

Affordable Housing News Update

January 10, 2012



Washington 2012 Legislative Advocacy

The Affordable Housing 2012 State Legislative Agenda reflects the hard times we are in. Priority items on our agenda include protecting safety-net services like the Housing and Essential Needs Program and protecting the many homelessness prevention programs funded by document recording fee revenue. And as people in every corner of our state continue to be faced with the impossible choice of paying the rent or purchasing medicine, food or childcare, the Affordable Housing Consortium will continue to advocate for an investment in the State Housing Trust Fund so that we can make progress towards the day when everyone has the opportunity to live in a safe, affordable and healthy home.

We will also prioritize the elimination of unfair and unnecessary barriers to housing by reforming tenant screening reports to require accuracy and affordability. And we will continue to stand with you and our allies across the state in demanding reform of our tax system so that long-term solutions are seriously pursued and shorter-term fixes are enacted that will prevent an all-cuts budget that would cause deeper cuts to the human services that our communities rely on.

Together, these priorities offer an opportunity to move Washington forward. But elected officials will have to hear from you as they weigh all the demands being made of them. ***And now is a critical time to weigh in on a priority that may be acted on during the first week of session.***

Both SB 5952 and HB 2048 — to increase funding for homelessness programs via document recording fees — may be acted on this week.

Please email your elected officials to ask them to “Vote yes on Senate Bill 5952 or House Bill 2048.”

You can also call 1-800-562-6000 to leave that message.
For a pdf fact sheet on these bills, [please click here.](#)

Highlights

As Pierce County home sales rise, prices tumble

Housing-related Job Openings

Volunteers needed

Events

Training

Register Today for Housing & Homelessness Advocacy Day

Register TODAY and join hundreds of advocates at Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day on Friday, January 20, 2012.

Attending HHAD is an opportunity to join together as a visible and powerful community and to bring a unified message to our elected officials.

Register TODAY to reserve your spot for a pre-HHAD training.

To Share a Ride to Olympia Call 206.442.9455 x 201

As Pierce County home sales rise, prices tumble

The Pierce County housing market ended the year on a sour note as median home prices once again fell by a double-digit margin in the year-over-year December period, according to data released Wednesday by the Northwest Multiple Listing Service.

Single-family residence data for December 2011/2010

- Median prices fell 18.22 percent to \$179,900 from \$219,990.
- Sales rose 12.87 percent to 754 units from 668 units.
- Pending sales rose 20.19 percent to 863 units from 718 units.
- Number of single-family residences for sale fell 17.28 percent to 3,902 units from 4,717 units.
- New single-family residence listings in December fell to 785 units from 965 units.

Condo data for December 2011/2010

- Median prices fell 33.89 percent to \$119,000 from \$180,000.
- Sales rose 12.12 percent to 37 units from 33 units.
- Pending sales rose 42.86 percent to 60 units from 42 units.
- Number of condos for sale fell 5.74 percent to 378 units from 401 units.
- New condo listings in December fell to 61 units from 70 units.

Source: Northwest Multiple Listing Service ROLF BOONE; Staff writer Published: 01/05/12 The News Tribune

Housing-related Job Openings

Tacoma Housing Authority

<http://agency.governmentjobs.com/tacomahousing/default.cfm>

Maintenance Supervisor

Services Clerk

Site Assistant

Pioneer Human Services

Construction Project Manager Estimator

http://pioneerhumanservices.org/employment_links/joblist.html

Volunteers Needed

Rebuilding Together South Sound

Construction Professionals—Experienced Volunteers

cmuller@rebuildingtogether.org

Events

City of Tacoma Scoping Meeting

Provide testimony to plan the future of the MLK District

Date: Thursday, January 19, 2012

Time: Public testimony begins at 5:00 pm

Location: Evergreen State College Tacoma Campus
Room 105, 1210 6th Avenue, Tacoma

Contact: Chelsea Levy 253.591.5393 clevy@cityoftacoma.org

Information: www.cityoftacoma.org/MLKPlan

Over the next 12-18 months the City of Tacoma will establish a vision for future public and private investments in the MLK District, and will integrate these investments with the needs of current residents, businesses and property owners. Join your fellow residents, businesses, property owners and City leaders to discuss how to encourage development and economic revitalization in the MLK District. Please forward this information to others who may be interested in participating in this process.

For more information, [visit the project website](#) or [view the newsletter](#).

Habitat for Humanity

Application Meetings

January 14, March 10, May 12—11 am—Tillicum Community Center

14916 Washington Av SW, Lakewood

February 11, April 14—11 am—Habitat Offices, 4824 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma

Master Builders Association Pierce County

Economic Impact of Housing in Bonney Lake, Tacoma, Unincorporated Pierce County to be presented; 2012 local economic forecast to be provided as well

<http://2012mbapchousingforumguest.eventbrite.com/>

Prevent Foreclosure—Free Workshop

South Sound Outreach 253.593.2111

01-12—Crescent Realty, Spanaway

01-26—Council Chambers, Lakewood

Shared Housing Services—Annual Dinner & Auction

253.272.1532

03-03-2012

Tacoma Golf & Country Club, Lakewood

Training

City of Tacoma LEAP— Brownfields ARRA

Fast Track Environmental Job Training

<http://www.affordablehousingconsortium.org/admin/index.php/Website/PageManager/>

Bates Technical College—Open House—January 12

<http://www.bates.ctc.edu/>