

To: MPAC members  
From: Liam Frost, Metro Housing Department Deputy Director  
Re: Background information for April 24, 2024 Housing Presentation to MPAC

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### *Metro Housing Department*

The Housing Department was formed in November 2022 in consideration of the expansive responsibilities required of Metro by both the 2018 Metro Housing Bond and the 2020 Supportive Housing Services (SHS) measures. In ramping up to fulfill our duties following the passage of the SHS measure, it became clear that the small team in the Planning Development and Research Department was not sufficient to manage \$652M in capital funding and the distribution of at least \$250M annually over the course of ten years for homeless services. To ensure that the goals of both voter-approved ballot measures are achieved, Metro Council, upon the recommendation of Metro COO, Marissa Madrigal, approved the creation of the new department. Over the last fiscal year, the department has been recruiting and hiring for key positions in compliance, data, technical assistance and policy support.

### *2018 Metro Affordable Housing Bond*

In 2018, Metro partnered with local cities and counties to engage the community and ask voters to support the creation of new affordable housing in the region. The resulting voter-approved bond generated \$652.8 million and was projected to create 3900 affordable homes across the region.

Plans are in place that will commit all remaining bond funds by the end of 2024 with final projects expected to break ground by 2026. The program is now projected to achieve at least 120% of its original production target once all funds are expended, creating an estimated 4,700 affordable homes that will provide housing for approximately 9,000 to 15,000 people across the region.

### *2020 Supportive Housing Services Measure*

In May 2020, voters in greater Portland approved Measure 26-210 to fund services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Metro works with Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties to reduce homelessness through programs and services that help people find and keep safe and stable homes. These include but are not limited to:

- Emergency services such as outreach and shelter
- Placement into housing
- Help paying rent
- Advocacy and case management

- Services in the areas of mental health, physical health, language and culture needs, education, employment, addiction and recovery, tenant rights and others.

As of December 2023, just over two years into implementation, the three counties report that 6,750 people have been placed into housing; 20,100 evictions have been prevented; 970 shelter beds have been created or sustained.