

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-09

A Resolution to Submit a Letter of Support for The Housing Authority of Yamhill County's Funding Request to Oregon Housing and Community Services for Affordable Housing in McMinnville.

RECITALS:

The Housing Authority of Yamhill County (HAYC) is submitting a funding request to Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to assist construction of affordable housing in McMinnville; and

The McMinnville Affordable Housing Task Force recommended that City Council submit a letter in support of the funding request.

The City Council supports the funding request to assist construction of affordable housing in McMinnville.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF McMINNVILLE, OREGON as follows:

The City Council hereby authorizes staff to submit the letter of support attached as Exhibit "A" on behalf of the Mayor and City Council for the Housing Authority of Yamhill County's funding request to Oregon Housing and Community Services for affordable housing.

Adopted by the Common Council of the City of McMinnville at a regular meeting held the 23rd day of February, 2021 by the following votes:

Ayes: _____ Drabkin, Garvin, Geary, Menke, Peralta, Chenoweth _____

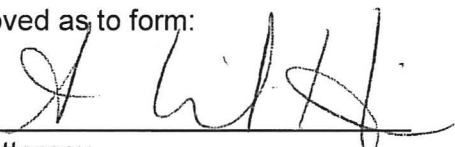
Nays: _____

Approved this 23rd day of February 2021.



MAYOR

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

Attest:



City Recorder



A collaborative and caring city inspiring an exceptional quality of life.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, 230 NE Second Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128
www.mcminnvilleoregon.gov

February 23, 2021

Vickie Ybarguen, Executive Director
Housing Authority of Yamhill County
135 NE Dunn Place
McMinnville, OR 97128

RE: Letter of Support for Funding Request by the Housing Authority of Yamhill County

Dear Vickie:

The McMinnville City Council is pleased to submit this letter in support of the Housing Authority of Yamhill County's (HAYC's) application to Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) for LIFT and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits / tax exempt bonds funding to finance Stratus Village in McMinnville. Stratus Village would provide 200 units of critically-needed affordable housing in McMinnville.

The McMinnville Affordable Housing Task Force recommended, and City Council adopted, a resolution to submit this letter of support for the funding request.

The City of McMinnville is highly supportive of HAYC's plan to finance, construct and operate 200 units of affordable housing called Stratus Village. In addition to creating housing, we understand HAYC will focus on providing housing opportunities for communities of color that are disproportionately and historically denied access to housing.

McMinnville is facing extraordinary affordable housing crisis. Yamhill County demographic and housing profile information included in *Breaking New Ground, Oregon's Statewide Housing Plan* indicated Yamhill County had a deficit of nearly 5,000 affordable rental units by 2015. Given the Covid-19 pandemic and related economic crisis, low income people, and communities of color, are in more crisis than during our strong economic times. The need for housing has only grown.

To address this need, creating more affordable housing is a priority for the City of McMinnville. To be successful, we must work together with other organizations that finance, construct, and own and operate quality affordable housing.

We also believe it is important for OHCS to be aware of the following information. HAYC purchased approximately 7 acres of land in the summer of 2020 to develop as affordable rental housing. The site is near Chemeketa Community College, Willamette Valley Medical Center,

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Department of Human Service, and the housing authority offices. The site is located on a bus stop for Yamhill County Transit.

HAYC has been working with service providers to create a community that is supportive of their needs and assists with linking residents to important opportunity. HAYC will link partner with Unidos, Virginia Garcia, Chemeketa Community College, Willamette Valley Medical Center, Department of Human Service, Worksystems, Inc., Yamhill Community Care (YCCO), and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde.

HAYC plans to construct 200 units of affordable housing that includes a range of one-bedroom to four-bedroom apartments. The project has already received initial approval from the City Council to modify the underlying zoning of the site to allow for multifamily residential development.

The project will meet the City of McMinnville great neighborhood design standards and incorporate elements of McMinnville's agricultural and heritage in the building design.

We understand HAYC will be pursuing LIFT and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits / tax exempt bonds funding from Oregon Housing and Community Services to finance Stratus Village. These resources are critical to providing affordable housing in McMinnville.

Please include this letter of support with your funding request. We encourage OHCS to support HAYC's application for this critical funding.

Sincerely,



Scott Hill
Mayor