



Oregon

Governor Kate Brown

Housing and Community Services

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Co-Chair Johnson
Co-Chair Gomberg
Joint Ways and Means Committee on Transportation and Economic Development
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Co-Chair Johnson, Co-Chair Gomberg, Members of the Committee:

Thank you so much for your time on Monday, February 23 and Tuesday, February 24 to hear SB 5513, the budget bill for Oregon Housing and Community Services. There were a few remaining questions after Tuesday's presentation that we wanted to address.

First, on Monday, there was a question about the Oregon Bond Loan and its foreclosure and delinquency rates. The Oregon Bond Loan program provides below market rate mortgage loans to qualified first time home buyers. OHCS works with partners to identify and assist home buyers in securing these loans. Currently, the Oregon Bond Loan has over 6,000 mortgage loans. Of those, 196 are in foreclosure, and 364 are delinquent on their mortgage (considered to be 50+ days late in payment). This is a rate of 3.2% in foreclosure, and 6.0% which are considered delinquent.

Second, on Tuesday, there was a question about the number of affordable housing units across Oregon that Housing and Community Services has some role in. Our records indicate there are 63,062 total units funded from a variety of sources:

- Of those, 48,839 units (77%) have at least some OHCS funding;
- 23,372 units were funded by Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) which is a federal tax credit granted by OHCS;
- 14,223 (22.5%) do not have funding from OHCS but have other sources of public funding; and
- 9,708 households live in buildings with federal Project Based Section 8 contracts funded by US Department of Housing and Urban Development that are monitored by OHCS.

In addition, there are more than 34,000 Housing Choice (Section 8) and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers which help low income Oregonians access private market rental housing.

Lastly, there was a request for the recent audit of housing programs across state government by the Secretary of State, which can be found here: <http://sos.oregon.gov/Documents/audits/full/2013/2013-16.pdf>.

Should you have other questions, please don't hesitate to be in touch. I look forward to further dialogue with the Committee.

Sincerely,

Margaret Van Vliet
Director

