



Interjurisdictional Cooperation

Local jurisdictions can partner with each other to pool resources, coordinate technical assistance, and stretch funding for their housing needs. The central Puget Sound region is fortunate to have multiple housing coalitions formed by cities and local jurisdictions.

BACKGROUND

Local governments create the capacity for housing through their comprehensive plans and zoning codes. They try to remove unnecessary regulations to allow for diverse housing choices at different income levels. It is rare for local governments to actively create housing themselves; this is typically the role of for-profit and non-profit housing developers. It is difficult for local governments to provide financial resources directly to housing projects by themselves, and small jurisdictions may not have the staff expertise to tailor or administer complex housing tools. Housing market conditions and challenges to creating housing can be larger than any one community, and thus pooling resources through coordination or local housing funds can be more effective than each jurisdiction planning on its own.

TOOL PROFILE

Objectives

[Housing in Centers and Near Transit](#)

[Housing Options in Expensive Markets](#)

[Missing Middle Density](#)

[Build Community Support](#)

Type of Tool

Partnerships

Project Type

Multifamily

Ownership

Rental

Affordability Level

Market-rate incentives and tools

**Most effective for units
<80% AMI**

COORDINATION IN THE CENTRAL PUGET SOUND REGION

One of the housing coalitions in the region is [A Regional Coalition for Housing \(ARCH\)](#), a national model for interjurisdictional cooperation. ARCH is comprised of 16 member jurisdictions in east King County and assists with the following:

- Support for below-market rate housing through loans, grants, and surplus land
- Development of comprehensive and neighborhood plan housing policies
- Regulation implementation
- Housing program implementation and administration
- Finding affordable ownership and rental options for households
- Education for members and the public

In addition to ARCH, other coalitions have formed among some of the region's jurisdictions to tackle challenges of housing affordability and homelessness. The [Alliance for Housing Affordability \(AHA\)](#), consisting of 13 Snohomish County cities, Snohomish County, and the Snohomish County Housing Authority, meets quarterly to address local housing challenges. AHA staff provide technical assistance to member jurisdictions, as well as ongoing education and outreach to stakeholders, and manage the AHA Housing Trust Fund.

The [South King Housing and Homelessness Partnership \(SKHHP\)](#) formed in 2018 through an interlocal agreement and includes nine King County cities and King County, meeting monthly to share resources and staff capacity to address affordable housing.

Given the coordinated planning required through the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70a), there are forums for local governments to discuss ways to partner in facilitating diverse and affordable housing opportunities. These include the [King County Growth Management Planning Council](#), the [Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council](#), the [Pierce County Regional Council](#), and [Snohomish County Tomorrow](#).

RESOURCES

[A Regional Coalition for Housing \(ARCH\)](#) (2020)

[Alliance for Housing Affordability \(AHA\)](#) (2020)

[South King Housing and Homelessness Partnership \(SKHHP\)](#) (2020)

[Housing Trust Silicon Valley](#) (2020)

[Housing Endowment and Regional Trust \(HEART\) of San Mateo County, California](#) (2020)

Metropolitan Council: [Livable Communities Act Programs, Minneapolis & St. Paul](#) (2020)

