

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners (BCC)
FROM: Mary Rumbaugh, Director, Health, Housing & Human Services (H3S)
RE: Procuring legal services for Housing 4 Success initiative
DATE: August 11, 2026

REQUEST: Board approval to proceed with a solicitation for legal services to Housing 4 Success participants.

BACKGROUND: In 2025, the Housing and Community Development Division (HCDD) launched the Housing 4 Success economic empowerment initiative to help households increase their self-sufficiency. As part of this initiative, HCDD solicited proposals for legal services to low-income families to increase housing stability for households at risk of experiencing homelessness.

On March 17, 2026, H3S brought the contract awarded from this solicitation to Metropolitan Public Defenders for review at Issues & Updates. The original proposed contract was for a three-year term, with a total amount not to exceed \$465,761. The contract included criminal record expungement services. The Board raised concerns about the scope, duration, and cost of the contract. At the March 19, 2026 Business Meeting, the Board decided not to move forward with the item.

In response to the Board's concerns, H3S proposes to re-issue a revised solicitation, limiting the scope, duration and cost of the solicited services. Specifically, the proposed solicitation will request proposals that include housing-related legal services including eviction defense and eviction record expungement, pre-eviction dispute resolution, housing denial appeals, reasonable accommodation requests, debt negotiation, and driver's license restoration. The solicitation and any resulting contract will not include criminal record expungement services. The contract duration will be one year, at an estimated cost of approximately \$150,000. By reducing the contract term to one year and narrowing the scope of services, H3S will be able to evaluate the demand for and effectiveness of these services before considering a potential longer-term contract. This approach also directly responds to the Board's prior questions regarding the scope, duration, and cost of the contract.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Board direct staff to proceed with a solicitation for legal services to Housing 4 Success participants as proposed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Rumbaugh
Director, Department