public comment you'd like to share, Connie, please go ahead.

Connie Johnson

Sorry, I was muted. Connie Johnson with Community Services Consortium. I'm the Utility Assistance Manager.

GOBEN Lisa * HCS

Thank you.

GOBEN Lisa * HCS

Hey, Lacey, welcome. If you have any public comment, could you please go ahead and introduce yourself and speak up? If not, could you please introduce yourself and your affiliation or the agency you work with for the record, please?

KAUFMAN David * HCS

So, just a quick note that we only have a couple minutes left. We'll be adjourning the meeting at 9:00 AM. So, if anybody has anything they want to add or questions they want to ask, to put on the record, let us know.

KAUFMAN David * HCS

The time is 9:00 AM and I am reopening the public hearing. Seeing that no one else has come to present public comment, I'm now closing this hearing. These proceedings are adjourned. Thanks, everybody.

Appendix



ALL OTHER PUBLIC COMMENTS

OHCS received no public comments, written or verbal.