

# Oregon Wildfire Recovery Update

## November 2021



### Background

In September 2020, multiple wildfires swept across Oregon destroying over 4,000 homes, including over 1,700 manufactured homes in 20 manufactured home parks. This exacerbated Oregon's existing housing crisis, and many seasonal and full-time agricultural workers and people on fixed or low incomes lost their homes.

Oregon Housing Community Services (OHCS) responded quickly to prioritize existing resources to address both the immediate needs of survivors, build intermediate housing for survivors, and support long-term housing recovery planning. With an allocation of \$10 million from the Emergency Board to the Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Program, OHCS assisted more than 1,500 families with flexible cash payments of up to \$7000. OHCS continues to work with key partners including Community Action Agencies, Public Housing Authorities, and affordable rental housing developers to help survivors find housing opportunities.

### 2021 Legislative Investments

In June this year, the State Legislature answer the call of Oregonians in need and allocated \$150M to OHCS to rebuild the housing supply in affected areas. In the months following, OHCS has worked expediently to begin rolling out this investment to communities in need. Below is a breakdown of the investments that have already been contracted and will begin implementation soon:

- \$30M for intermediate housing (travel trailers and tiny homes)
- \$20M is committed to land acquisition
- \$50M in manufactured home replacement
- \$40M in flexible resources for survivors, including services such as housing navigation, rental assistance, and flexible supports
- \$10M to ensure rebuilt housing leverages Oregon industries

In less than six months after resources were received, nearly three-fourths of the legislative funding is currently being implemented or fully under contract. The remainder of the resources are for programs currently under development.

### Supports our Statewide Housing Plan Priorities



## Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR)

On Oct. 29, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated \$422,286,000 to Oregon for Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) to help the state recover from disasters such as the 2020 Labor Day wildfires. This resource is designed for disaster recovery projects such as housing and housing-related infrastructure, and to support resiliency and mitigation. While these funds have been allocated to Oregon, there are federal requirements to be published by HUD in the Federal Register that will provide the timeline and steps Oregon will need to follow including how to address any priorities prescribed by HUD and their needs assessment process. OHCS will provide updates as we have more information from HUD.

## Intermediate Housing Updates

### Marion County

- 2 sites for up to 32 tiny homes – due diligence (engineering studies) underway
- Primary partner: Marion County

### Jackson County

- Gateway – 53 travel trailers prioritized for families in the Phoenix Talent School District
- Primary partner: Rogue Retreat

### Lane County

- 1 site for up to 5 tiny homes
- Primary Partner: Housing Authority (Homes for Good)

### Lincoln County

- 2 sites under review for tiny homes
- Primary Partner: Lincoln County Commission and Housing Authority of Lincoln County



### Gateway in Talent, OR

OHCS provided \$1.7 million to the Talent Urban Renewal Agency to improve the site and infrastructure. OHCS also funded \$1.7 M for the purchase of 53 large travel trailers for these families. This innovative project is possible thanks to leadership from the Talent Urban Renewal Agency, the City of Talent, and the Phoenix-Talent School District, who are all working together to bring families with kids in the district closer to home while rebuilding is underway.



### 140 new modular homes in Jackson County

OHCS is partnering with the Housing Authority to expedite homeownership for people who lost manufactured homes. OHCS purchased 140 2-bedroom modular homes and anticipates delivery and placement of 84 homes.