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Housing Action and Implementation Plan: Housing Stakeholder Workshop #2 Meeting Summary

Subject	City of Pasco – Housing Stakeholder Workshop #2
Date Time	May 4, 2023, 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Location	Council Chambers, Pasco City Hall
Details	Visit project website for presentation materials

Workshop Purpose

The city hosted a second housing stakeholder workshop in May 2023 to provide an update on the Housing Action and Implementation Plan. A presentation was given by representatives from Oneza and Associates, and ECONorthwest, showcasing the work completed to date, including the results of the Housing Needs Assessment and the Housing Market Analysis. City staff also provided a brief summary of preliminary results from the Community Housing Survey.

Attendance

The following list summarizes the various organizations, agencies, and stakeholders in attendance.

- Tri-Cities Residential Services
- Tri-County Partners for Habitat for Humanity
- B4 Development and Consulting, LLC
- United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties
- Benton-Franklin Health District
- Tri-City Association of REALTORS
- Century 21 Tri-Cities
- Tres Rios Community Land Trust

Feedback Summary

The following is intended to summarize the conversations, questions, and discussions that occurred during and after the presentation. The summary below is categorized by primary topic/theme.

Community Housing Survey:

- Does the survey break down the results between renter occupied and owner occupied homes, and how does that corelate to the actual renter/owner rates?
 - The city responded that the survey did ask participants to indicate if they currently own or rent, or if they have owned or rented in the past.

Housing Incentives and Code Updates:

- The city should identify incentives for landlords to accommodate disabled community members.
- Incentives should be identified to encourage the private market (developers) to partner with non-profits, such as the Habitat for Humanity.
- City should focus on allowing more flexibility and developing incentives to create new and affordable housing units, rather than affordability requirements for new housing.

General Comments:

- Factoring the cost of childcare as part of overall household costs will increase housing affordability constraints
- Concerns about housing typologies and accommodation of those with disabilities
- Encourage community land trusts
- Not enough permanent subsidies for those on disability pay
- Concerns about rising property taxes for those on fixed income

General Questions:

• Identify surplus lands to use for housing

Conclusion and Next Steps

The consultant team and City staff thanked attendees for their time and participation. Feedback from the workshop will be used to inform future engagement and planning efforts. All inputs will help inform the development of the preliminary draft of the Housing Action and Implementation Plan.

A third stakeholder workshop will be scheduled in the summer.

References

See Presentation.