



**OREGON HOUSING *and*
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

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January 16, 2026

Senator Golden, Co-Chair
Representative Gomberg, Co-Chair

Ways and Means Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Expenditure Alignment Follow-Up

Co-Chair Golden, Co-Chair Gomberg, and members of the Subcommittee:

We at Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) are grateful for our continued partnership with the Oregon Legislature and your Subcommittee as we continue to respond to and prevent homelessness in our communities, preservation of existing housing, and increase housing production. Thank you for your time and thoughtful questions during the Legislative Days subcommittee meeting. While we were able to respond to most of your questions during the hearing, we wanted to provide additional information via a written response:

Co-Chair Golden asked about permitting, and how much that is an issue in housing development?

To clarify, OHCS does not administer nor manage permitting programs as most permitting is overseen at the local level. However, the State does have an interest in removing systemic barriers, so that Oregon is continually making progress on its housing goals. To help with these broad, cross-system or cross-jurisdiction challenges such as permitting, the Legislature approved SB 1537 (2024) which created the [Housing Accountability and Production Office \(HAPO\)](#).

HAPO is housed at the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and is charged with identifying opportunities to reduce state-level barriers to more housing. One of



the actions HAPO is taking to reduce barriers is convening state agencies, which includes OHCS, to work on a comprehensive set of recommendations, which HAPO is required to submit to the Legislature no later than September 2026. You can learn more about the work happening to develop these recommendations by going here: [Evaluation Project 2
Pager Revised 20251230.pdf](#).

