

In the beginning...

Recognizing the growing problem of housing affordability in Eugene, City Council directed staff to implement a process to identify barriers to housing affordability, availability, and diversity and to suggest, evaluate, and recommend possible strategies to address the barriers. The project is structured around a working group of stakeholders from across the community.

Working Group participants were invited to satisfy the following interests to the greatest degree possible.

- **Familiarity with the problem:** This includes both professional experiences, as with developers and housing advocates, as well as more personal familiarity with the challenges of affording housing.
- **Diversity and Balance of Perspective:** This working group will depend on rich and varied viewpoints and life experiences. Not all residents are able to access these types of efforts. Inclusion of voices who are often less engaged with city politics is important.
- **Availability and Willingness:** Wherever possible, working group participants should be available to attend all four meetings and participate in good faith towards the group's purpose.

In addition to their own expertise, the working group will be informed by technical research conducted by a housing economist. Stakeholders will identify and evaluate potential tools and strategies from their various perspectives and using a facilitated deliberative process.

Along the way...

City staff will keep the public and City leadership apprised of the group's progress. Background information, results of each meeting, and opportunities to collect feedback from the broader community will be online at <https://www.eugene-or.gov/3960/Housing-Tools-and-Strategies>. Working Group participants may engage with their broader constituencies according to the guidelines outlined in the Working Group Handbook. Members of the public are invited and encouraged to review the Working Group's progress and submit their own ideas online. This feedback will be summarized and shared with the Working Group.

City leadership will receive periodic briefings on the Working Group's progress. These briefings' content will mirror the content published online.

In the end...

Stakeholders will identify areas of agreement along with the benefits and tradeoffs of the recommendations where consensus is not reached. The Working Group's neutral facilitator will compile a summary of the group's work for Council. This summary will include information regarding the Working Group's composition and process and the group's tiered recommendations.

