



March 17, 2017

To: Joint Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development

Co-Chairs Johnson and Gomberg and members of the committee:

This testimony is in support of funding for the preservation and development of affordable housing. This testimony is intended to be submitted for the public record to the Oregon Housing and Community Services Budget (HB 5012).

The Housing Authority of Yamhill County (HAYC) was established in 1951. HAYC's first owned property from 1966-1975 was a farm labor camp with thirty-five, 2-bedroom cabins. Today through preservation of properties and development of new properties, HAYC owns and/or manages 17 different housing complexes consisting of 585 units in Yamhill County. The average annual income for households we assist is \$13,414 and almost 50% of the households we assist are disabled with another 31% being elderly. Over 58% of all households assisted through our programs have children.

Even with all this progress through the years, the need for additional affordable housing units continues to grow. Between the waiting lists for our owned/managed properties and our Section 8 program, we have over 2500 families waiting for our affordable housing opportunities and I know this need is mirrored in areas throughout the state. Without additional dollars dedicated to preservation and new housing development opportunities, this need will continue to grow without additional housing opportunities being made available for those waiting their turn. One of the major ways that the state will be able to even attempt to tackle affordable housing and homelessness issues is continue to dedicate funds for the preservation and development of affordable housing opportunities.

As a housing provider, I completely support Oregon Housing and Community Services request for preservation and housing development dollars. We need to be able to say we live in a state where everyone has access to opportunity and a decent, stable, affordable place to call home. That is the Oregon way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elise Hui".

Elise Hui
Executive Director