



# HEALTH THROUGH HOUSING | PROPOSAL SUMMARY



# HEALTH THROUGH HOUSING: 0.1% COUNTYWIDE SALES TAX

## **GOAL: HOUSE 40% OF CHRONIC HOMELESS POPULATION (based on HMIS)**

- **By October 2022, house 1,600 King County residents who are experiencing or at risk of chronic homelessness—while reducing racial-ethnic disproportionality—by:**
  1. **acquiring single-room settings** like hotels while economic conditions are favorable,
  2. **putting them into immediate service** as emergency and affordable housing,
  3. **funding operating and supportive services** within housing, **including behavioral health** services, to keep people healthy and housed; and
  4. **converting acquired single-room settings into permanent supportive housing** over time while continuing to develop additional affordable housing.

## WHY THIS APPROACH?

- **Housing is a Foundation for Health: Single Room Housing is Healthier; Congregate Shelters are Not a Long-Term Solution**
- **A Temporary Opportunity to Make an Immediate & Lasting Difference**
- **We Will Have a Bigger Impact Faster *if We Work Together***
- **Reframing the Housing vs. Shelter Funding Choice**
- **We Center the Most Affected. Nothing is More Regressive for a Person Than Experiencing Homelessness**

# WHAT IS THE *HEALTH THROUGH HOUSING* PROPOSAL?

- **Proposed King County ordinance 2020-0337 will implement a 0.1% sales tax across King County for affordable housing, housing-related services and behavioral health treatment.**
- Current forecasts estimate the tax will generate approximately \$50 million/year countywide.

## **Uses include:**

- Affordable housing;
- Behavioral health-related facilities;
- Operations and maintenance costs of affordable housing, facilities for housing-related services, or newly constructed evaluation and treatment centers;
- Operation, deliver, or evaluation of behavioral health treatment programs and services or housing-related services;

## WHO WILL BE SERVED?

- All households served with affordable housing, or facilities providing housing-related services, with these funds must earn **at or below 30% of Area Median Income**
- Households must either be ***chronically homeless*** or ***at risk of chronic homelessness***

### Eligible Populations Include:

- Persons with behavioral health disabilities;
- Senior citizens;
- Veterans;
- Persons with disabilities;
- Domestic violence survivors;
- Homeless, or at-risk of being homeless, families with children; or
- Unaccompanied homeless youth or young adults.