FY 2023-24 Budget Note #6: Financial Health of Local Jurisdictions

Council directs the COO to develop a proposal for a report to determine how the overall financial health of local jurisdictions within the region and the current gaps in services (e.g. planning, permitting, transportation, health and safety) impact the development and redevelopment potential of land within the UGB and future growth of all types of housing and/or employment land. Staff should report back to Metro Council no later than January 1, 2024, with a project plan that includes high level estimated costs, staff time and a project timeline.

Activities to Date

Urban Growth Report roundtable

Planning, Development, & Research senior (PD&R) convened a roundtable to provide an opportunity for partners to share methodology for assessing land capacity. The roundtable also seeks to better understand (re)development challenges and identify potential shared strategies to support housing production and industrial growth.

Industrial Land Readiness Toolkit

PD&R staff updated the toolkit to support industrial land development across the region.

State and Local Coordination

PD&R senior staff visited cities across the Metro area to discuss land use, transportation, and local funding challenges, including the need for infrastructure investment to support development, state-level tax reform, and an analysis of how local jurisdiction fees and taxes can better support housing development and industrial growth.

GAPD coordinated with local jurisdictions and the Governor's office on a Housing Production Bill that provides significant funding for housing development.

PD&R developed the High-Capacity Transit strategy as a part of the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan, which included information about transit gaps. More work on first/last mile will be conducted in 2024.

Future Activities

Local Government Fiscal Health Study

In FY 2024-25, GAPD will coordinate with the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) to conduct a significant study of city fiscal health with options for local government revenue reform in 2024-2025.

If funded, a regional funding mechanism review and gap analysis could inform an update to the 2040 Vision. Additional FTE and consultant services would be required to produce the data analysis and generate potential revenue reform ideas.

Regional Infrastructure Analysis

A 2008 study explored infrastructure development costs for housing and jobs in the region. If funded, an update to this study would inform future funding proposals and support development and redevelopment across the region.

Regional Housing Production Strategy

Metro's Housing department will work to complete the strategy and support a better understanding of housing development successes and challenges.

Budget

More resources are needed to develop cost estimates an timelines. Staffing, M&S, and consulting fees all TBD, based on scope that exceeds above activities.