

Housing and Homelessness in Multnomah County (2023)

Position in Brief:

Support of equal opportunity in housing.

Support of measures to provide programs to increase the supply of safe, decent, and adequate housing for all Multnomah County residents.

Support for action at all levels of local government for the provision of affordable housing for all Multnomah County residents.

Details:

1. Programs and policies to provide equal opportunity for access to housing without discrimination based on race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.
2. An overall plan for development with integration of housing, land use and transportation and with attention to factors such as natural resources and basic human needs.
3. Financial assistance in the form of grants, loans, tax incentives and other means to encourage housing construction and rehabilitation.
 - a. Broad guidelines for use of these funds with more local decision making.
 - b. Use of fiscal incentives and disincentives to encourage enforcement of housing law.
 - c. Enforcement of use of redevelopment set-aside funds for low- and moderate-income housing.
4. Standardization and modernization of local building and zoning codes to conform with applicable codes that:
 - a. are enforced by trained inspectors
 - b. encourage new and innovative building materials and methods that can be used to cut housing construction costs
 - c. encourage the use of density bonuses; mixed, cluster and inclusionary zoning; second units; infill development; air rights; and increased density along transportation corridors.
5. Protection of the rights of both tenants and landlords.
6. Removal of barriers that inhibit the construction of low- and moderate-income housing.
7. Education of local communities concerning the need for affordable housing and methods by which this can be attained.