

AGENDA ITEM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING () Discussion only
(X) Action

FROM (DEPT/ DIVISION): County Counsel

SUBJECT: Letter of Support

<p>Background:</p> <p>The Board of Commissioners has been requested to provide a letter of support for Hacienda Community Development Corporation for its potential housing projects in Umatilla and Hermiston. The letter is before the Board for review and approval.</p>	<p>Requested Action:</p> <p>Approve letter and authorize Chair to sign</p>
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ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Letter

*****For Internal Use Only*****

Checkoffs:

- () Dept. Heard (copy)
- () Human Resources (copy)
- () Fiscal
- (X) Legal (copy)
- () (Other - List:)

To be notified of Meeting:

Needed at Meeting:

Scheduled for meeting on: December 20, 2023

Action taken:

Follow-up:

Board of Commissioners



216 S. E. 4th Street
Pendleton, OR 97801

Daniel N. Dorran
541-278-6201

John M. Shafer
541-278-6203

Celinda A. Timmons
541-278-6202

December 20, 2023

Oregon Housing and Community Services
725 Summer St, NE, Suite 8
Salem, Oregon 97301-1266

Re: Affordable Housing Projects

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Umatilla County Board of Commissioners adds its support for efforts by Hacienda Community Development Corporation (Hacienda) to develop affordable housing projects in the cities of Umatilla and Hermiston.

Like elsewhere in Oregon, Umatilla County is facing a tremendous housing shortage. Umatilla County has grown by an average of .5% annually for the past ten years, most notably increasing its percentage of Latinx population from 24% to 28.6% (source: usfacts.org). Median housing sale price has risen to \$322,000 (redix), and monthly rental for a two-bedroom unit jumped 8% to \$1,295 per month (zumper.com). With median family income at \$63,000 and per capita income of \$27,000 (www.census.gov), market rate housing is simply out of reach for our hardworking, middle-and low-income families to live.

Hacienda's proposed properties in Umatilla and Hermiston will help meet the demand for quality, affordable housing in Umatilla County. We are especially pleased to encourage HCDC to join our community as it provides additional community services to our diverse population. We hope that these projects lead to additional investment elsewhere in Umatilla County, bringing along with it a commitment to provide services that help residents develop financial literacy, after school and educational support programs, and support for small business development.

Sincerely,

Daniel N. Dorran
Chair, Board of Commissioners

DND:bt