



Land Use & Environment Committee

Rental Housing Registration Program Update

Agenda Date: 11/17/2022
Agenda Item Number: 6.C
File Number:22-1059

Type: discussion **Version:** 1 **Status:** Filed

Title

Rental Housing Registration Program Update

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Discuss rental housing registration program options.

City Manager Recommendation:

Hold a discussion on rental housing registration program options.

Report

Issue:

Whether to hold a discussion on rental housing registration program.

Staff Contact:

Christa Lenssen, Housing Program Specialist, City Manager's Office, 360.570.3762

Presenter(s):

Christa Lenssen, Housing Program Specialist, City Manager's Office

Background and Analysis:

In May 2022, Land Use & Environment Committee directed staff to explore options for implementing a rental housing registration program, as part of Council's update to the City's rental housing code (OMC 5.82). Council adopted an ordinance amending OMC 5.82 in August 2022 to limit move-in fees and security deposits, as well as notice periods required for rent increases.

The Committee identified the following goals for a registration program:

- Gather data about rental housing in Olympia
- Share information and resources with landlords
- Ensure basic life, health and safety in rental housing

Staff from Housing, Code Enforcement, Building Inspections, and Community Planning & Development met three times between June and September of 2022 to review peer city programs and options.

Staff will present information from peer cities, workgroup discussions and considerations for developing a rental housing registration program. Staff will hold a discussion about program options, any additional information needed, and next steps.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

Potential changes to Olympia Municipal Code's Rental Housing Code (OMC 5.82) are a topic of significant interest to renters and rental housing owners/operators within the city and around Thurston County. Any work on this topic will draw a great deal of local and regional attention and public engagement.

Options:

1. Direct staff to scope program details for a future Land Use & Environment Committee meeting.
2. Direct staff to develop program, as discussed.
3. Take other action.

Financial Impact:

None at this time.

Attachments:

Peer City Program Summary