



NEWS UPDATE 03-22-2011

State Legislative Session → [The Revenue and Economic Forecast Council](#) announced on Thursday that the State is short an additional \$79.8 million in the current budget and short an additional \$698.4 million for the next biennial budget. This brings the current budget to a total of \$28.0 billion, which is 0.3% less than the November forecast and next biennium's budget to a total of \$31.9 billion, which is 2.2% less than the November forecast. However, these shortfalls make the potential cuts to the programs and services that support and protect Washington's most vulnerable significantly worse. Ross Hunter, Chair of House Ways & Means, on [Thursday's Inside Olympia](#) said that this means that there will likely be 25% more cuts in the "unprotected parts of the budget". The protected parts of the budget are the parts that are mandated by the constitution or by other mechanisms. The unprotected part includes services and programs such as Disability Lifeline, Basic Health and more.

Surprisingly, the news seemed to be taken well in Olympia, where many were prepped with predictions of far deeper shortfalls. However, the new shortfalls will mean either more cuts or more revenue, with the latter being widely considered politically difficult given the public's November 2010 vote to restore a 2/3 super-majority requirement for any new revenue options. This hasn't stopped many progressive advocates for calling for a different way forward though. On Thursday, over 1,500 people traveled to Olympia to take part in the Revenue Coalition's rally to call for an end to costly tax-loopholes that benefit the elite while we continue to make cuts to Disability Lifeline, Basic Health and other critical safety-net services. **Many at the rally said that sustaining tax loopholes on things like elective plastic surgery and private jets is unconscionable and irresponsible, especially as the State weighs cuts that will hurt – and even kill – Washington's most vulnerable residents.**

State Advocacy Action → Until Friday evening, Housing Advocates expected a busy week with SHB 1768 scheduled for executive session and the House Capital Budget scheduled for the much anticipated release and hearing. (SHB 1768 is our document recording fee bill – [see last week's The Week Housing Advocacy for details.](#)) Both were cancelled late Friday however and this means more time to continue our advocacy and education efforts on the importance of passing 1768 and of investing in the Housing Trust Fund. Stay tuned for an action alert this week and please take a minute when you get it, to both take action and to forward it to three friends and colleagues. **We've already said it many times this session, but your voice will make a significant difference – if we are silent or if our voices are drowned out, we will see deeper cuts. Lack of action sends a message that affordable housing and homelessness are not top priorities for Washington's voters – so please stand with us for the rest of the session and pledge to take action each time you receive an action alert. We pledge to continue sending you action requests at opportune times.**

Housing & Homeless Bill tracker → click and go to bottom of page:

http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/2685/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email_blast_KEY=1209223

What are your training needs? → In the next few days, we will email to AHC members a survey asking what training they're interested in this year regarding affordable housing. If you're not a member and would like to receive the survey, email connie@tpcahc.org.

TV Tacoma Run schedule: → Land Conservation & Affordable Housing – The Connection



2011 1st Quarter Public Forum

**Panelists: Gene Duvernoy, President, Cascade Land Conservancy
Michael Mirra, Executive Director, Tacoma Housing Authority
Ian Munce, Long Range Planner, City of Tacoma**

TV TACOMA RUN SCHEDULE

**Monday, March 28 - 4am, 2pm & 8pm
Tuesday, March 29 - 4am & 11pm
Wednesday, March 30 - 9am & 8pm
Thursday, March 31 - 1pm & 9pm
Friday, April 1 - 2pm & 10pm
Saturday, April 2 - 8am & 5pm
Sunday, April 3 - 1am, 3pm & 8pm**

Green Communities Events → Enterprise Green Communities Live Online Events:

Innovative Models for Charettes and New Tools that Support Integrative Design

Wednesday, April 6, 2011 from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM (Eastern)

Register **Description** In the first of an Enterprise Green Communities series on best practices in green affordable housing, industry experts will discuss a unique approach to a recent integrative design Charette facilitated by [Green Building Services](#) that resulted in an ambitious plan for Central City Concern's portfolio in Portland, Oregon. This session will provide an overview of best practices for visioning, goal setting and green strategy sessions, using Central City Concern's Charette as a case study. The instructors will share insights and highlight successes from the Charette that are broadly applicable to any green development planning session focused on providing healthier and more resource efficient housing for low-income individuals and families.

To aid in the integrative design process, Enterprise is pleased to announce the rollout of its [Charette Toolkit](#). The Toolkit equips the project team with materials to successfully facilitate a green design Charette, including suggested agendas and activities for break-out sessions. In this session, our expert presenters will explore how the Toolkit can aid you in facilitating your next green design Charette. Additionally, Enterprise continues to offer [Charette Grants](#) to support project teams with integrative design.

Introducing New Resident Engagement Tools for Affordable Housing Developers and Owners

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM (Eastern)

Register **Description** Resident education is crucial to maximize the health, economic, and environmental benefits of green development throughout a project's life cycle. Enterprise is pleased to announce the rollout of [Resident Education Cards](#) and a [Resident "Training in a Box."](#) During this training, our presenters

will introduce these tools and describe best practices for implementation. This package of tools is a comprehensive set of educational cards and training modules to empower residents in maintaining their green building. The Resident Education Cards can be customized by property managers and resident coordinators to provide green tips and information specific to the development. The Resident 'Training in a Box' contains educational modules for trainers to incorporate that covers a variety of green and healthy living practices. Additionally, Enterprise continues to offer a [Sustainability Training Grant](#) to support project teams in developing and delivering customized educational materials and trainings for residents.

Overview of Enterprise Green Multifamily Rehabilitation Specifications

Thursday, March 24th from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM (Eastern)

[Register](#) **Description** This webinar will provide participants with a brief orientation to a new Enterprise tool, the Green Multifamily Rehabilitation Specifications. These model Specifications were created for multifamily projects of more than three stories undergoing moderate rehabilitation, and they are aligned with the 2011 [Enterprise Green Communities Criteria](#). The session will cover the basic content and structure of the Specifications, as well as helpful hints to consider when customizing the Specifications for your climate, housing stock, and targeted Enterprise Green Communities Criteria.

AHC website → <http://www.affordablehousingconsortium.org>