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## SSHA<sup>3</sup>P Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

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**Members Present:** Riley Guerrero, Chair, Alex Harrington, Vice Chair, Jay Worley, Vice Chair, Adria Buchanan, Ben Ferguson, Corey Orvold, Isabella Rivera Kjaer, Nicholas Carr, Noemi Cagatin-Porter, Zac Baker

**Members Excused:** Desneige Haywood, Faaluaina Pritchard, Kevin Bates, Lindsey Sehmel, William Towey

**Members Absent:** Dominique Cruz, Judson Willis

**Staff:** Mary Connolly, Jason Gauthier, Becki Foutz

**Guests:** Beckye Frey, Carli Hoki, Dorsol Plants

### Call to Order

Riley called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

### Land Acknowledgement

Riley made the land acknowledgement.

### Approval of Consent Agenda

Riley asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. None. Noemi moved to approve the consent agenda. Ben seconded the motion. Vote was taken, none opposed; no abstentions, motion approved.

### Roll Call

Mary called roll; a quorum was present.

### Legislative Update

Jason provided an update on SSHA<sup>3</sup>P's efforts during the 2024 state legislative session and answered questions from the Board.

### 2024 Advisory Board Work Plan (Adopted January 12, 2024)

Mary provided an overview of the Work Plan adopted by the Executive Board. The Executive Board made one amendment to the Work Plan recommended by the Advisory Board before adopting. Focus Areas include Advise & Provide Feedback; Housing Toolkit Recommendations (*"Permitting process improvement..." has been removed from the Recommended Work Plan*); Education; and Administration. Riley opened for questions. Alex asked when SB 5290 needs to be implemented. Mary will get back to the group on that. Adria noted that she did visit the Executive Board and advocated keeping the Permitting Process improvement element in the Plan; she was disappointed that it was removed.

## Universal Design Presentation – Beckye Frey, Principal Planner, City of Redmond

Beckye has lived experience with homelessness and has a passion for working to support those who struggle with housing issues. *ADA standards* do not apply to most residential construction, are over 30 years old and are not inclusive of many common mobility devices. *Accessibility* is about removing barriers for entry and use of space, an attribute of the space. *Universal design* (UD) is the design of anything to make it usable by the greatest number of people, to the greatest extent possible. It is not designed just for those with disabilities. Its goal is to make spaces (homes, landscapes, streetscapes, etc.) accessible to every person, regardless of age or ability. Some add no cost, others, minimal costs. Restrooms are larger. UD creates more resilient and sustainable housing stock. *Visitability Features*: Zero-step entrance (not necessarily the front door), minimum widths for doorways and hallways, ground-floor bathroom, reinforcement of walls next to toilets, and light switches and electrical outlets within comfortable reach of all. [ICC ANSI A117.1](#), Type C (again not inclusive of many common mobility devices). The goal is to implement core accessibility features as a routine construction practice for all new housing. *IDD Housing* – designed for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, managed by DSHS DDA. Redmond incentivizes their partners/developers to use UD through a points-based system and requires using UD in some cases. The [NW Universal Design Council](#) has a number of resources. Jay added that people without disabilities should test out how they can get around in a wheelchair when considering design. For the neurodiverse, having a small space, a big space, lighting requirements and using green is needful. Ben and Riley agreed with Jay, sharing about disability exercises in which they participated. Beckye will email Mary a list of local sensory spaces to experience, a list of suburban/rural communities, inclusive wayfinding information, her Excel incentives calculator format, and more URL sites/resources, to share with the group. She encouraged the group to check out [Redmond.gov/Redmond2050](#) and [Redmond.gov/2057/Inclusive-Design](#).

## Public Comment

Riley opened the floor for public comment. None. No written comments were received.

## SSHA<sup>3</sup>P Staff Update

- A. Mary met with the new Leadership Team and asked if there was any more information they would like staff to provide to the Advisory Board. As a result of that conversation, she will begin including the SSHA<sup>3</sup>P Manager's Report in Advisory Board meeting packets.
- B. Developer Portal –Mary demonstrated the new [developer portal](#) with a page for each SSHA<sup>3</sup>P member government. Pages include links to plans and policies, permitting, utilities, fire, and funding information and opportunities.
- C. SSHA<sup>3</sup>P Housing Capital Fund – this fund was established in 2023 and will invest local funds from the affordable and supportive housing sales and use tax. This year will be the first funding round, and Auburn, Fife, Sumner, and Pierce County will participate as funders. A Fund Committee with representatives from contributing parties is working on priorities and is expected to adopt them this month. A NOFA is expected to be released in April, with funding awarded later this year. This NOFA will be in addition to the ones the County typically publishes.
- D. Property Tax Exemption Seminars will be continued this year, providing low-income seniors and those with disabilities information about how to apply for property tax exemption. There was one held in Puyallup/South Hill and one's coming up on the Key Peninsula. Corey asked if this includes disabled Veterans. Yes!
- E. Congratulations to Adria Buchanan and Rian Booker for being recognized as Pierce County Outstanding Volunteers!

## **Board Members' Updates & Comments**

Riley thanked everyone for their input; as a result, Board meetings will be held in person quarterly, beginning in April. There will be a virtual option for those who cannot attend. The in-person meetings will be held at the Pierce County Soundview office. The buddy system established last year will continue and will be kicked off at the next in-person meeting, so that people may meet their buddy face-to-face.

Ten responses were provided to the 2023 End of Year survey. Common themes included positive feedback for staff, people are generally comfortable sharing. Desires indicated are for greater understanding of Roberts Rules, more facilitation, proposals to reflect diversity, action and accomplishing visible change, and clearer goals and responsibilities. Though the survey is complete, feedback is always accepted – please send yours to Riley and Mary.

Adria congratulated Riley; she did a great job facilitating!

## **Adjournment**

Nicholas moved to adjourn; Corey seconded the motion. Vote was taken; none opposed, no abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.