



## → City of Tacoma Charter Review Public Hearing on Feb. 10

A special meeting of the 2014 Charter Review Committee will be held on Monday, Feb. 10, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. in the Tacoma Municipal Building Council Chambers (747 Market St., 1st Floor) to gather public comment and recommendations from residents for changes to the Tacoma City Charter. The Tacoma City Charter is the city's constitution, and it is reviewed every 10 years by the Charter Review Committee.

Members of the public will have three minutes to address the Charter Review Committee. This public hearing will be one of many opportunities for residents to share ideas about the Tacoma City Charter with the Charter Review Committee.

The Charter Review Committee will spend the next four months reviewing the Tacoma City Charter and will make recommendations for changes to the Tacoma City Council for their consideration.

Information about matters pertaining to the 2014 Charter Review is available at [cityoftacoma.org/charterreview](http://cityoftacoma.org/charterreview), by emailing [charterreview@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:charterreview@cityoftacoma.org) or calling [\(253\) 591-2067](tel:2535912067).

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## → Tacoma graduation rate rises for third straight year

<http://www.tacoma.k12.wa.us/news/Pages/Graduation-rate-for-Class-of-2013-rises.aspx>

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## → WLIHA State Legislative Agenda: 2014 Lead Items

- Invest in the Washington State Housing Trust Fund (HTF)
- Protect & Strengthen the Housing & Essential Needs (HEN) & the Aged, Blind & Disabled (ABD) Programs
- Enact Part 3 of the Fair Tenant Screening Act
- Prevent the Sunsetting of the State's Document Recording Fees
- Leverage Medicaid Expansion to End Homelessness & Improve Health
- Enact Revenue to Avoid Cuts to Services and Programs
- Protect TANF and the families that rely on this important program
- Extended Foster Care: Protect youth aging out of foster care
- Protect the Foreclosure Fairness Act

Background information: → <http://wliha.org/advocacy/state>

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## → 2014 Legislative Update

Two quick updates on affordable housing priority issues:

Representative Robinson recorded a video on the Fair Tenant Screening Act. She makes a great case for it. Check it out here and share widely (the video is in the panel on the right side of the page): <http://housedemocrats.wa.gov/roster/rep-june-robinson/>

The Olympian ran a very strongly worded article about the importance of the document recording fees and in opposition to the Senate bill that attempts to sweep some of the funds to pay for state parks. Check it out: <http://www.theolympian.com/2014/02/06/2968754/state-should-not-rob-housing-funds.html>

The bill they are talking about is SB 6293 by Senators Braun, Tom, Angel, Hill, Parlette, Bailey and Roach. It **attempts to redirect \$10 of HOMELESS HOUSING FUNDING fee** that is set to expire in 2015 to state parks so that people don't have to pay for the discover pass anymore.

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### → **Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day Report**

605 people representing 41 legislative districts went to Olympia and attended 108 meetings with lawmakers and/or their staff to advocate for an affordable home for everyone in Washington. The day was translated into three languages. Almost one out of every five Advocacy Day attendees identified themselves as a member of nonprofit board. On behalf of all of us at the Housing Alliance, thank you for making our 2014 Housing & Homelessness Advocacy Day possible with your organization's sponsorship!

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### → **Updates on Foreclosure Housing Counseling**

In addition to South Sound Outreach Services, Associated Ministries is now offering HUD Approved Foreclosure Intervention Counseling in new second office in Lakewood. <http://asociatedministries.org/foreclosure-counseling/> or 877.894.HOME

Washington Foreclosure Fairness in 11 languages

Link: Foreclosure information and assistance available from the state DFI

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### → **First-ever regional fair housing assessment for Central Puget Sound**

The Fair Housing Equity Assessment for the Central Puget Sound Region has been finalized and is now available on the Puget Sound Regional Council website at

<http://www.psrc.org/assets/10484/FairHousingEquityAssessment.pdf>. Thanks to the many of you who contributed resources, constructive feedback, and encouragement to this effort.

Thanks as well to the Fair Housing Center of Washington for their contributions to the collection, analysis, and communication of the information in this important regional document.

We look forward to working with all of you in ongoing efforts to implement the recommendations of this report through the Growing Transit Communities Strategy and other regional and local initiatives. We hope that the regional FHEA will be a useful resource for agencies seeking to incorporate a regional perspective in future housing and community development plans, analyses of impediments to fair housing, and coordination around issues affecting fair housing.

Please contact me (see below) if you have any questions.

On behalf of the Growing Transit Communities team at the Puget Sound Regional Council,

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→ **Tacoma City Council Oks rail on Stadium Way and First to MLK**

This is an effort that the AHC Executive Director has been working on in conjunction with the City's Hilltop Sub-Area Planning project...

[http://www.thenewtribune.com/2014/02/05/3029029/city-council-oks-rail-on-stadium.html#emlnl=Local News Newsletter](http://www.thenewtribune.com/2014/02/05/3029029/city-council-oks-rail-on-stadium.html#emlnl=Local%20News%20Newsletter)

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→ **Housing Justice Info Sessions & Free Legal Clinic**

Tacoma-Pierce County Housing Justice Project

- Fair Housing Law
- Landlord-Tenant Law
- Free Legal Clinic on your housing issue

02-12 2-6 pm First United Methodist Church, 621 Tacoma Av South

rsvp: <http://housingjusticeinfo.eventbrite.com> or 253.572.5134

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→ **Funding**

**Support for Sustainable Communities in the Pacific Northwest**

**Bullitt Foundation**

The mission of the Bullitt Foundation is to safeguard the natural environment by promoting responsible human activities and sustainable communities in the Pacific Northwest, including Washington, Oregon, Idaho, western Montana, coastal Alaska from Cook Inlet to the Canadian border, and British Columbia. The Foundation's current focus is on the following programs: The Urban Ecology program strives to advance policies to create affordable, diverse, healthy, and environmentally beneficial communities. The Ecosystem Services program aims to protect the ability of nature to sustain healthy urban communities and a sound economy. The Energy, Industry, and Technology program promotes policies and actions to harness the entrepreneurial power of business to create competitive industries built on ecological principles and sustainable technologies. The Leadership and Civic Engagement program works to nurture leadership, strengthen organizations, and broaden the coalition to create a more dynamic constituency for environmental responsibility. Proposal inquiry forms should be submitted by March 15, 2014, to be considered for the May 1, 2014, proposal deadline. Visit the Foundation's website for detailed information about each of the grantmaking programs.

**Material Support for Community Volunteer Projects**

**The Home Depot Community Impact Grants Program**

The Home Depot Community Impact Grants Program provides support to nonprofit organizations and public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their communities. Proposals for the following community improvement activities will be considered: repairs, refurbishments, and modifications to low-income and/or transitional veteran's housing or community facilities (schools, community centers, senior centers, etc.); weatherizing or increasing energy efficiency of low-income and/or transitional veteran's housing or community facilities; engaging veterans as volunteers to help other veterans in their

community through service projects focusing on the renovation, repair, and improvement of homes and other properties serving veterans; and planting trees or community gardens and/or landscaping community facilities that serve veterans. Priority is given to projects for veterans that include housing repairs, modifications, and weatherization work. Grants of up to \$5,000 are made in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services. Requests will be accepted from February 1 through August 15, 2014. Visit the Home Depot website to submit an online application.

### **Notice to HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agencies: Preparing to submit your NOFA application to Grants.gov**

In anticipation of publication of a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Housing Counseling Program, potential Housing Counseling NOFA applicants should immediately take steps to ensure that they are properly registered to submit an application electronically through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). In order to apply for a grant, you and/or your organization must complete the [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov) registration process. The registration process can take between three to five business days or as long as four weeks if all steps are not completed in a timely manner. So please register early! NOTE: Applicants will not be eligible to apply for grant funds if not properly registered.

#### **NEW APPLICANTS**

New users will be required to complete a five-step [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov) registration process as outlined below.

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### **→ AHC Member Events**

#### **Shared Housing Services – Spring for Housing Dinner & Auction – March 1**

**Purchase tickets in advance. This event sells out every year. Call Byron at 253.272.1532 to purchase a ticket or make a donation.**

#### **Habitat for Humanity Tacoma/Pierce County - Annual Changing Lives Luncheon – March 4**

**RSVP by Feb 25 [www.tpc-habitat.org](http://www.tpc-habitat.org)**

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### **→ UWT Urban Studies – Urban Governance Speaker Sessions**

**Wednesdays, Keystone Auditorium – Carwein Hall – 102 – all start at 5:15**

#### **Session 2: Weds, Feb 12th - “Economic Development”**

Guests: Don Meyer (Port of Tacoma, Foss), Ricardo Noguera (City of Tacoma), and Tim Strege (William Factory Incubator)

#### **Session 3: Weds, Feb 19th - “Education Policy”**

Guests: Gil Mendoza (WA State Asst. Superintendent), Linda Pauley (US Dept. of Education), Carla Santorno (TPS Superintendent), and Julia Garnett (Tacoma 360)

#### **Session 4: Weds, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> - “Affordable Housing”**

Guests: Tess Colby (Pierce Co Communication Connection), Carey Jenkins (City of Tacoma Housing), TBD (Tacoma Housing Authority)

#### **Session 5: Weds, Mar 5<sup>th</sup> - “City Budgeting”**

Guests: TC Broadnax (Tacoma City Manager), Virginia Eberhardt (Comm Council Chair), and Tadd Wille (Tacoma Finance Director)

#### **Session 6: Weds, Mar 12<sup>th</sup> - “Place Knowledge”**

→ **U S Senators Call for Funding National Housing Trust Fund**

[http://www.housingfinance.com/affordable-housing/senators-call-for-funding-housing-trust-fund-o.aspx?dfpzone=news&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_content=jump&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=AHFBU\\_012914&day=2014-01-29](http://www.housingfinance.com/affordable-housing/senators-call-for-funding-housing-trust-fund-o.aspx?dfpzone=news&utm_source=newsletter&utm_content=jump&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=AHFBU_012914&day=2014-01-29)

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→ **NeighborWorks Training Institute Los Angeles February 24 - 28, 2014**

With its tremendous revitalization efforts on display, LA is a perfect backdrop for our gathering of affordable housing and community development professionals to learn and network. Join us in Los Angeles to build your skills and enhance your career. The Los Angeles NTI will focus on:

- Symposium - ML921 - Achieving Impact thru Regional & Collaborative Approaches
- Community development in action - courses with site visits
- Courses on Green and Sustainability
- Training in comprehensive community revitalization
- Focus on financial capability
- Innovations in Nonprofit Management and Leadership
- New Training in Single-Family and Small Business Lending
- Career enhancement opportunities, including degree credits and the NeighborWorks Professional Certificate Programs

Please visit NeighborWorks on-line to register today to for this great training opportunity:

<http://nw.org/network/training/upcoming/LANTI2014.asp>

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→ **Housing First Partners Conference**

"Housing First and Systems Change"

Pre-conference: March 11, 2014 Conference: March 12-14, 2014 Swissôtel, Chicago

register: [hfpartnersconference.com](http://hfpartnersconference.com)

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→ **Housing-related employment opportunities**

Associated Ministries

Chief Development Officer: <http://associatedministries.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Chief-Development-Officer-2014-01-10.pdf>

Puget Sound Regional Council

Associate Planner - Housing position in Growth Management Planning Department.

<http://www.psrc.org/about/careers>

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→ **Washington State Housing Finance Commission – Annual Reports**

## 2013: Opening New Doors

[http://www.wshfc.org/admin/2013annualreport.pdf?utm\\_source=Annual+Report+Email+1-14+mailout&utm\\_campaign=Annual+Report+2014&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.wshfc.org/admin/2013annualreport.pdf?utm_source=Annual+Report+Email+1-14+mailout&utm_campaign=Annual+Report+2014&utm_medium=email)

## 30 Years of Statewide Impact 1983-2013

[http://www.wshfc.org/admin/2013impactreport.pdf?utm\\_source=Annual+Report+Email+1-14+mailout&utm\\_campaign=Annual+Report+2014&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.wshfc.org/admin/2013impactreport.pdf?utm_source=Annual+Report+Email+1-14+mailout&utm_campaign=Annual+Report+2014&utm_medium=email)

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## ➔ NeighborWorks Achieving Excellence Program – Apply by March 26 for Fall 2014

NeighborWorks America is accepting applications for the seventh round of the [NeighborWorks Achieving Excellence Program](#). This organizational investment program has proven to be one of the most innovative and high-impact programs for organizations working to benefit their communities.

Designed for experienced nonprofit executive leaders, this exciting program:

- incorporates three academic sessions at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government,
- executive coaching throughout the 18-month program,
- structured peer-group work, and
- guidance from thought-leaders in the areas of leadership, nonprofit management and community impact.

Throughout the program, all of your work will be focused on **addressing a challenge you have defined specifically for your organization, and one you believe is truly critical to your organization’s success**. This is not “busy-work” and it is not adding something to your plate—this is an opportunity to focus on the real work of your organization and have a tremendous impact as well as an impressive return on investment.

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## ➔ Healthy Energy Improvements for Rental Homes – Community Symposium

02-13 12 – 4:40 Thurston County Public Health & Social Services – 412 Lilly Rd NE, Olympia  
[www.vision2action.us](http://www.vision2action.us) 360.789.9669

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## ➔ “The Bridge” is HUD’s Office of Housing Counseling Newsletter

for Housing Counselors. You can read the latest edition of “The Bridge” online at:  
[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=OHC\\_BRIDGE112713.pdf](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=OHC_BRIDGE112713.pdf)