

2025 Affordable Housing Strategy

Planning Commission
October 8, 2025



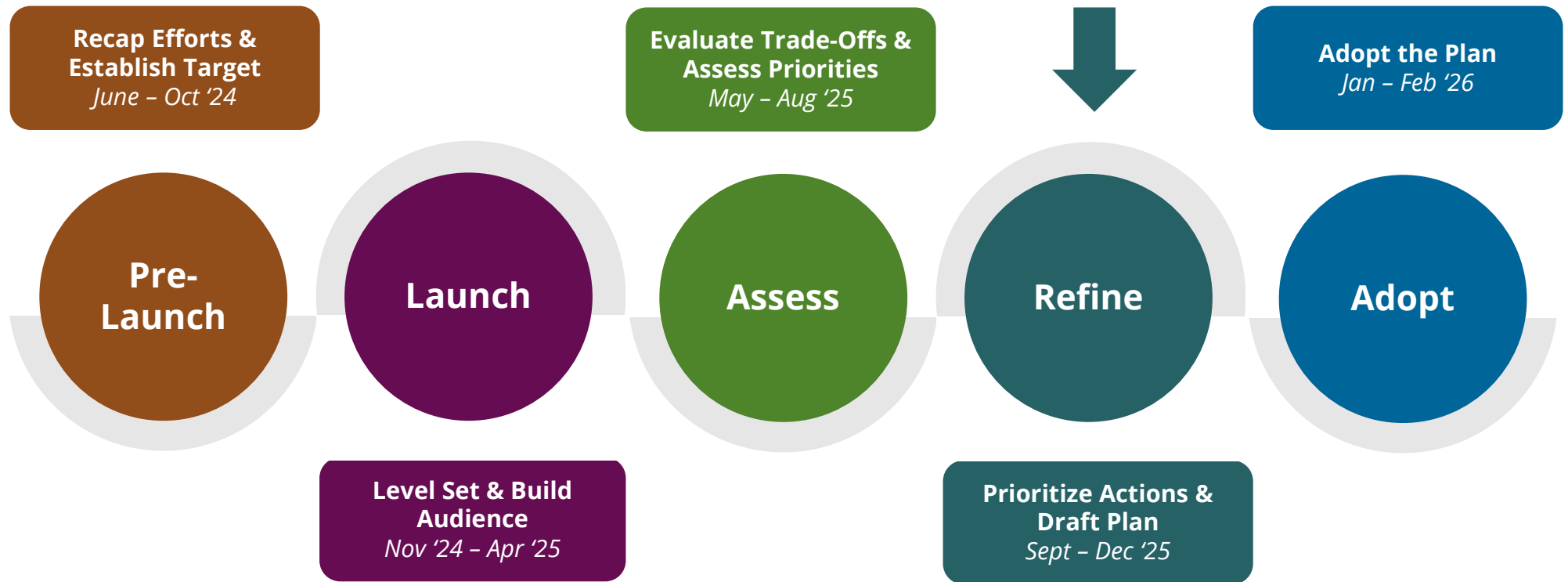
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Agenda

- Overview
- Engagement
- Goals & Draft Strategies
- Next Steps



Project Timeline



What is the Affordable Housing Strategy?

- Functional or strategic plan
- Implements new Comprehensive Plan policy guidance
- Near-term and focused on increasing housing affordability



What is the Affordable Housing Strategy?

- Focused on, but not exclusive to, income-restricted Affordable Housing
- Identifies implementation steps for the City within an action plan



Engagement



Engagement

Objectives

1. Provide information on affordable housing
2. Create opportunities to inform the Strategy
3. Elevate diverse and representative voices in the process



Phase 1

Focused on providing information and educational opportunities to engage



Jan

- 2 Stakeholder Info Sessions
- Public Kick Off

Feb

- Board & Commission Presentations

Mar

- Better Cities Film Festival
- Youth Involvement Conference

April

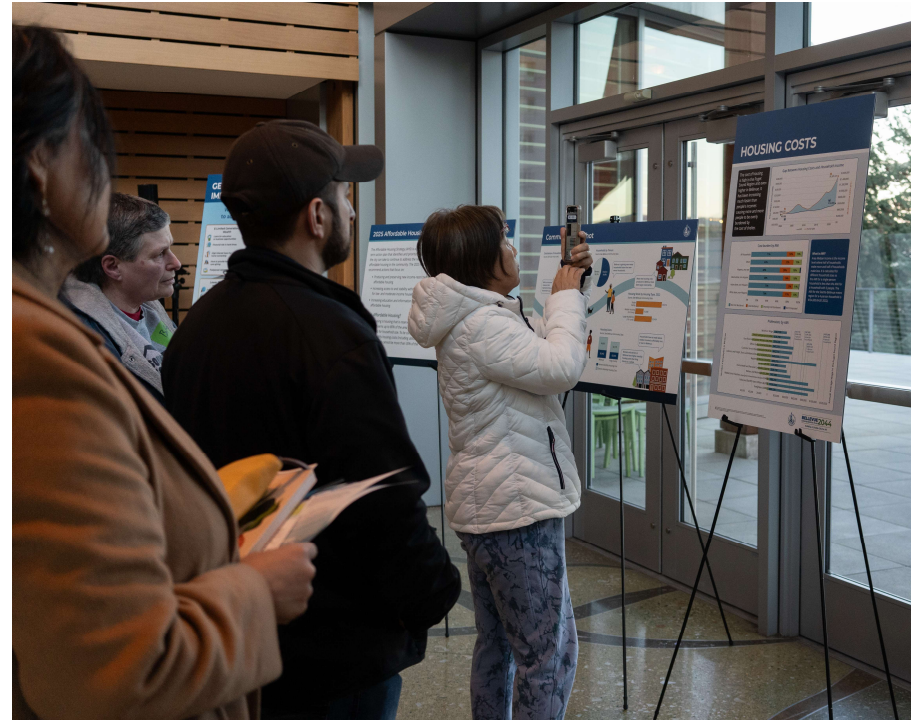
- Home in Bellevue: Affordable Housing 101
- Earthfest Tabling



October 8, 2025

Phase 1

- Connected with...
 - Almost 300 people
 - Over 25 organizations
- Collected 20 housing stories and 37 film reflections
- What we heard publish in Phase 1 engagement report



Phase 2

Focused on engaging those closest to housing issues to help assess actions

Partner Survey - Aimed to understand challenges, opportunities, and tradeoffs

- 59 responses from a range of organizations
- Key themes were
 - Reducing costs
 - Improving navigation
 - Balancing trade-offs

Community Facilitator Program - Utilizes community members' existing connections to reach those most impacted

- 9 community facilitators hired
- Over 150 community members reached through listening sessions
- Key themes were around access and information barriers



Goals & Draft Strategies

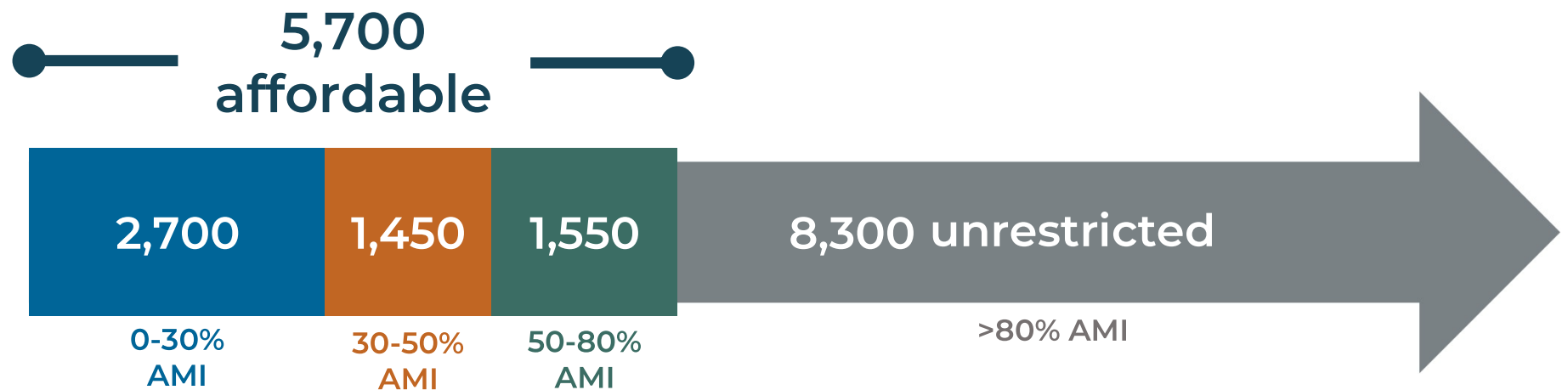
Goals

- Derived from Comprehensive Plan
- Prioritize achieving the new affordable housing target



Affordable Housing Target

10-Year Target
2026-2036



Draft Strategies

- 29 draft strategies, each with one to six actions
- “Mechanisms” include code changes, process updates, guidance, advocacy, and communications, amongst others
- Weighted towards actions that build or preserve income-restricted affordable housing
- Overlap with work of Office of Housing study on funding

Select Draft Strategies

Under Affordable Housing goal:

1. Acquire and rehabilitate Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH)
2. Acquire property to bank for affordable housing
3. Assess and shore up existing affordable housing portfolio
4. Create a permissible land use code for affordable housing
5. Ensure affordable housing around new light rail stations
6. Support qualifying properties (C-1)
7. Explore new local revenue sources and financing tools
8. Reduce costs and timelines for affordable housing
9. Increase capacity to develop and operate within Bellevue
10. Expand and monitor affordable housing programs
11. Leverage city resources for affordable housing



Next Steps



Next Steps

- Vet prioritization approach
- Draft the 2025 Strategy
- Present the draft to Council in January 2026
- Planning Commission update in Q1
- **Implementation!**



Continued Engagement

- Targeted engagement with organizational partners in Oct.
- Nov. 6th Public Info Session (registration forthcoming)
- Nov/Dec. Public Survey



Thank You!

Happy to answer questions on...

- Update process
- Goals, strategies, or actions
- What's next



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