



Jan. 13, 2020

To: House Interim Committee on Human Services and Housing

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer and Members of the Committee:

Habitat for Humanity of Oregon joins housing organizations statewide in support of Hacienda's affordable small home (ADU) demonstration project because we see innovative models like this as an adaptable and replicable tool to create more housing opportunities in single-family zones, in cities statewide.

We agree with the legislature that adding modest residential density in single-family zones helps address our housing crisis. That is why we supported HB 2001 in 2019. In order for these new housing opportunities to be available to low-income households, we need viable, replicable models for building affordable infill housing.

This demonstration project will help HB 2001 realize its true potential of creating not only more housing opportunities, but more equitable housing opportunities that will be affordable and accessible to households of color and low-income renters in communities we serve across the state.

For example, Habitat for Humanity affiliates in the Deschutes County area have expressed an interest in learning from the Hacienda demonstration to see how building ADU's in those markets could increase the supply of local, affordable housing.

Funding for the affordability subsidy, evaluation and reporting for the Hacienda demonstration project will enable local and statewide funders and policy makers to assess this tool for advancing the policy goals of HB 2001. Oregon communities of all sizes need innovative strategies for increasing local, affordable housing opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration and support of Hacienda's Small Homes Northwest demonstration project. We truly appreciate your dedication and service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon M. Vilhauer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shannon M. Vilhauer, Executive Director