#### **Staff Report**

**Date:** January 12, 2021

To: Technical Review Committee, Washoe County HOME Consortium

From: Housing and Neighborhood Development Division, City of Reno

Subject: 1st PUBLIC HEARING: PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

OF APPLICATIONS FOR 2021/2022 HOME AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND GRANT FUNDING BY APPLICANTS (For

Possible Action)

This is the first of three public hearings by the Technical Review Committee (TRC) to review applications for affordable housing projects and programs funded by federal and state HOME Partnership (HOME) grant funding, and state Affordable Housing Trust Funds (AHTF). The TRC will make a funding recommendation at the third public hearing tentatively scheduled for March 10. <u>Table 1</u> below describes the sources of funding that will be available in the 2021/2022 program year, which is subject to change.

The HOME funds are estimated based upon funding received for the FY2020/2021 program year until staff receives confirmation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Nevada Housing Division (NHD), which historically has occurred in the spring. Program income is available for new projects and programs; the estimated amount is based upon program income currently available for allocation. While the estimated funding is lower than the amount requested by projects, staff believes that all projects that submitted applications can still receive funding.

Table 1. 2021/2022 Estimated Washoe County HOME Consortium Funding

Federal HOME Allocation available for AHMLP (estimated): Min. CHDO set aside (estimated):	\$1,057,043 \$ 211,409
Nevada State HOME Allocation (estimated):	\$ 272,518
Nevada Affordable Housing Trust Funds (estimated):	\$ 598,468
Program Income (estimated):	\$ 200,744
Total estimated:	\$2,340,182

#### **Tenant Based Rental Assistance Applications**

Tenant based rental assistance programs (TBRA) provide funding for qualifying households to pay for the security/utility deposits, application fees, and sometimes monthly rental assistance for homeless individuals and families in order to move into permanent housing. The City of Reno operates two programs that allow rental assistance to be used throughout Washoe County. No other applications were received.

The Consortium has made it a practice to use Affordable Housing Trust Funds (AHTF) for TBRA programs, the amount below in <u>Table 2</u> equals the total amount of AHTF funding that was awarded for State FY2021; it is anticipated funding will remain the same in SFY2022. AHTF awarded through the State have less restrictive TBRA regulations that allows the WCHC to target individuals with extremely low- or no income, whereas HOME funds do not. The WCHC also has the ability to use AHTF for new construction or rehabilitation projects; however, due to the pandemic, requests for TBRA assistance has increased and it is recommended that AHTF continue to fund TBRA.

**Table 2. Rental Assistance Program Applications** 

Applicant	Program Name	Requested Amount
City of Reno	<ul><li>a. Deposit Assistance</li><li>b. Rapid Rehousing</li></ul>	\$598,468

- 1. The City of Reno Deposit Assistance Program is designed as a one-time only grant assistance to provide resources for the application, security and utility deposits for permanent housing to eligible households that are currently homelessness. Case managers at the homeless shelter have a network of resources available to help clients find available housing and the clients are allowed to keep any deposit that is returned to them once they leave the unit.
- 2. The City of Reno Rapid Rehousing Program connects families and individuals staying at the homeless shelter to permanent housing. Case managers at the homeless shelter refer clients to this program, which provides up to 12 months of rental assistance to graduates of the Reno Works program. The Reno Works program is open to individuals staying at the homeless shelter and provides participants with job training assistance with the City of Reno Public Works Department.

#### **New Construction and Rehabilitation Applications**

<u>Table 3</u> below shows the applications received for new construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing. There are five (5) new housing construction and three (3) housing

rehabilitation applications. There are no forward commitment requests. Four of the applicants. Green Street Development, Silver Sage Manor, Ridge House, and Northern Nevada Community Housing have prior experience in affordable housing and have previously received funds from the Washoe County HOME Consortium (WCHC). The applicants for the projects Pinewood Terrace and Centennial Park and Attivare are first-time WCHC applicants. All of the new construction and rehabilitation requests are HOME eligible activities.

Table 3. New Construction and Housing Rehabilitation Applications

Project	Proposed HOME Units	Affordability Period	Other Units	Home Funds Requested	Per Unity Subsidy (Home Units Only)
Ridge House on Everett Rehab	1 – 30% AMI Group home with 10 rooms	15 years	0	\$155,588.72 0% interest grant	\$155,588.72/unit \$15,558.87/room
Truckee Heights – NNCH New Construction	4-1 bd 30% AMI 1-1 bd 50% AMI 6-2 bd 50% AMI	50 years	29 (50% AMI)	\$2,100,000 3% interest loan	\$190,909 (proposed)  HUD max: 1 bd = \$191,548 2 bd = \$234,873
Pinewood Terrace Rehab	3 – units not specified, SOW states work will be to replace building siding	35 years	47 (50% AMI)	\$185,000 3% interest loan	\$61,667 (proposed)
Centennial Park Rehab	2 – units not specified, SOW states work will be to replace building siding	35 years	48 (50% AMI)	\$185,000 3% interest loan	\$85,000 (proposed)
Washington & Vine Sr. Apts.  New Construction	5 studios 45% AMI	30 years	158 (60% AMI)	\$100,000 2.5% interest loan	\$20,000 (proposed)  HUD max: \$159,327
Vintage at Spanish Springs – Sr. Apts. New Construction	5 – 1 bd 50% AMI	20 years	191 (60% AMI)	\$250,000 2.5% interest loan	\$50,000 (proposed)  HUD max: \$182,652
Orovada St. – Sr. Apts. New Construction	1 – 1 bd 30% AMI 3 – 1 bd 50% AMI 1 – 2 bd 30% AMI 1 – 1 bd 50% AMI	50 years	34 (30 - 50% AMI)	\$1,500,000 3% simple interest loan	\$250,000 (proposed)  HUD max: 1 bd = \$182,652 2 bd = \$222,107
Attivare Sr. Apts.  New Construction	4 – 1 bd 50% AMI 2 – 2 bd 50% AMI	20 years	162 (60% AMI)	\$250,000 3% interest loan	\$41,667 (proposed)  HUD max:  1 bd = \$182,652  2 bd = \$222,107

#### Everett House WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Review</u>
Proposed rehab of six (6) bedroom group home. All will be HOME Units @ 30% AMI.  Meets this priority and meets application mix of proposed HOME units of five (5) or more to include at least one unit of each bedroom type @ 30% AMI.
Comprehensive, wrap around services will be provided by Ridge House staff. Counseling, life skills, resume development, case management to name some of the listed services.  Meets priority.
Bus stops less than 1/4 mile, less than 1-1/2 mile to various commercial, retail, major grocery; medical clinics/dental within 2 miles.  Meets priority.
Energy star appliances will be purchased. Project will have NV Energy perform Energy Assessment on property. Narrative does not state if building meets State of Nevada energy requirements.  May meet priority.
Noted Reno ConPlan goals to support quality living environments of homeless, low-income households, and persons with disabilities; support organizations that provide supportive services to low-income, homeless, and special needs residents; assist persons who are homeless obtain housing; and increase economic opportunities for area residents and businesses.  Meets priority.
Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative; however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households. Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Proposed rehab of six (6) bedroom group home. All will be HOME Units @ 30% AMI.  Does not meet mixed income priority.  Project is not a mixed use site; however, commercial business are within one (1) mile of site.

# Truckee Heights Apts. WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Level I Priorities</u>	<u>Review</u>
The average rent for all HOME units is at or below 40% of the AMI for family units, and at or below 45% of AMI for senior projects.	Proposed HOME Units 4-1bd @ 30% AMI, 1-1bd @ 50% AMI, 6-2bd @ 50% AMI; non-HOME units @ 50% AMI. Does not meet this priority (average above 40%), nor does it meet application mix of proposed HOME units of five (5) or more to include at least one unit of each bedroom type @ 30% AMI.
Project provides supportive services, or owner/manager partners with a service provider to provide supportive services.	Partner with VA for supportive services for veterans, project will accept VASH vouchers. Special Needs Partner to provide case management, parenting classes, financial, and educational assistance. NA/AA/GA meetings, GED prep and test, resume building, interview prep.  Meets priority.
<u>Level II Priorities</u>	
Project is accessible and located near public transportation options	Bus stop less than 1/4 mile, less than 1 mile to various commercial. Major grocery less than 1-1/2 miles, medical clinics/dental within 2 miles. Daycare, elementary and high schools withing 1 mile.  Meets priority.
Project contains one or more green components above and beyond the minimum energy efficiency requirements	High efficiency heating & cooling equipment, Energy star appliances. Xeriscape landscaping. Solar panels. Project will be Energy Star Certified does not state if building meets State of Nevada energy requirements.  Most likely meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Consolidated Plan for the region	Noted Reno ConPlan goals to expand/preserve affordable housing; secure permanent affordable housing for 1,000 seniors; and create accessible housing for persons with disabilities located near transit and services.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Regional Plan	Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative; however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households.  Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Project is a mixed income/use project.	Project is 11 HOME units @ 30-50% AMI and 29 units at 50% AMI.  Does not meet mixed income priority.  Project is not a mixed use site; however, commercial business are within one (1) mile of site.

# Pinewood Terrace Apts. WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Level I Priorities</u>	<u>Review</u>
The average rent for all HOME units is at or below 40% of the AMI for family units, and at or below 45% of AMI for senior projects.	Rehab project, funding requested for building siding replacement. Project will designate 3 units as HOME units @ 50% AMI: entire site is 50% AMI Section 8 housing (50 units total).  Does not meet this priority.
Project provides supportive services, or owner/manager partners with a service provider to provide supportive services.	Social events, after school programs, resume and tutoring help, computer training at no cost to tenants.  Plans to hire provider for services, agreements currently not in place.  Meets priority.
<u>Level II Priorities</u>	
Project is accessible and located near public transportation options	Bus stop less than 1/4 mile (Neil Rd/Riley Ave): less than 1 mile to commercial/retail. Meets priority.
Project contains one or more green components above and beyond the minimum energy efficiency requirements	Narrative states replacement of property components with "Energy Star systems", but not specific. States project will not be Energy Star Certified; will meet State of Nevada energy requirements.  Possibly meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Consolidated Plan for the region	Noted Reno ConPlan goals to preserve and maintain affordable housing and provide affordable housing to due Section 8 rent to income ratio restrictions.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Regional Plan	Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative; however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households.  Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Project is a mixed income/use project.	Rehab project, funding requested for building siding replacement. Project will designate 3 units as HOME units @ 50% AMI; all units are 50% AMI, Section 8.  Does not meet mixed income priority.  Project is not a mixed use site; however, commercial business are within one (1) mile of site.

### Centennial Park Apts. WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Level I Priorities</u>	Review
The average rent for all HOME units is at or below 40% of the AMI for family units, and at or below 45% of AMI for senior projects.	Rehab project, funding requested for building siding replacement. Project will designate 2 units HOME Units @ 50% AMI: entire site is 50% AMI Section 8 housing (40 units total).  Does not meet this priority.
Project provides supportive services, or owner/manager partners with a service provider to provide supportive services.	Social events, after school programs, resume and tutoring help, computer training at no cost to tenants.  Plans to hire provider for services, agreements currently not in place.  Meets priority.
<u>Level II Priorities</u>	
Project is accessible and located near public transportation options	Bus stops less than 1/3 mile (Sutro/Timber, Sutro/Oliver, Wedekind/Montello): less than 1.5 mile to commercial/retail/grocery. Meets priority.
Project contains one or more green components above and beyond the minimum energy efficiency requirements	Narrative states replacement of property components with "Energy Star systems", but not specific. States project will not be Energy Star Certified; will meet State of Nevada energy requirements.  Possibly meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Consolidated Plan for the region	Noted Reno ConPlan goals to preserve and maintain affordable housing and provide affordable housing to due Section 8 rent to income ratio restrictions.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Regional Plan	Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative; however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households.  Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Project is a mixed income/use project.	Rehab project, funding requested for building siding replacement. Project will designate 2 units @ 50% AMI; all units are 50% AMI, Section 8 housing.  Does not meet mixed income priority.  Project is not a mixed-use site; however, commercial/retail/grocery businesses are within one (1) mile of site.

## Washington and Vine Sr. Apts. WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Level I Priorities</u>	<u>Review</u>
The average rent for all HOME units is at or below 40% of the AMI for family units, and at or below 45% of AMI for senior projects.	Proposed HOME Units 5 studios @ 45% AMI, non-HOME units @ 60% AMI.  Meets this priority.  Does not meet application mix of proposed HOME units of five (5) or more to include at least one unit/bedroom type @30% AMI.
Project provides supportive services, or owner/manager partners with a service provider to provide supportive services.	Numerous social/fitness activities to be provided to residents. Third-party professions will be contracted with to provide lifestyle, financial, and computer courses to name a few. Services will be provided "at little or no cost".  Meets priority.
Level II Priorities	
Project is accessible and located near public transportation options	Bus stops less than .1 mile away at Washington & 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Washington & 4th. Less than 1 mile to grocery/shopping center that includes restaurants and banking (Keystone & 4th). Various commercial/medical within less than 1 mile.  Meets priority.
Project contains one or more green components above and beyond the minimum energy efficiency requirements	Energy star appliances, solar panels. Narrative states project will meet State of Nevada energy requirements.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Consolidated Plan for the region	Noted Reno ConPlan goals to expand/preserve affordable housing; secure permanent affordable housing for 1,000 seniors; and create accessible housing for persons with disabilities located near transit and services.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Regional Plan	Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative; however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households.  Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Project is a mixed income/use project.	Project is 5 HOME units/studios @ 45% AMI and 158 units at 60% AMI. Does not meet mixed income priority. Project is not a mixed use site; however, commercial/retail/medical are within one (1) mile of site.

# Vintage at Spanish Springs Sr. Apts. WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Level I Priorities</u>	<u>Review</u>
The average rent for all HOME units is at or below 40% of the AMI for family units, and at or below 45% of AMI for senior projects.	Proposed HOME Units @ 50% AMI, non-HOME units @ 60% AMI.  Does not meet this priority, nor does it meet application mix of proposed HOME units of five (5) or more to include at least one unit/bedroom type @30% AMI.
Project provides supportive services, or owner/manager partners with a service provider to provide supportive services.	Numerous social/fitness activities to be provided to residents. Third-party professions will be contracted with to provide lifestyle, financial, and computer courses to name a few. Did not answer if services will be provided for a fee or free.  Meets priority.
<u>Level II Priorities</u>	
Project is accessible and located near public transportation options	Bus stop more than 7 miles away; possibly able to use FlexRIDE. Less than 1 mile to grocery/shopping center that includes restaurants and banking (Pyramid/Eagle Canyon/La Posada).  Potentially meets priority.
Project contains one or more green components above and beyond the minimum energy efficiency requirements	High efficiency heating & cooling equipment, Energy star appliances, high-R walls. Xeriscape landscaping. No discussion if project will be Energy Star Certified; narrative states project will meet State of Nevada energy requirements.  Most likely meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Consolidated Plan for the region	Noted Reno ConPlan goals to expand/preserve affordable housing; secure permanent affordable housing for 1,000 seniors; and create accessible housing for persons with disabilities located near transit and services.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Regional Plan	Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative; however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households.  Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Project is a mixed income/use project.	Project is 5 HOME units @ 50% AMI and 191 units at 60% AMI.  Does not meet mixed income priority.  Project is not a mixed use site; however, commercial business are within one (1) mile of site.

### Orovada Sr. Apts. WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Level I Priorities</u>	<u>Review</u>
The average rent for all HOME units is at or below 40% of the AMI for family units, and at or below 45% of AMI for senior projects.	Proposed HOME Units: 1-1bd @ 30% AMI; 3-1bd @ 50% AMI; 1-2bd @ 30% AMI; 1-2bd @ 50% AMI  Meets this priority and application mix of proposed HOME units of five (5) or more to include at least one unit/bedroom type @ 30% AMI.
Project provides supportive services, or owner/manager partners with a service provider to provide supportive services.	Proposed on-site Service Coordinator. Services noted: food delivery through nutrition programs, annual flu shot clinics, transportation assistance, health/financial/computer workshop, and various social activities. Meets priority.
<u>Level II Priorities</u>	
Project is accessible and located near public transportation options	Bus stop at Orovado and Silverado Blvd. Commercial, retail, grocery, and banking within less than 1/5 <sup>th</sup> mile of project.  Meets priority.
Project contains one or more green components above and beyond the minimum energy efficiency requirements	High efficiency heating & cooling equipment, Energy star appliances, high-R walls. Xeriscape landscaping. Apartments will be Energy Star Certified and building will meet State of Nevada New Construction Energy Requirements as outlined in the 2021 Qualified Allocation Plan.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Consolidated Plan for the region	Noted Reno ConPlan goals to expand/preserve affordable housing; stabilize neighborhoods and increase appropriate housing opportunities for lowand moderate-income households; Provide housing with supportive services; provide housing for homeless persons or persons at risk of becoming homeless.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Regional Plan	Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative (Washoe County Master Plan goals were referenced); however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households. Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Project is a mixed income/use project.	Project is 6 HOME units @ 30%/50% AMI and 34 units at 30%-50% AMI.  Does not meet mixed income priority.  Project is not a mixed-use site; however, commercial business are within one (1) mile of site.

### Attivare Sr. Apts. WCHC Funding Priorities

<u>Level I Priorities</u>	<u>Review</u>
The average rent for all HOME units is at or below 40% of the AMI for family units, and at or below 45% of AMI for senior projects.	Proposed HOME Units @ 50% AMI, non-HOME units @ 60% AMI.  Does not meet this priority, nor does it meet application mix of proposed HOME units of five (5) or more to include at least one unit/bedroom type @30% AMI.
Project provides supportive services, or owner/manager partners with a service provider to provide supportive services.	Numerous social activities to be provided at "little to no cost" to residents. Third-party professions will be contracted with to provide lifestyle, financial, and computer courses to name a few. On-line services via 365 Connect will be provided at no cost to tenants. Meets priority.
<u>Level II Priorities</u>	
Project is accessible and located near public transportation options	Bus stop less than 1 mile, 1 mile to grocery/shopping center that includes medical and dental (Sky Vista/Lemmon Dr.).  Meets priority.
Project contains one or more green components above and beyond the minimum energy efficiency requirements	High efficiency heating & cooling equipment, Energy star appliances, high-R walls. Xeriscape landscaping. No discussion if project will be Energy Star Certified nor if building meets State of Nevada energy requirements.  Most likely meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Consolidated Plan for the region	Noted Reno ConPlan goals to expand/preserve affordable housing; secure permanent affordable housing for 1,000 seniors; and create accessible housing for persons with disabilities located near transit and services.  Meets priority.
Project addresses one or more objectives of the current Regional Plan	Regional Plan goals were not specifically addressed in project narrative; however, meets the priority of promoting availability of needed housing at price ranges and rent levels with are commensurate with financial capabilities of the region's households.  Allows for flexibility in housing location, type, and density.  Meets priority.
Project is a mixed income/use project.	Project is 11 HOME units @ 50% AMI and 162 units at 60% AMI.  Does not meet mixed income priority.  Project is not a mixed use site; however, commercial business are within one (1) mile of site.

Table 4. Community Housing and Development Organizations (CHDOs) Recertification Requests

Agency Name	Project Address	Operating Assistance Requested
Ridge House	900 W First Street Reno, NV	None - recertification only
Northern Nevada Community Housing	1090 East Eighth Street Reno, NV	None - recertification only

There are two agencies that are recertifying as Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO), as shown in <u>Table 4</u> above. At least 15 percent of HOME Program funds (noted in Table 1) must be set aside for specific activities to be undertaken by CHDOS, which is a private nonprofit, community-based organization that has staff with the capacity to develop affordable housing for the community it serves. In order to qualify for designation as a CHDO, the organization must meet certain requirements pertaining to their legal status, organizational structure, and capacity and experience.

With Participating Jurisdiction approval, CHDOs may use HOME funds for all eligible HOME activities. However, in order to count towards the 15 percent set-aside, a CHDO must act as the owner, developer, or sponsor of a project that is an eligible set-aside activity. These eligible set-aside activities include: the acquisition and/or rehabilitation of rental housing; new construction of rental housing; acquisition and/or rehabilitation of homebuyer properties; new construction of homebuyer properties; and direct financial assistance to purchasers of HOME-assisted housing that has been developed with HOME funds by the CHDO.

The Consortium may use up to five percent of each year's HOME allocation for general operating assistance to Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) that receive set-aside funds for an activity, but it is not a required set-aside. CHDOs are eligible for operating funds for a maximum of four years within the first five years of initial CHDO certification, or through the completion of two CHDO set-aside projects. Operating assistance is intended for newly-created CDHOs, with the intention that the agency will become self-sufficient after five years. The agency must also be approved for a CHDO set-aside development project or demonstrate that a CHDO project is planned.

The costs must be reasonable and necessary for the operation of the agency. Per the HOME Final Rule 24 CFR Part 92.300, CHDO operating assistance may be used for the following: Salaries, wages, benefits and other employee compensation; capacity-building for the organization related to a specific future set-aside project; employee education, training, and

travel to perform the job or carry out the functions related to the organization; including office rent and utilities, communication costs, taxes and insurance, equipment, materials, and supplies.

Staff has reviewed the recertification materials for both the Ridge House and NNCH and has determined that both organizations have the proper organizational mission, board structure, and staff members that can develop and sponsor affordable housing development, and thus meet the requirements to be recognized as CHDOs. Neither organization has requested operating expenses. Funding that could have been allocated for CHDO operating expenses has been included in the estimate for AHMLP projects in Table 1.