



TO: Washington State Department of Commerce
ATTN: Scott Kuhta, Senior Planner
FROM: Michael Mehaffy, Structura Naturalis Inc. (planning consultant for the City)
RE: White Salmon Housing Action Plan: Public Outreach Summary
DATE: June 22, 2023

The City of White Salmon has completed a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) and Housing Action Plan (HAP) with the assistance of my office, and under the funding provided by the Washington State Department of Commerce. This work is a more specific continuation of the housing needs and buildable lands assessment work already begun by the Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority (KCPEDA), with the assistance of consultants FCS GROUP and WSP USA Inc (WSP). Their work includes White Salmon as well as the larger county and other cities. Our scope of work examined White Salmon specifically, feeding into the White Salmon Housing Action Plan.

As part of their scope of work, KCPEDA and their consultants performed extensive public outreach. The results of that work are appended to this memo. In addition, the City performed extensive public outreach in its Vision 2040 process feeding into its Comprehensive Plan update, with 159 respondents (results are also attached). We have built on those findings, and performed additional public outreach for the Housing Action Plan as described below. Those responses are reported in the final Housing Action Plan, with detailed responses included as an appendix.

Outreach actions:

- **Online Survey:** A survey of 19 questions including open-ended and multiple-choice questions, ascertaining demographic information, priorities and concerns, preferences for housing types and alternative approaches, and ideas and contributions, as a way to gauge the community's general posture and invite their collaboration in the development of the HAP. We received 165 responses.
- **Open House:** A community open house inviting all citizens to come and share their ideas and concerns. The meeting included nine attendees representing a diverse range of household types.
- **Walking Tour with Photographs:** A tour of neighborhoods and discussion of proposed regulatory changes, including new allowances for infill. The tour included nine attendees, also representing a diverse range of household types.
- **Joint City Council and Planning Commission Workshop:** Presentation by the consultant of current status of the work and recommended next steps, followed by discussion of priorities, areas of support, areas of concern, and direction for further work. The public was also invited to make comments.
- **Advertising:** Display ads in the White Salmon Enterprise and Columbia Gorge News.
- **Media Outreach:** Announcements on the City's social media sites, and via eblasts. Radio interview on the local AM/FM station.
- **Joint City Council and Planning Commission Workshop (TBD):** A meeting to present and discuss the preliminary draft Housing Action Plan as well as Housing Needs Assessment, and make preliminary decisions regarding specific actions and follow-ups.
- **Public Hearing and Adoption.** Testimony from the public followed by adoption of the final plan.

Scott Kuhta, WSDOC

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Stakeholder groups that have been contacted and invited to participate:

- Affordable / Work Force Housing Advocates
- Builders / Land Use Developers
- Downtown Business Association
- Employers
- Local Media Outlets
- Non-Profit Groups
- Planning Commission Members
- Retirees / Senior Citizens
- School District / Teachers / Education Support Staff
- Worksource Washington

Our public outreach work will continue through the implementation stages of the Housing Action Plan. Please let me know if you have any questions.