ARCH WORK PROGRAM: 2023

2023 Priorities
In 2023, ARCH will elevate the following priorities in its Work Program:

- Provide a housing needs analysis for all member cities in support of Comprehensive Plan Updates
- Support analysis to show how Comprehensive Plans can accommodate the range of housing needs required in the Growth Management Act and Countywide Planning Policies
- Report on measurable goals for production and preservation of affordable housing in the ARCH region
- Facilitate and advance proposals for dedicated revenue sources for affordable housing in East King County
- Continue to expand ARCH’s capacity to accomplish its broader mission
- Develop compliance tools to meet evolving program needs, and continue to provide excellent stewardship of affordable housing assets
- Develop and implement policies to reduce cost burden in affordable housing
- Seek opportunities to advance projects and programs with high potential impact and facilitate projects in the pipeline with available resources
- Develop a strategic planning process to guide the ARCH coalition into the future

I. AFFORDABLE HOUSING INVESTMENT

A. ARCH Housing Trust Fund

Parity Goals. Develop updated goals for member investments through the ARCH HTF.

Annual Funding Round. Develop funding priorities and evaluation criteria for the annual funding round. Advertise available funds and manage a competitive process on behalf of member cities. Review funding applications and develop recommendations through the Community Advisory Board (CAB), with input from member staff. Develop final recommendations by the ARCH Executive Board and facilitate final funding allocations through member councils.

Public Funding Coordination. Work collaboratively with public funders at the State and local levels to promote shared affordable housing goals and equitable geographic distribution of resources. Review and provide input to other funders for Eastside projects that apply for County (HOF, RAHP, HOME, TOD, etc.) and State (Tax Credit, State Housing Trust Fund) resources. Provide input to the King County Joint Recommendations Committee (JRC) on behalf of participating Eastside jurisdictions. Assist N/E consortium members with evaluating and making a recommendation to the County regarding CDBG allocations to affordable housing.

Private Funding Coordination. Work with private investors and lenders to maximize leverage of public investment into affordable housing. Negotiate maximum public benefits from investment of housing funds into private projects. Engage with Enterprise Community Partners and other investors on the potential extension of the Regional Equitable Development Initiative (REDI) Fund. Complete implementation of a Bridge Financing Pilot in partnership with Microsoft.

Project Pipeline Management. Work with member cities and project sponsors to develop a robust pipeline of projects to be funded over the next five years (see related work on Transit Center sites, below). Actively vet
potential HTF projects, and lead funding policy and prioritization discussions with the ARCH Executive Board to facilitate planning and decision-making.

**Contract Development and Administration.** Prepare contract documents in consultation with legal counsel and facilitate approval of contracts with the Administering Agency. Review and approve disbursement of funds to awarded projects in accordance with executed contracts.

**Centralized Trust Fund Reporting.** Work with Administering Agency (Bellevue) to maintain records and produce regular financial reports for the ARCH Trust Fund accounts. Update internal policies and procedures regarding records maintenance efforts coordinated with the Administering Agency.

**HB 1406 Sales Tax.** Develop systems and procedures to manage contributions, commitments and expenditures of pooled sales tax revenue authorized by HB 1406. Work with the Department of Commerce to ensure timely and complete reporting in compliance with state requirements.

### B. Special Projects and Other Local Housing Investments

**Local Housing Investments.** Provide strategic policy support and administrative capacity to cities making other investments in housing, for example with fee in lieu funds, dedicated sales tax funds, pass through of state grant funds or other sources directed by individual cities. Ensure coordination with regional funding processes to maximize affordable housing outcomes.

**Transit-Oriented Development Sites.** Assist cities with advancing and coordinating affordable housing projects near transit. Partner with Sound Transit, King County Metro and other public agencies to maximize opportunities on public property. Current opportunities include sites in Bel-Red, Overlake, Downtown Redmond, Issaquah, Kirkland, Bothell, and Kenmore.

**Surplus Property/Underdeveloped Property.** Assist with evaluation of public surplus or underutilized private property (e.g., faith community properties) for suitability of affordable housing. Provide technical assistance to property owners interested in supporting affordable housing. Develop an inventory of promising public and nonprofit property and begin to engage owners to gauge interest in disposition for housing.

**Eastside Shelter Capacity.** Support efforts by Eastside shelter providers, Eastside Human Services Forum, the King County Regional Homelessness Authority and member cities to implement an East King County sub-regional strategic approach to shelter and related services for homeless adults and families. Support the construction of a permanent year-round men’s shelter, and support efforts by member jurisdictions to fund long-term operations of shelter for men, women, families, youth and young adults.

**Preservation of At-Risk Affordable Housing.** Work with member cities to facilitate acquisitions or other strategies to preserve existing housing where affordability is at risk of being lost, including at-risk manufactured housing communities. As needed, assist with responding to notices of sale of HUD assisted properties received by member cities, or other information indicating an impending loss of existing affordable housing.

**Strategic Predevelopment Investment.** With approval of the Executive Board, invest in predevelopment studies to investigate feasibility of special projects.
II. HOUSING POLICY AND PLANNING

A. Local Policy, Planning and Code Development

ARCH provides assistance directly to member cities on a range of local planning efforts. Local planning efforts with individual member cities may be found in Attachment A. These efforts may take different forms, such as:

- **Housing Element Updates.** Work with members to update comprehensive plan housing elements.
  - Assist with understanding and complying with new housing-related requirements under the Growth Management Act and Countywide Planning Policies.
  - Prepare an east King County housing needs analysis with focused analyses for each city—including projected affordable housing needs—to fulfill GMA requirements.
  - Coordinate local and ARCH affordable housing goals with King County Affordable Housing Committee and Countywide Planning Policies.
  - Assist with policy writing, outreach, presentations, etc. as needed.

- **Housing Strategy and Action Plans.** Assist members to prepare housing strategies to implement housing elements and create council work plans. Cities with completed or ongoing strategy and action plans include Bellevue, Issaquah, Kenmore, Bothell, Kirkland, Redmond, and Sammamish.

- **Incentive Program Design.** Provide economic analysis and policy and program development support to design housing incentive programs, including land use, property tax, impact fee waivers, parking reductions and other incentives.

- **Land Use Code Amendments.** Assist city staff on land use and other code amendments in order to implement comprehensive plan policies.

- **Other Support.** Other areas in which ARCH could provide support to member cities include preservation of valuable community housing assets, assistance to households displaced by development activity, review of tenant protection regulations, or negotiation of agreements for specific development proposals. ARCH views this as a valuable service to its members and will continue to accommodate such requests to the extent they do not jeopardize active work program items.

B. Inter-Local / Eastside Planning Activities

Interlocal planning activities are coordinated by ARCH for the benefit of multiple members.

**ARCH Regional Affordable Housing Goals and Reporting.** Work with member staff and the ARCH Executive Board to report on adopted goals for production and preservation of affordable housing across ARCH member communities. Utilize data methodologies consistent with the requirements of GMA and Countywide Planning Policies.

**Tenant Protection Policies.** Share information and help identify common policy priorities relating to tenant protections. Facilitate consideration of local regulations by ARCH members and help to encourage consistent protections for renters across the region that reduce evictions and economic displacement.

**Long-Term Funding/Dedicated Revenue Strategy.** Continue work on a long-term funding strategy for the ARCH Trust Fund. Facilitate conversations with member cities on identifying and exploring dedicated sources of revenue for affordable housing at the local and regional level (e.g., REET, property tax levy, commercial linkage fee, etc.). Provide relevant data and develop options for joint or individual revenue approaches across
ARCH member cities and determine any shared state legislative priorities to authorize local options for funding.

**Eastside Housing Data Analysis and Planning for GMA Housing Requirements.** On an annual basis, provide local housing and demographic data as available. Make information available to members for planning efforts and incorporate into ARCH educational materials. Facilitate and encourage members to collaborate in addressing new GMA/CPP housing requirements so that the affordable and special housing needs across east King County are addressed.

**Housing Diversity/Middle Housing.** Continue to support a diversity of housing options among member cities:
- “Missing Middle” Housing: Facilitate sharing of best practices for encouraging a greater diversity of housing types in single family/low density neighborhoods, including duplexes, triplexes, etc. Assist members’ efforts to utilize planning grants for middle housing analysis, policy and code development.
- Help jurisdictions develop strategies and codes to address emerging housing types, like micro-housing, small efficiency dwelling units, and others.

**C. State Legislative Activities**

The ARCH Executive Board will discuss and explore shared legislative priorities for advancing affordable housing in the region, with a goal to enable members to advocate collectively for greater funding and policy tools at the local level to address affordable housing needs. ARCH staff will track relevant state (and, where feasible, federal) legislation. As needed, staff will report to the Executive Board and members, and coordinate with relevant organizations (e.g., AWC, SCA, WLIHA, HDC) to advance shared legislative priorities.

**D. Regional/Countywide Planning Activities**

ARCH participates in regional planning efforts to advance Eastside priorities and ensure that perspectives of communities in East King County are voiced in regional housing and homelessness planning.

**King County GMPC Affordable Housing Committee / Housing Inter-Jurisdictional Team (HIJT).** Support efforts to advance the five-year action plan developed by the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force (RAHTF) in 2018. ARCH will help staff the HIJT, which provides support to the Growth Management Planning Council’s Affordable Housing Committee (AHC).

**Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Action Plan.** In addition to staffing the GMPC committee, pursue other opportunities to advance strategies called for in the RAHTF Action Plan. Facilitate discussions as needed with members and the Executive Board to consider actions recommended in the five-year plan.

**King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) / Eastside Homeless Advisory Committee (EHAC).** Support Eastside collaboration in regional homelessness efforts, as appropriate and as resources allow. Collaborate with KCRHA, EHAC and other relevant organizations and initiatives to advance shared work on homelessness. Promote best practices in development of housing solutions that move people out of homelessness. Coordinate allocation of resources, and work on specific initiatives.

**Explore Collaboration with Cities in North and East King County.** As requested, engage cities interested in supporting affordable housing in north and east King County that are not currently members of ARCH. Explore collaboration that provides benefits for additional cities and current ARCH member cities. Enter into agreements to provide services to other cities, as directed by the ARCH Executive Board.
III. HOUSING PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

A. Administration of Housing Incentive and Inclusionary Programs

ARCH partners with member cities to administer local housing incentive and inclusionary programs, including mandatory inclusionary, voluntary density bonus, multifamily tax exemption (MFTE) and other programs. Specific programs administered by ARCH include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Incentive/Inclusionary Programs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue</td>
<td>Voluntary density bonuses, MFTE, impact fee waivers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bothell</td>
<td>Inclusionary housing, MFTE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issaquah</td>
<td>Development agreements, voluntary and inclusionary programs, impact and permit fee waivers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenmore</td>
<td>Development agreements, voluntary and inclusionary programs, MFTE, impact fee waivers.</td>
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<td>Kirkland</td>
<td>Inclusionary program, MFTE.</td>
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<td>Mercer Island</td>
<td>Voluntary density bonus.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>Inclusionary program, impact fee waivers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Redmond</td>
<td>Inclusionary program, MFTE.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sammamish</td>
<td>Inclusionary and voluntary density bonuses, impact fee waivers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodinville</td>
<td>MFTE.</td>
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<tr>
<td>King County</td>
<td>Development agreements.</td>
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ARCH roles and responsibilities will typically include:

- Communicate with developers/applicants and city staff to establish applicability of codes and policies to proposed developments
- Review and approve proposed affordable housing (unit count, location/distribution, bedroom mix, and quality)
- Review and recommend approval of MFTE applications.
- Review and recommend approval of alternative compliance proposals
  - For fee in lieu projects, provide invoices and receipts for developer payments
- Develop contracts and covenants containing affordable housing requirements
- Ensure implementation of affordable housing requirements during sale/lease-up
- Register MFTE certificates with County Assessor and file annual MFTE reports with state Commerce.
- On-going compliance monitoring (see Stewardship, below).

Coordinate Shared Policy, Program and Procedure Improvements. Work with member city staff and legal counsel to align incentive and inclusionary programs with a unified set of policies, practices and templates for legal agreements. Coordinate changes across member jurisdictions to adapt programs to new knowledge and best practices (for example, implementing fee strategies to create sustainable revenue for monitoring).
B. Stewardship of Affordable Housing Assets

ARCH provides long-term oversight of affordable housing created through city policies and investment to ensure stewardship of these critical public assets for residents, owners and the broader community.

ARCH Rental Program (Incentive and Inclusionary Projects). Monitor and enforce compliance in rental housing projects with incentive and inclusionary housing agreements. Administer a robust compliance monitoring program, including:

- Ensure compliance with rent and income restrictions through timely annual report reviews and supplemental on-site file audits
- Provide training and technical assistance for property managers
- Maintain written standards for eligibility, leasing and other program requirements
- Implement standard remedies for non-compliance
- Respond to tenant issues and questions

ARCH Trust Fund Projects. Oversee contracts and regulatory agreements with owners of projects supported through the direct assistance from members, including:

- Monitor project income and expenses to determine cash flow payments
- Conduct long-term sustainability monitoring of projects and owners
- Proactively problem-solve financial and/or organizational challenges in partnership with project owners and other funders
- Work with legal counsel to review and approve requests for contract amendments, subordination and other agreements
- Pursue formal MOUs with other funders to govern shared monitoring responsibilities that streamline processes for owners and funders.
- Collect annual compliance data and evaluate program beneficiaries

ARCH Homeownership Program. Provide effective administration to ensure strong stewardship of resale restricted homes in the ARCH Homeownership Program. Ensure ongoing compliance with affordability and other requirements, including enforcement of resale restrictions, buyer income requirements, and owner occupancy requirements. Implement adopted policies and procedures for monitoring and work with cities to address non-compliance.

Continue to implement long-term recommendations in the 2019 Program Assessment from Street Level Advisors and make other program improvements that support the program objective of creating and preserving long-term affordability, including:

- Work with member planning and legal staff to make improvements to boilerplate legal documents, in consultation with key stakeholders and outside counsel, as needed
- Develop strategies to preserve homes at risk of foreclosure
- Preserve expiring units and pursue strategies to re-capture lost affordability
- Pursue offering brokerage services or developing partnerships with realtors to provide cost-savings to homebuyers and sellers, diversify program revenue, and expand ARCH’s marketing reach
- Plan for additional staff capacity as the number of ARCH homes continues to grow.
- Implement program fees to ensure program financial sustainability

Work with the Washington State Housing Finance Commission to evaluate the ARCH Eastside Down Payment Assistance Program and make updates to provide effective financial assistance to income-eligible first time homebuyers in East King County.
Database/Systems Development. Continue to utilize the new ARCH Homeownership Program database to collect critical program data and evaluation, compliance monitoring, communication with program participants, and other key functions. Continue to improve and streamline data systems for ARCH Rental Program and Trust Fund Program. Develop a new Trust Fund project and loan database to assist with timely loan monitoring and reporting. Update information systems to ensure accurate, efficient recording of transactions within ARCH Trust Fund accounts.

IV. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

A. Housing 101/Education Efforts

Housing 101. Develop educational tools and conduct or support events to inform councils, planning commissions, member staff and the broader community of current housing conditions, and of successful housing programs. Build connections with community groups, faith communities, developers, nonprofits and others interested in housing issues. Plan and conduct a Housing 101 event.

Private Sector Engagement. Support efforts by ARCH member cities to engage employers and private sector entities in discussions around the need for more affordable housing and identifying options for public-private partnerships.

B. Information and Assistance for the Public

Office Hours. As government organizations and businesses navigate the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, provide published office hours, consistent with public health guidelines, for appointments or walk-in customer service. Open office hours will be advertised on the ARCH website and ARCH Facebook page and shared with partner organizations.

ARCH Website. Continually update and build on information in the ARCH website. Maintain information on the most urgently needed resources in the community, including rental assistance, no-cost legal services, mortgage assistance, and senior resources available in East King County.

Assist Community Members Seeking Affordable Housing. Maintain up-to-date information on affordable housing in East King County (rental and ownership) and distribute to people looking for affordable housing. Continue to maintain a list of households interested in affordable ownership and rental housing and advertise newly available housing opportunities. Work with other community organizations and public agencies to develop appropriate referrals for different types of inquiries received by ARCH (e.g., rapid rehousing, eviction prevention, landlord tenant issues, building code violations, fair housing complaints, etc.).

C. Equitable Access to Affordable Housing in East King County

Collect and analyze data on existing programs to determine potential gaps in access by different populations, such as communities of color, immigrant and refugee communities, homeless individuals and families, and workers in EKC commuting from other communities. Evaluate strategies and outreach goals to increase access to affordable housing in EKC by underserved communities. Develop outreach and marketing efforts to maximize awareness of affordable housing opportunities in East King County and build partnerships with diverse community organizations.
V. ADMINISTRATION

A. Administrative Procedures

Maintain administrative procedures that efficiently and transparently provide services to both members of ARCH and community organizations utilizing programs administered through ARCH. Activities include:

- Prepare the Annual Budget and Work Program and ensure equitable allocation of administrative costs among ARCH members.
- Prepare quarterly budget and work program progress reports, Trust Fund reports, and monitor expenses to stay within budget.
- Manage the ARCH Community Advisory Board, including recruiting and maintaining membership that includes broad geographic representation and a wide range of housing and community perspectives.
- Staff the Executive Board.
- Work with Administering Agency to streamline financial systems.
- Review and update bylaws and ensure timely renewal of the ARCH Interlocal Agreement.

B. Organizational Assessment and Planning

The ARCH Executive Board will continue to evaluate ARCH’s organizational capacity to accomplish its Work Program and broader mission. The Board will review ARCH’s organizational structure, staffing resources, capital resources and other foundational aspects of the organization to determine any gaps and assess options for expanding organizational capacity. The assessment will inform recommendations for the following year’s work program and budget. In 2023, ARCH will conduct a strategic planning process that will identify any significant structural or other organizational changes needed to advance ARCH’s mission, values and work program going forward.
ARCH staff will assist members’ staff, planning commissions, and elected councils with local policy, planning and special projects and initiatives, as described below. Member city staff may make adjustments to the proposed actions identified below as individual city work plans are updated.

**Bellevue**

Support 3-4 actions to implement Bellevue’s Affordable Housing Strategy, such as:

- Facilitate development on affordable housing on suitable land owned by public agencies, faith-based groups, and non-profits housing entities.
- Analysis of affordable housing recommendations in the Wilburton neighborhood plan, Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, and density incentives in the Land Use Code, including C-1 and Phase 2.
- Participate in developer selection processes and develop funding strategy for affordable housing on suitable public lands in proximity to transit hubs including 130th TOD parcels.

Provide ongoing support to implement investment of funds authorized by HB 1590, or other city funds as directed.

Implement newly authorized affordable housing incentives; develop boilerplate agreements and procedures for ongoing monitoring.

Provide advice on city’s effort to update Housing Needs Assessment, including coordination on scope/methodology, and potentially provide supplemental data.

Assist the city with implementation of affordable housing agreements at the TOD project adjacent to Sound Transit’s Operations and Maintenance Facility East (OMFE).

Assist the city with process to identify Affordable Housing “Next Right Work” through participation in facilitated work sessions.

**Bothell**

Support actions to implement the city’s Housing Strategy Plan.

Support affordable housing opportunities, especially in the Downtown/Canyon Park areas, such as any proposals for affordable housing on the P-South property or other city-owned property.

Help to identify potential Bothell Trust Fund projects.

Evaluate affordable housing incentives and requirements such as parking reductions or other development incentives, code amendments that add capacity and rezones, and implement those adopted.

Assist with compliance with new requirements under HB 1220.

Support updates to policies and codes for affordable housing options, including ADUs, micro-housing, small efficiency dwelling units, and “missing middle” housing.

Help pursue funding and implement further outreach, equity and implementation measures to encourage more middle housing and address potential displacement.
Issaquah
Assist with preparing the annual Affordable Housing Report Card/Analysis.
Assist with implementation of Strategies 6, 7 and 8 of the Housing Strategy Work Plan expanding inclusionary zoning, increasing missing middle as permitted uses, and removing barriers to the construction of condominiums.
Present Housing 101 to the Planning Policy Commission in late 2022/early 2023.
Help to evaluate potential projects/opportunities that arise under current or amended Development Agreements.
Coordinate marketing efforts to maximize awareness of affordable housing opportunities in Issaquah.
Support implementation and funding of the city’s TOD project.

Kenmore
Assist with implementing a high priority item identified in the Housing Strategy Plan, as requested.
Continue support of the Preservation of Affordable Housing/Mobile Home Park project started in 2018.
Assist with the Comprehensive Plan Housing Element update, including help with new affordable housing targets.
Provide technical support, data and best practices to assist with potential code changes, such as for “missing middle” housing.
Advance opportunities to site affordable housing in Kenmore, such as near ST3 transit investments, or on other public, nonprofit and faith-based community property. Help evaluate and identify potential properties, partners and financing strategies.
Evaluate potential expansion of TOD overlay and refinement of affordable housing requirements in the overlay zone.

Kirkland
Continue to support efforts to create affordable housing within a transit-oriented development at the Kingsgate Park and Ride.
Support development of housing policies in connection with the I-405/NE 85th Street Station Area Plan, such as evaluation of a commercial linkage fee, and inclusionary housing requirements, and incentivizing family-sized housing units.
Assist with scoping and stakeholder discussions of a potential affordable housing levy.
Assist with implementing programs to encourage construction of more ADUs.
Evaluate housing-related issues in 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update.
Help review the effectiveness and value of the current MFTE program.
Assist with development of the City’s Housing Dashboard and ongoing implementation and monitoring of the adopted Affordable Housing Targets.

Assist the City in its potential expansion of the inclusionary zoning program through new incentives for areas like downtown that don’t have a requirement and expanded incentives for more affordable housing in other areas of the City.

Assist the City with its reevaluation of parking standards as they relate to affordable housing.

**Mercer Island**

Assist the City with understanding and synthesizing the Housing Needs Analysis findings with housing-related requirements under the Countywide Planning Policies and the Growth Management Act.

Provide input and assistance in the development of updated housing goals and policies for the City’s Comprehensive Plan periodic update.

**Newcastle**

Assist with potential investment of fee-in-lieu payments, first exploring opportunities to site affordable housing within Newcastle.

Assist with updating the City’s Housing Strategy Plan.

**Redmond**

Provide advice and technical support to evaluate and refine existing inclusionary and incentive programs, and impact fee waiver provisions.

Assist with scoping and stakeholder discussions regarding potential opportunities to increase revenue options to support affordable housing, and help with advocacy for expanded funding options.

Help evaluate programmatic approaches to support greater affordable homeownership opportunities.

Support partnerships with transit agencies to advance affordable housing within transit-oriented developments, including at Overlake and Southeast Redmond.

Support City efforts to identify suitable projects for preservation as a mechanism to advance affordable housing objectives.

**Sammamish**

Assist with data and scoping for a housing needs analysis, and review draft housing policies and goals for the City’s Comprehensive Plan Update.

Work with City staff and the City’s consultant to provide guidance in the development of the City’s Housing Action Plan.

Assist with compliance with new requirements under HB 1220.

Help explore development of educational or promotional materials to encourage developers and property owners to consider more diverse housing types, such as duplexes.

As opportunities arise, support development of affordable housing options.
**Woodinville**

Provide advice on scope and data collection in support of the City’s efforts to adopt a Housing Strategy Plan.

**King County**

Provide monitoring and stewardship services for affordable housing in the Northridge/Blakely Ridge and Redmond Ridge Phase II affordable housing development agreements.

Partner with King County to preserve affordable homes with expiring covenants in unincorporated areas.

Help advance the King County Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Action Plan.