

SOUTH SOUND HOUSING AFFORDABILITY PARTNERS

2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA PRIORITIES

ABOUT US

Established in 2021, the South Sound Housing Affordability Partners (SSHA³P) is an intergovernmental collaboration among 15 members governments in Pierce County, working together to create and preserve affordable, attainable, and accessible housing throughout our communities.

MEMBERS

City of Auburn
City of DuPont
City of Edgewood
City of Fife
City of Fircrest
City of Gig Harbor
City of Lakewood
City of Milton
Pierce County
Puyallup Tribe of Indians
City of Puyallup
City of Sumner
Town of Steilacoom
City of Tacoma
City of University Place



AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUBSIDY

Fund Capital Budget Requests for Pierce County Affordable Housing Projects.

Fund the Acquisition of Residential Properties for Affordable Housing.

Expand Eligibility for the Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program.



FACILITATING HOUSING SUPPLY

Support Construction Trade industry Workforce Development Efforts.



CREATING HOUSING STABILITY

Remove the Income Qualification for the Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUBSIDY

Fund Capital Budget Requests for Pierce County Affordable Housing Projects.

SSHA³P seeks to ensure affordable housing projects throughout our communities are adequately funded and will actively support capital funding requests via the Housing Trust Fund, Local and Community Projects, and Connecting Housing to Infrastructure programs, to support affordable housing project acquisition and development.

Fund the Acquisition of Residential Properties for Affordable Housing.

SSHA³P supports funding and financing tools to enable local governments and affordable housing partners to respond to real estate market opportunities to acquire properties to preserve and create affordable housing. These opportunities include the support of resident efforts to acquire manufactured home communities, the acquisition of multi-family units, and the acquisition of real estate for future affordable housing development.

Expand Eligibility for the Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program (CHIP).

CHIP grants support the development of affordable housing by funding water, sewer and stormwater utility improvements and/or waiving system development charges for new affordable housing units. SSHA³P asks the legislature to make two program changes.

1. Allowing affordable housing developers to directly apply for this grant funding in partnership with eligible cities, counties, or utility districts.
2. Allow the funds to be used to support water, sewer, and stormwater utility connections and improvements for resident owned manufactured home communities.



FACILITATING HOUSING SUPPLY

Support Construction Trade Industry Workforce Development Efforts.

The State of Washington needs thousands more construction industry professionals to build the hundreds of thousands of housing units we need. SSHA³P supports workforce development efforts that increase the number of people in the construction industry workforce and ensure access to training on new construction technologies.



CREATING HOUSING STABILITY

Remove the Income Qualification for the Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption.

SSHA³P asks the Legislature to expand the eligibility for the disabled veteran property tax exemption by removing the income requirement. This action would align Washington's exemption policy with the 41 other states that have made the determination that service and sacrifice of our disabled military veterans should be recognized with some level of property tax exemption void of any personal income qualifier.



SUPPORT | MONITOR | OPPOSE

- **Support** funding the Affordable Workforce Housing Accelerator Program.
- **Support** funding to support municipal planning and permitting.
- **Support** investments in rental assistance and eviction prevention.
- **Support** updates to the Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act.
- **Support** Fair Housing training for ownership associations.
- **Monitor** legislation regarding the Residential Landlord Tenant Act.
- **Monitor** the creation of state and/or local revenue sources for affordable housing.
- **Monitor** legislation to exempt affordable housing development from sales and use tax.
- **Monitor** legislation to exempt low-income, community land trust buyers from the real estate excise tax.
- **Oppose** preemption of local land use authority.
- **Oppose** legislation that would increase the cost to produce affordable housing.

