



Budget Fact Sheet – Housing and Homelessness

Mayor Harrell continues to act with urgency, compassion, and innovation to address Seattle’s homelessness and housing affordability crises. With a comprehensive approach laid out in the [Homelessness Action Plan](#), this budget proposal continues to drive progress by creating new places to live, bringing people indoors, and helping those in crisis receive the care and support that they need.

Issues of affordability, housing access, and homelessness are strongly interconnected, and Seattle cannot make lasting progress on these challenges without increasing access to housing. **This budget proposal increases investments to fund the preservation and production of affordable homes in Seattle, with a \$342 million investment to support affordable housing in 2025 and an additional \$343 million in 2026 – the largest single investments in affordable housing in Seattle’s history.** Our city’s housing efforts are also supported by the voter passed [\\$970 million Seattle Housing Levy](#) proposed by Mayor Harrell in 2023.

In addition to the below new investments, the baseline Office of Housing budget includes \$212.8 million Multifamily housing investments, \$51.8 million to pay affordable housing providers a sustainable wage and ensure stable operations, and \$23.2 million towards homeownership, home repair, and weatherization. The baseline budget prioritizes housing, shelter, and support services to those in need, including \$10.8 million in 2025 for Homelessness Prevention and Outreach. This proposal invests \$104.6M in 2025 for the King County Regional Homelessness Authority, ensuring that expiring shelter beds and services continue with sustained support.

The City’s response to Seattle’s homelessness and housing affordability crises are led by the Office of Housing (OH) in close partnership with the Human Services Department (HSD). This work is supported by many others including the Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD) who manages the Equitable Development Initiative, and the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and Seattle Parks & Recreation (SPR) who support the Unified Care Team which oversees encampment resolutions to keep public spaces clean, open, and accessible to all.

The proposed 2025 budget broadly maintains the originally projected dollar amounts for Jumpstart Payroll Expense Tax funding of Housing and Equitable Development Initiative investments.

Highlights of new investments in the 2025 proposed budget include:

Housing Investments

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$7M	Provide capital for multifamily housing production with one-time transfer from Mandatory Housing Affordability balance. (OH)
\$1.7M	Equitable Development Initiative increase to reduce displacement pressures, increase access to economic mobility and opportunity, and enable equitable access to neighborhoods throughout Seattle. (OPCD)
\$350K	Add three new staff to support policy, planning, and operations to scale for the 550% increase in department budget and new levy investments over the last decade. (OH)

Shelter and Temporary Housing

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$2.3M	Open an enhanced shelter with 60 non-congregate units in a new location; in 2026, funding will increase to enhance wrap-around services, including comprehensive behavioral health supports. (HSD)
\$2.2M	Support Africatown’s Benu Shelter with ongoing funding for 150 beds paired with services tailored for Black/African American men experiencing homelessness that were previously funded through one-time investments. (HSD)
\$1M	Support the City’s Tiny House Village investments with ongoing funding for operating and behavioral health services that were previously funded through one-time investments, ensuring existing THVs remain open. (HSD)

Unified Care Team

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$2.3M	Expand field team operations by nine positions to support debris removal and increase service hours capacity for restoration of public spaces. (SDOT & SPR)
\$480K	Continue strong coordination and constituent responsiveness by adding ongoing funding for the UCT Director and two positions focused on operations and constituent correspondence. (HSD)
\$300K	Expand intake hours at two shelter locations to include weekends. Right now, shelters intakes generally occur during weekdays only when teams are in the field and making referrals. (HSD)