

# Non-Funding Related Policy Recommendations from the Subpanel

*The Affordable Housing Subpanel reached consensus on the following four non-funding related policy ideas.*

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## Expand the State Tax Credit Program

*Considerations:*

- The housing tax credit program administered through CHFA is a well-utilized and a proven resource in supporting the development of affordable housing.
- Having more tools to expand affordable *rental* housing is critical, and we also need a similar tool to increase home *ownership* production.

## Establish a Standing or Interim Committee or Task Force on Housing and Homelessness

*Considerations:*

- Affordable housing will continue to be a critical issue in Colorado and merits specific focus from the legislature. A standing body can ensure streamlining and evaluation of housing legislative initiatives and alignment with any goals and strategies identified by administrative agencies.
- Key members on such a committee should include legislators, agency and organization staff, local government representatives, and practitioners.

## Provide Funding for DOLA – Division of Housing to Update and Expand a Statewide Housing Needs Assessment

*Considerations:*

- The intent is to incorporate and consolidate existing data resources and local needs assessments in support of HB21-1028. Once established, provide regular (e.g., annual) public reporting.
- Important data to come from a statewide needs assessment could include recent (e.g., past 5 years) affordable housing trends, amount and type(s) of affordable housing lost to the market, and existing gaps along the affordable housing continuum.
- The data could be provided in a dashboard and should align with housing production and preservation goals to demonstrate progress towards those goals.
- Support to local governments that have or are able to conduct local housing needs assessment will:
  - Ensure existing datasets are up to date and to fill in data gaps for those local governments with current or in-process assessments.
  - Provide incentive to those without a current or in-process assessment.
  - Allow funding for regional needs assessments where local governments indicate a desire to approach housing from this perspective.

## Ensure Sustainable Funding for Supportive Services, and Integration with Affordable Housing

### *Considerations:*

- Fund current and ongoing need for supportive services. Current state efforts are underway to align funds for supportive services, including an effort by the Behavioral Transformational Health Task Force for "bridge" funding support before the establishment of a long-term solution.
- Create an ongoing supportive services fund or funding mechanism in partnership with Division of Housing (DOH), the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH), and the Department of Health Care Policy and Finance (HCPF) for a full range of wraparound services and expanded provider types. Require DOH to fund supportive services until such time a supportive services fund is created for new and existing affordable housing projects.
- Identify options to sustainably fund supportive services, including putting services "above the line" in operations budgets, enabling housing providers to receive reimbursement for tenancy support services through sources other than limited housing funds.