



**TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Felicia Medlen, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development  
Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution to set October 24, 2023 Public Hearing Date for Draft Pathways  
to Removing Obstacles to Housing Application  
**DATE:** October 12, 2023

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**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

The Community and Economic Development Department request that a Public Hearing be set for October 24, 2023, on the draft Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing Application (the application).

**BACKGROUND:**

**This Department’s Recommendation is Based On:**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity appropriating \$85 million for competitive grant funding for the identification and removal of barriers to affordable housing production and preservation. The City’s application includes requests for funding to support financing for affordable housing development and preservation, infrastructure enhancements for affordable housing projects, anti-displacement policy development, and preservation activities.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:**

During a 15-day period, beginning on October 14, 2023, and ending on October 29, 2023, the public is invited to make comment in writing or in person at a public hearing before the City Council. The purpose of this memo is to set the date for that hearing on October 24, 2023. To notify the public, the City publishes a legal ad in The News Tribune summarizing the contents of the draft application and outlining instructions for submitting written or verbal comment.

The draft application will also be published for review at [cityoftacoma.org/conplan](http://cityoftacoma.org/conplan).

The City is required to provide a summary of comments received and why the comments were accepted or rejected when submitting the application. The City’s requirements for seeking public input on the application are outlined in HUD’s NOFO document and include a 15-day comment period as well as a public hearing.

**2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

**Equity and Accessibility:**

The intention of these funds is to deliver services to the City’s most vulnerable persons, households, and business owners.

**Civic Engagement:** *Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity*

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

**Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).**

In accordance with the PRO Housing NOFO participation requirements, the City is required to provide public comment opportunity before submitting an application. Instructions for submitting public comment on the application must be published in the newspaper at least 15 days before final submission of the application to HUD. A summary of public comments and why the comments were accepted or rejected will be attached to the application prior to its submission to HUD.



**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Not hold a public hearing	none	This alternative would not meet the application requirements.
2. Hold a hearing on a later date	May allow additional time for the public to review the plan before providing comments.	This alternative would result in a hearing date after the application submission deadline.

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:**

If the City is awarded PRO Housing Funds, the Community & Economic Development Department will complete a PRO Housing Action Plan which will serve as the spending plan for the grant.

**STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends setting the date for the public hearing on October 24, 2023, as part of the public comment period required.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact to setting the public hearing date.