



February 7, 2018

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
HB 4007: Regarding the document recording fee

Clackamas County supports HB 4007: The Board of County Commissioners supports HB 4007, which increases the document recording fee to \$75.

While Clackamas County utilizes several resources and programs to successfully prevent or end a family's homelessness, resources are not sufficient to meet the demand. Document recording fees support essential housing programs like the Emergency Housing Account (EHA), the Home Ownership Assistance Program, and the General Housing Account. This broad funding approach strategically supports housing on many levels, but also requires robust funding to accomplish this successfully.

Housing Needs in Clackamas County:

- 2,233 individuals were identified during the 2017 Homeless Point in Time Count.
- Of those, 1,165 were homeless children attending public schools in Clackamas County.
- 96 families have requested emergency shelters since September 1, 2017 – in the last 5 months – using the County's Coordinated Housing Access Line.
- 22% of County residents experience severe rent burden, meaning they spend more than 50% of their income on rent.
- 128 homeless veterans live in Clackamas County.

Clackamas County Social Services receives 6.5% of the statewide allocation of the Emergency Housing Account. The County uses this flexible source of funds to end homelessness for individuals and families through rent assistance, rapid rehousing, case management, and shelter diversion activities. But as our numbers show, the need is great and more resources are needed.

A \$55 increase to the existing document recording fee is a bold step towards addressing a crisis in Oregon, and supports programs that truly improve the lives of Oregonians and Clackamas County residents.

We urge a "yes" vote for HB 4007.

Please contact Chris Lyons at clyons@clackamas.us for more information.