



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Melanie Harding, Chief Policy Analyst to the Mayor
COPY: Community Vitality and Safety Committee; Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services
PRESENTER: John Howell & Marty Kooistra, Cedar River Group
SUBJECT: South Sound Housing Affordability Partners Update
DATE: September 24, 2020

PRESENTATION TYPE:

Other

SUMMARY:

Mayor Woodards, along with County Executive Bruce Dammeier and County Councilmember Ladenburg, has been convening governments across Pierce County to discuss what the region might do collectively to address the issue of affordable housing. Collectively, they have come to be called the South Sound Housing Affordability Partners (SSHAP – Pronounced “shape”). As part of this work, more than ten governments worked in collaboration to contract with Cedar River Group to determine the level of interest in formalizing their coalition and to assist with defining the coalition’s scope and structure. Cedar River Group is interviewing elected officials across Pierce County to inform their work, including feedback from members of Community Vitality and Safety Committee.

BACKGROUND:

Mayor Woodards has provided occasional updates on SSHAP in Council Study Sessions. You will find two attached documents with more background information:

- An overview of SSHAP’s purpose and work to date; and
- A factsheet providing more general information on government housing coalitions

ISSUE:

Increased housing costs are an issue impacting families, individuals, and governments all across our region. SSHAP is exploring whether a coalition could provide efficient and effective tools to help governments across Pierce County work together to address the impacts of rising housing costs on those who live in our region.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing and opportunity to provide general feedback. Any future recommendations or alternatives that may result from this work will be brought back to the Council for consideration. There are no alternatives presented at this time.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing and opportunity to provide general feedback. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing and opportunity to provide general feedback. Any future recommendations that may result from this work will be brought back to the Council for consideration.