



February 7, 2023

Representative Maxine Dexter  
Chair, House Housing and Homelessness Committee  
900 Court Street NE, H-283  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2889 – Oregon Housing Needs Analysis

Chair Dexter, Co-Vice Chair Gamba, Co-Vice Chair Helfrich, and Members of the Committee:

I write to you today on behalf of Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) in **support of HB 2889** to implement the recommendations put forth by the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA) report published by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and Housing and Community Services (OHCS). HB 2889 will allow Oregon to finally live up to, and build upon, the promise of Goal 10 in Oregon's Land Use and Planning system: that there are affordable homes for every Oregonian in every neighborhood.

Today, there is consensus that Oregon's housing affordability crisis is acute and in need of urgent action. **DLCD and OHCS have identified the need for creating an additional 550,000 units in the next 20 years to accommodate Oregon's anticipated population growth and, crucially, make up for decades of housing underproduction.** This decades-long underproduction of housing has had a disparate impact on low-income households, making many households housing cost burdened which can eventually lead to displacement, or worse homelessness. Moreover, the households most likely to face these disparate outcomes are communities of color, especially Black and Indigenous communities.

HB 2889 presents a unique opportunity for Oregon to face our housing crisis head on by more accurately planning for how much housing is needed and, importantly, to build what's needed where it's needed. By shifting Oregon's Planning System to focus on housing production versus accommodating various housing types, communities around Oregon can work together towards the common goal of building housing and begin to redress disparities in housing outcomes. HB 2889 is a guide for the State and cities across Oregon to ensure housing production, so every Oregonian has the opportunity for an affordable housing choice in every community.

While there is a lot of consensus around HB 2889, we call for additional provisions concerning accountability for both state and local governments to ensure HB 2889 is fully and continually implemented. Without measures for accountability, we may not see the full promise of this bill realized.

As a community housing development organization who serves residents of Washington County and SW Portland, including providing housing and services for many of our most vulnerable community members who are experiencing homelessness, we understand the impact that a lack of dignified affordable housing can mean for our fellow Oregonians.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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We all must do our part to address our state's housing crisis, and we at CPAH are proud of the role we have played thus far and look forward to working with you as partners to meet the challenges we face together.

We strongly support the passage of HB 2889 with additional focus on greater accountability for local jurisdictions to follow through on the goals of OHNA.

Thank you for your time and for your service to the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rachael Duke'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'R'.

Rachael Duke, Executive Director  
Community Partners for Affordable Housing