

# Agricultural Labor Housing RAC

February 22, 2023 / 10am-12pm

Meeting held via Zoom

1. **Opening/welcome** – Sarah Rew/Greg Lowell
2. **Attendee's list:**
  - a. Alba Johnston, Barbra Anderson, Carlton Davidson, Greig Lowell, Jon Laraway, Kate Ryan, Kate Suisman, Laurie Hoefer, David Hurtado, Lou Savage, Tim Farnsworth, Matt Borman, Kelly Brooks, Nicole Mann, Candy Carnes, Renee Stapleton, Mitch Hannoosh, Ira Cuello Martinez, Martha Sonato, Lauren Kuenzi, Martin Jarvis, Erin Roby, Michael Town, Sherry Marks, Sarah Rew, Scott Dilley, Tim Mahern-Macias, Varon Blackburn, Marissa Hokenson, Mike Omeg, Mike Doke
3. **Update on Governor's ALH taskforce:** Lou Savage gave a recap of the taskforce's efforts. Their focus was on the following: increased coordination among agencies, broader discussion of statewide issues, recommendations for infrastructure and funding issues. Broad recommendation was given to the governor's office for an initial 5 million investment to fund a grant specific to on-farm housing.
  - a. Taskforce link was shared via chat: <https://www.oregon.gov/dcbs/Pages/ALH-task-force.aspx>
4. **Update on Housing and Community Services:** Tim Mahern-Macias shared information about their tax credit that is up for renewal this year. No major changes are expected. Tim responded to questions clarifying that intent of the current tax credit, and the grant suggestion; the tax credit would focus on community based housing and the grant would be focused on growers, though there appears to be some discretion as to allocation.
5. **Visio document review:** Sarah Rew previously shared a Visio document via email. It is a reorganization of the 'red line' draft of the ALH rule that included suggestions/edits from this RAC. The Visio document simplified this information into a matrix/chart and organized suggestions by cost and impact. It is a starting point for further discussion. The group reviewed topics and made suggestions for slight modifications regarding cost and impact.

Concerns were voiced about the following: the ease of translating water sampling lab results, chemical/pesticide usage near housing, distance of housing to crops, weeds near housing, rule language – especially the term 'substantial', the definition of family unit, carbon monoxide detectors, the ability of EMS to find housing sites and the problems associated with multiple units onsite, rural areas, and difficulty navigating farm roads, portable toilets, refrigerator temperature, exhaust fans in bathrooms, portable water containers, storage, cots, and potable water supply.

Members suggested that Oregon OSHA refer to OHA's rules for very small water systems.

Questions were raised about high impact/high cost items on the visio document. Renee Stapleton stated that we are waiting to see what occurs with the legislature – but for today are focusing on making sure that we understand the cost and impact of each suggestion correctly.

In response to a question about the timeline for meetings Sarah Rew shared that it is anticipated that meetings will be held monthly through the end of the year. Members additionally requested that topics be laid out for each meeting through the end of the year.

The [ALH Q&A](#) was shared in the chat.

6. **Adjournment:** The meeting ended at approximately 12 p.m.
7. **Next meeting:** April 26