



**CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION  
Monday, February 6, 2023  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**HELD HYBRID - Council and some City Staff will be live in the Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street. Citizens and presenters will be joining via zoom**

**View on Channel 9 or Channels 180 and 181 (for Charter Communications customers) or live stream via [rytv.sou.edu](http://rytv.sou.edu) select RVTV Prime.**

**Written and oral testimony will be accepted for public input. For written testimony, email [public-testimony@ashland.or.us](mailto:public-testimony@ashland.or.us) using the subject line: Ashland City Council Public Testimony. For oral testimony, fill out a Speaker Request Form at [ashland.or.us/speakerrequest](http://ashland.or.us/speakerrequest) and return to the City Recorder. The deadline for submitting written testimony or speaker request forms will be at 10 a.m. on the day of the Study Session meeting and must comply with Council Rules to be accepted.**

**Councilor Chair Graham Called the Study Session to order at 5:30 PM**

**Councilors' Hyatt, Kaplan, and Hansen were present.**

1. Public Input (15 minutes, maximum)  
None.

2. Housing & Human Advisory Committee Annual Report

Housing Program Specialist Linda Reid gave a Staff Report. She was joined with Chair Linda Reppond and former Chair Rich Rohde.

Linda Reppond went over a PowerPoint (*see attached*) Items discussed were:

- Housing Production Strategy
- Education and Outreach
- Community Development Block Grant and Affordable Housing Trust Fund Review and Recommendations.
- Severe Weather Shelter Recommendation
- Goal Setting Retreat

Council discussed options.

3. Croman Mill Redevelopment Update  
Interim Planning Director Brandon Goldman introduced Alan Harper who is part of the Development Site Team. Harper introduced Michael Weinstock and Michael Mehaffy. Mehaffy went over a PowerPoint Presentation:

Items Discussed were:

- Introduction
- Ideal Urban Extension Position
- 2008 Redevelopment Plan
- 2010 Land Use Plan
- Post COVID world
- New work formats
- Entrepreneurs, apprenticeships, creative businesses.
- Not just one kind of housing
- Maker Spaces
- Live and work in the same home
- Current Proposal and Example
- Illustrative Master Plan
- Potential Buildout Scenarios

Harper thanked Staff and spoke this will be a lot of work.

Council and Staff discussed options, zoning, timelines, environmental studies. A Temporary Employee of City of Ashland who formerly worked at DEQ for 25 year spoke regarding the project.

4. Adjournment

The Study Session was adjourned at 6:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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City Recorder Melissa Huhtala

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Attest Chair Graham

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator's office at (541) 488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).*



# Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee

Annual Update to the Council  
February 06, 2023

# Transition to in person meetings

- Despite the pandemic freeze on unnecessary meetings, the Housing and Human Services Commission did continue to meet regularly throughout the pandemic, and no meetings were missed in 2022.
- The Commission resumed meeting in person in October 2022.



# Housing Production Strategy

- **Two members of the HHSAC served as representatives on the Housing Production Strategy Advisory Group. They attended 5 additional meetings and helped inform the development of that document.**
- **The HHSAC had two meetings devoted to prioritization of the HPS strategies.**
- **HHSAC undertook community engagement activities to help with the development of the priorities**
  - Key informant interviews
  - Online questionnaire development
  - Targeted group outreach events: SOU Students, Manufactured Home parks, and rental housing developments
  - SOU focus group





# Education and Outreach: Rent Burden Forum

- Was held in August 2022
- Attended by 30+ people
- Panel Discussion
- Overview of the Housing Production Strategy was provided
- Distributed the housing production strategy questionnaire and gained feedback about strategy priorities.
- [Developed a Rent Burden Forum Video](#)



## Housing and Human Services Commission Special Meeting

*City of Ashland  
Housing Policy  
Community  
Discussion  
Event*



**"Rent Burden" FORUM**  
Thursday, August 25th  
4-6pm

Ashland Hills Hotel, 2525 Ashland St. Ashland OR 97520

***We would like to hear from you!***  
*Give input about Housing Production Strategy, discuss the issue of rent burden, and learn about resources.*

The Ashland Housing Production Strategy (HPS) project wants to hear from Ashland residents.

# Community Development Block Grant and Affordable Housing Trust Fund Review and Recommendations

- Reviewed applications from 2 applicants, heard presentations and made recommendations regarding Community Development Block Grant funding.
- Reviewed applications from 2 applicants, heard presentations and made recommendations regarding the remaining balance of CDBG-CARES act-pandemic related funding.
- Reviewed application from 3 applicants, heard presentations and made recommendations regarding the City's affordable housing trust funds.
- Made recommendations for a total of over 400K in grant funding



# Severe Weather Shelter Recommendation

- The Committee formed a subcommittee in 2021 and met several times to work on drafting a policy recommendation based on research of best practices.
- Held two virtual stakeholder meetings in January of 2022. Feedback from stakeholders informed the development of the recommendations.
- Facilitated a debrief of recent active shelter events.
- Presented to the Council twice regarding recommendations. Resolution 2022-03 was adopted in November 2022.
- Committee members volunteered and organized cooling shelters due to a lack of a non-profit partner to organize shelter.
- [OPB Shelter Video.](#)





# Goal Setting Retreat

- In 2022 the Commission met for a goal setting meeting on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.
- The Commission identified 7 goals:
  - Build Cooperation and systems of communication for emergency shelter at both the executive and operational levels.
  - Promote Workforce Housing:
    - Education about the UGB expansion process
    - Promote capacity building and encourage new workforce housing partnerships
    - Work with SOU on potential housing opportunities on identified surplus properties
    - Increase capacity for more mobile home parks
    - Barrier Removal/to promote infill housing and group housing options
    - Food Resources-Address the need for a commercial kitchen in Ashland



# QUESTIONS?

Thank you

