



We empower local families to build **strength, stability, and self-reliance** through a permanent solution...affordable homeownership.



Tacoma/Pierce County
Habitat
for Humanity®

2020 Affordable Housing & Homeownership ***PRIORITY AGENDA***

Amend RCW 84.52.105

RCW 84.52.105 allows jurisdictions to levy a voter-approved property tax (no more than \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for no more than 10 years) for the production of affordable housing. The RCW currently limits the distribution of moneys raised to fund projects for households earning up to only 50% of the area median income (AMI). We recommend amending RCW 84.52.105 to allow the option for jurisdictions, which pass a voter approved affordable housing property tax levy, to distribute moneys raised to affordable homeownership and home repair programs serving households earning up to 80% of the local AMI.

Infrastructure Funding for Housing Development

We recognize one of the primary impediments to housing and affordable housing development is the cost of development infrastructure. By addressing this issue and property resourcing local jurisdictions, the legislature could move the needle for low and modest income households. We continue our support for HB 1680, which would redeposit 4.1% of the the Real Estate Excise tax into the Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) and direct moneys collected for the next biennium to development infrastructure in support of housing development.

HB 1590 w/ Amendment

We support HB 1590, which would give councilmanic authority to levy a 1/10th of 1% sales tax for affordable housing. We also support an amendment to RCW 82.14.540, as a part of this legislation, to designate a new population service group to include households earning up to 80% of the area median income (AMI) participating in affordable homeownership programs.

Incentives for Sellers of Land for Affordable Housing Development

We believe its important to provide affordable housing developers with a wide variety of opportunities to secure developable land. We support a Real Estate Excise tax (REET) exemption for the seller of real property to a non-profit organization for the purposes of housing and/or housing development for households earning up to 80% AMI.

Using affordable homeownership as an anchor for hope, change, and stability, Tacoma/Pierce County Habitat for Humanity has been building in the community since 1985. We are committed to transforming neighborhoods—fighting blight and advocating for fair and just housing policies—while increasing access to affordable homeownership for hard working families and providing access to resources so homeowners can improve their communities.

www.tpc-habitat.org | office@tpc-habitat.org | (253) 627-5626



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2020 Affordable Housing & Homeownership **SUPPORT AGENDA**

Washington Affordable Homeownership Coalition

We support the Washington Affordable Homeownership Coalition's goal to provide more low-income Washington households with access to homeownership and home repair opportunities.

#UnlocktheDoor

Tacoma/Pierce County Habitat for Humanity is proud to support the Washington REALTORS' *Unlock the Door* campaign. We believe it's critical to rally our resources and educate our elected leaders on the changes necessary to enable our private and non-profit housing developers to build the housing stock necessary to accommodate all residents of our state. For more information visit: www.unlockthedoowa.com

Forterra Capital Budget Request for Tacoma Hilltop Neighborhood Development

Tacoma/Pierce County Habitat for Humanity is proud to support Forterra's capital budget request to support the development of affordable housing and retail space in the Hilltop Neighborhood of Tacoma. We believe this project is an important investment in the vibrancy and future of the Hilltop community.

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