



**HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT**
consortium

2023 Seattle Housing Levy Renewal

The Housing Development Consortium stands with our members and partners in strong support of the Seattle Housing Levy renewal at \$970 Million. This renewal scales a proven tool to meet the urgent demands of this moment—to create more than 3,000 homes affordable to our lowest income neighbors. The Housing Levy is our single best tool for advancing housing justice and racial equity, by creating the safe, stable, affordable housing Seattle so desperately needs.



Dramatic increases in housing costs impact everyone in our community, but the burdens fall most heavily on the lowest-income people and people of color. The 2023 Housing Levy will help us meet the urgent demands of this moment. The Levy will accelerate and leverage investments so that low-income residents, including families, people with disabilities, and seniors, can affordably live here, now and into the future.

The Housing Levy has been Seattle's foundational tool for affordable housing for nearly 40 years and has created or preserved over 12,000 affordable homes. The Housing Levy is a proven, effective solution with a consistent record of voter support. Past levies have consistently delivered on their promises, creating affordable homes, keeping families in their homes, and moving people experiencing homelessness into permanent supportive housing.

This year's Housing Levy is growing to meet the needs of our community. It will create more than 3,000 affordable homes for people who need them most and prevent thousands more from experiencing homelessness. Inflation and lingering effects of the pandemic have vastly increased construction costs, making housing production of all kinds more expensive—this has

only exacerbated the need for affordable homes. By investing in affordable housing of all types, the Levy will stabilize housing for thousands of people, for generations to come.

By creating safe, stable, affordable housing, the Levy effectively advances racial equity. People of color disproportionately experience homelessness and displacement. Over half of all residents of Levy-funded homes are people of color. The Housing Levy's homeownership programs bridge the racial wealth gap and address stark disparities in homeownership rates. The Levy has given tens of thousands of people from all walks of life a fighting chance to find an affordable home in Seattle.

The Housing Levy provides a foundation for health, safety, and resilience. Safe, stable, affordable housing improves physical and mental health. People need the stability of housing first, before they can successfully engage in supportive services. The Housing Levy complements investments in behavioral health, job training, and outreach services made through the King County Crisis Care Centers and the Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services levies, to effectively support our most vulnerable neighbors.

**Housing Development Consortium
of Seattle-King County**

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2023 Housing Levy Renewal Program Details

1) Rental Production and Preservation

- **Produce 3,516 affordable homes** for low-income households earning <60% of Area Median Income (AMI), supporting low-wage workers and families with children.
- The majority of funds are dedicated to extremely low-income households, such as people with disabilities, older adults, and people exiting homelessness.
- Reinvest in existing affordable housing.
- Acquire and rehabilitate existing buildings for long-term affordability.

2) Operating, Maintenance, and Services

- **Help 1,156 formerly homeless residents and people with service needs live in stable, supportive homes**, through operations funding for permanent supportive housing.
- Pay the essential workers in supportive housing livable wages.

3) Homeownership

- **Create and maintain 367 affordable homeownership opportunities.**
- Develop new, high-quality, permanently affordable homes.
- Help low-income homeowners maintain stable housing with home repair grants.
- Prevent foreclosure for homeowners at risk of losing their homes.
- Assist eligible home buyers with home purchase loans.

4) Prevention and Housing Stabilization

- **Stabilize 4,500 individuals and families at risk of eviction and homelessness**, through rent assistance and case management.

5) Acquisition and Preservation

- **Short-term acquisition loans** for cost-effective purchases of buildings or land for affordable housing.
- Efficiently leverages Levy funds not yet reserved for other programs.

Funding By Program

