



SOUTH SOUND HOUSING AFFORDABILITY PARTNERS

Shaping Pierce County's Future by Creating Access to Affordable and Attainable Housing

March 26, 2021

Dear Jeff,

As you know, for the past two years we have been working on an exciting initiative to create more housing that is accessible, affordable, and attainable for all Pierce County resident – the South Sound Housing Affordability Partners (SSHA³P). We are very pleased to send you a draft Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for your city's review and comment.

The IGA will create a new formal collaboration among Pierce County cities, towns, tribes and the county to work together on housing issues and projects. We know that housing needs and solutions vary from one community to the next, so we have worked to create a structure that can meet the unique needs of each of our communities. The IGA spells out the purpose, proposed structure, and framework for operating this new collaborative structure.

We want to thank Auburn for working with us to get to this point. As you know, Mayor Backus has been involved in the meetings and discussions that have shaped this attached draft agreement.

Our hope is to have governments decide whether they want to participate in SSHA³P (and if so, approve the intergovernmental agreement) by the end of June of this year so that we can get to work creating this structure in the second half of 2021. In order to meet that schedule we are **asking all interested governments to provide us with any comments or questions on the draft IGA by April 23**. That will provide enough time to make final changes to the document and send it back to you for final review and approval.

We are sending a similar letter to all Mayors, Council Chairs/Deputy Mayors/Mayor Pro Tems, and City Managers, Administrators or Clerks in the county. We will keep you informed about the reactions we receive from those governments. Based on discussions we've been having we are hopefully that many governments across the county will join SSHA³P.

Please send any comments or questions about the IGA to either Bryan Schmid at bryan.schmid@piercecountywa.gov or John Howell at john@cedarrivergroup.com.

Sincerely

Members of the SSHA³P Steering Committee

Mayor Don Anderson
City of Lakewood

Mayor Nancy Backus
City of Auburn

Council Member Annette Bryan
Puyallup Tribe

Executive Bruce Dammeier
Pierce County

Mayor Julie Door
City of Puyallup

Mayor Kit Kuhn
City of Gig Harbor

Council Member Ryan Mello
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Mayor Josh Penner
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