

City of Olympia – Actions to Support Affordable Housing

2012 - 2016

Since 1982, Olympia has provided over \$13 million direct funding and \$1.5 million in land for a broad range of owner- and tenant-occupied affordable housing projects. The projects used federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), state Rental Rehabilitation and local funds to upgrade homes for over 1,300 low and moderate income households.

Since 1982, Olympia has provided funding for the inter-jurisdictional funding body now known as CIP to provide critically needed funding for a broad array of social services, many of which are associated with low cost housing facilities. These funds represent 1/2 of 1 % of prior year retail sales tax revenues, with the rough average of Olympia's annual contribution estimated at \$80,000.

Since 2002, Olympia has worked with other jurisdictions, first in the HOME Consortium and now Thurston Thrives, to fund regional housing and service needs. Olympia's recent actions include:

Pear Blossom Place (2012-2014)

837 – 7th Avenue SE, Olympia

Olympia provided the Smith Building, valued at \$750,000, and \$660,000 CDBG funds to create an integrated emergency and permanent housing facility with supportive services for up to 60 families with children. This facility also provides emergency cold weather shelter housing for up to 25 homeless families with children. Olympia also provided \$45,000 for supportive services at Pear Blossom Place.

Rosie's Place (2014)

321 Pear St SE, Olympia

Olympia provided about \$140,000 to renovate the Pear Street "Brighter Futures" Center that provides housing referrals and emergency housing for transition-aged youth, serving up to 45 youth per day. This space serves as a drop-in center, connecting street dependent youth to services, housing and other resources. Olympia also provided \$10,000 CDBG funding for supportive services at Rosie's Place.

Quixote Village (2014)

3350 Mottman Road SW, Olympia

Olympia provided \$55,000 to fund the community center located at Quixote Village, which serves as a community center, community kitchen and gathering place for 30 formerly homeless people. Quixote Village is an award-winning, widely recognized best practice approach to providing housing services, and most importantly, a community for people transitioning out of homelessness.

Billy Frank Jr. Place (2015-2016)(under construction)

318 State Avenue East, Olympia

Olympia provided land valued at \$800,000 for \$100,000 (\$700,000 investment) for the Low Income Housing Institute to create 43 units of permanent housing with supportive services for formerly homeless veterans, youth, people with mental illness and other formerly homeless people.

Housing Rehabilitation Funds (2016-2017)

Scattered Sites

Olympia will provide \$65,000 in CDBG funding to support housing rehabilitation and housing acquisition & rehabilitation projects in the coming program year 2016 (9/1/16 – 8/31/17)

OTHER HOUSING-SUPPORTIVE ACTIONS:

Affordable housing is supported by other services, including those that provide referrals to housing options for street dependent and homeless people. Following are a number of recent actions:

Interfaith Warming Center (2015 – 2016)

First Christian Church, 701 Franklin St SE, Olympia

Olympia provided \$10,000 to support the Interfaith Works Warming Center. This drop in center provided a warm and dry place for street dependent people, along with services and referrals.

Providence Community Care Clinic (2016 – 2017)

Final Location to be Announced

Olympia will provide \$200,000 in CDBG funds to support the creation of a community center located in the downtown core that will provide a safe, warm and dry drop-in center that also features a broad array of social and health services. Spearheaded by Providence Hospital, this community center will be the result of a multi-faceted partnership of public, private and non-profit entities.

Multi-Family Housing Tax Exemptions (Ongoing)

Multiple Sites

Olympia participates in the State's optional tax exemption program that offers a 12-year property tax deferral for new or rehabilitated affordable housing that is constructed downtown, and in the high-density corridors to the East and West of downtown. Eight-year tax exemptions are offered for market rate housing projects located in these areas.

Sewer Connection Assistance Loan Program - SCALP (Ongoing)

Scattered Sites

Olympia provides funding from CDBG and its sewer utility to assist property owners to connect to City sewer. A current example is a \$50,000 loan to a property owner to connect four (4) units of low cost housing occupied by very low income tenants to abandon the septic system, correct significant health hazards and prevent condemnation of affordable housing.

For more information:

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