



LYNNWOOD

WASHINGTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lynnwood Housing Action Plan - Online Open House

LYNNWOOD, WA (August 24, 2020) - In February 2020 the City of Lynnwood began working on a [Housing Action Plan](#). The Housing Action Plan will identify strategies and implementing actions that promote more housing diversity, affordability, and access to opportunity for residents of all income levels.

The City is hosting an [Online Open House](#) to hear from the community as the Housing Action Plan is developed.

Currently, the City is seeking feedback on its [Draft Housing Needs Assessment](#) report, which identifies housing needs for current and future Lynnwood residents.

The Housing Needs Assessment found in 2016 at least two in every five Lynnwood households spent at least 30 percent of their income on housing. Studies show individuals spending more than 30 percent of their income on housing often have difficulty affording other necessities such as food, transportation, and medical care. The number of Lynnwood residents spending more than 30 percent of their income on housing is likely much higher now due to continually rising housing costs and impacts from the Coronavirus.

The City will be using the [Draft Housing Needs Assessment](#) and feedback from the community to develop strategies to help shape Lynnwood's future. The City of Lynnwood is committed to being a safe, welcoming, and equitable community for all. When community members provide input on housing needs and potential solutions, the City can create a plan that better reflects everyone's values, interests, needs, and wants.

The Online Open House consists of 2 Online Meetings (**Tuesday, August 25 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm and Wednesday, August 26 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm**) and an interactive website that will be available from **August 24 through September 21**.

Both Online Meetings will follow the same format. They will start with a short presentation on Lynnwood's housing needs and efforts to develop a housing strategy that creates housing opportunities for all residents. Meetings will also include a time for questions from the public and responses from City staff.

How to attend the Online Open House Meetings (the same links will be used for both meetings):

- Zoom: <https://lynnwoodwa.zoom.us/j/93630132992>
- Phone: (253) 215-8782, Webinar ID 936 3013 2992
- Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/LynnwoodWA>

The Open House Website (<https://makers.mysocialpinpoint.com/lynnwoodhap>) provides information about the plan, the Draft Housing Needs Assessment report, surveys, and other opportunities to provide feedback. It will also include a recording of the meetings after they occur. A link to the Open House Website is also available on the project website: www.lynnwoodwa.gov/housingactionplan.

The City has been actively working to address housing affordability challenges. This year the City Council identified housing affordability as a priority. Last year Mayor Nicola Smith co-chaired the Snohomish County Housing Affordability Regional Task Force (HART), which consisted of the County and City governments working together to identify regional housing solutions. In February 2020 when HART released its report, Mayor Smith was asked what her message was to the community. She said addressing the high cost of housing isn't just about other people, "it's for all of us...and we need to figure out a way to take care of each other, and we need to act on it."

Information about the Housing Action Plan is available online at www.lynnwoodwa.gov/housingactionplan. Anyone wanting to be on the City's email list for project updates can do so by sending a request to: kholdsworth@lynnwoodwa.gov.

Contact: Kristen Holdsworth, AICP, Senior Planner, kholdsworth@LynnwoodWA.gov, 425-670-5409