

Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness
Advocacy & Policy Update 9.18.2020
Make Good Trouble, Necessary Trouble
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Conference on Ending Homelessness: Oct 7 & 8, 2020 Virtual. <https://www.wliha.org/conference>

Housing Washington: Oct. 6, 2020 Virtual. <https://www.housingwa.org> Free

UPDATING - Partnership with Tacoma Pierce County Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber is ahead of us in organizing their part of our partnership. This is the description provided by Ben Ferguson.

Sherri Jensen and Ben Ferguson are the co-chairs for the Tacoma/Pierce County Chamber of Commerce Board's Housing and Workforce Committee. It is brand new and was created Sept 9th as a response to the homelessness issues and the work that began when the Coalition came to the South Sound Summit. The Chamber also just created a Social Equity Committee also, one of their members will be a co-member in our committee so we keep equity at the front of our work.

The Chamber's Housing & Workforce Committee is going to become instigators/conveners/collaborators with the Coalition and other like-minded organizations so we can help be additional catalysts. We will approach this issue broadly but will primarily approach it from a business perspective. The Board's new Vision is: Making the South Sound the most Equitable and Inclusive place to do business in Washington State.

This is all new for the Chamber, and this is a major pivot, but the board is very motivated to make change in our community and we are counting on partners like your team from the Coalition to provide insights that we do not have. We are looking forward to amplifying your voice through our channels and hope you can do the same for ours.

WE, the Coalition to End Homelessness, need to decide if we want one committee or two. In either case, we need more people - we are looking for people with experience as nonprofit housing developers and/or policy, people representing Workforce Development, and we want this committee to fully represent the diversity of the Coalition and the community.

If you are interested, please put your name and email in the Chat and/or email MaureenHowardConsulting@gmail.com.

Today, we are asking the Coalition to join the Chamber in supporting the City of Tacoma's proposed changes to the Residential Infill Pilot Program. These changes reauthorize, expand, and modify the existing program and are consistent with the City's Affordable Housing Action Strategy.

The notice of the public hearing and changes to the Pilot Program is attached to the email and will be in the Chat.