



"I lost my job and our family ended up homeless, living in the woods and then in a shelter until a great nonprofit helped find us a home, getting our lives back on track. I am filled with joy every time I come home from work and see my kids in our yard playing with the kids from the neighborhood - just the way it is supposed to be. "

A sales tax increase of 1/10 of 1% will only cost the average resident \$16/year and will generate ~\$20 million annually for affordable housing

For more information email: readcarolyn@comcast.net

THE PROBLEM.

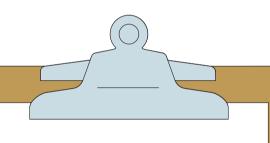
- About 1/3 of all households in Pierce County are housing costburdened totaling over 100,000 households. Of these, more than 43,000 households spend over half of their income on housing.
- Housing costs are rising fast because supply is not keeping pace with demand. Pierce County needs to build 137,000 housing units by 2044 to keep up with demand.
- Of those 137,000 housing units, the county needs to produce 2,300 units/year affordable at or below 50% of area median income (AMI). Over half of these units are needed at 30% of AMI or below.
 - 50% AMI for a family of 4 is ~\$50,000.
 - 30% AMI for a family of 4 is ~\$30,000.
- The County severely lacks locally dedicated funds to help build affordable housing and related services. Pierce County needs 1,200 new permanent supportive housing units.
- State and federal grants and federal tax credits require local equity and match funds to be competitive.

A PATH FORWARD

- The Pierce County Council is considering passage of a local housing revenue dedicated for affordable housing (2022-81s). A 1/10 of 1% sales tax in Pierce County is estimated to raise \$20 million annually, but only cost the average resident \$16/year.
- This revenue will provide a reliable stream of income for lowincome housing and support services.
- Additionally, the \$20 million in annual revenue for affordable housing will provide:
 - More competitive applications for State Housing Trust Fund investments, federal tax credits and other financing such as federal HOME funds.
 - o Capacity development for existing and new non-profit housing developers to build housing.
 - Fund support for innovative homeless services such as the Pierce County Community First Village as well as other permanent supportive housing projects.
 - Support homeownership programs with funding for down payment and technical assistance for first time homebuyers and low-income families.

WITH <u>YOUR HELP</u> WE CAN BUILD MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN <u>PIERCE COUNTY!</u>

- Do you want more affordable housing in Pierce County? Contact the Pierce County Council today by emailing pccouncil@piercecountywa.gov in support of 2022-81s
- Add your name or organization to our <u>community sign on letter</u> urging the council to adopt the 1/10 of 1% sales tax for affordable housing today!
 - Use this link: tinyurl.com/nf84b386



ACTIVIST CHECK LIST:



Email the Pierce County Council in support of 2022-81s



Add your name to the **community sign on letter**



Attend the Pierce County Council public hearing on <u>3/21/23</u> to testify in support

1/10 1% FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING ALREADY ADOPTED IN:

- Skagit County
- Jefferson County
- King County
- Whatcom County
- Snohomish County
- Thurston County
- Clallam County
- Island County
- Kitsap County
- Ellensburg
- Spokane
- Tacoma
- Vancouver
- Wenatchee/East Wenatchee

COUNCIL ZOOM INFO:

3/21 @ 3PM, Full Council*

piercecountywa.zoom.us/j/97661787423

*Final vote by council.

