

# Portland's Housing Bond

January 2018

Investing Together in Affordable Homes

## Dear Fellow Portlanders,

We've made great progress together since you passed Portland's Housing Bond just over a year ago – we established a **strategic framework** with the help of more than 1,000 community members, **appointed a Bond Oversight Committee** that is already reviewing new funding opportunities and, last month, we announced plans to build **the first new development** with Portland's Housing Bond.

In the meantime, the Bond is already making a difference for Portland families. Thanks to Bond investments, **more than 200 units** at the Ellington Apartments are now permanently affordable for low- and extremely low-income families. More than 100 Ellington households who were facing displacement last year are now stable in their homes and 28 families who were homeless a year ago are finding stability and community there, close to schools, and parks, and bus stops. I'm humbled to share one of the many stories from the Ellington with you in this newsletter.

I believe Portland's Housing Bond represents what's best about our city: it's Portlanders helping Portlanders so we all can have the chance to live in thriving, diverse neighborhoods and participate equally in what our community has to offer. I'm proud to look back on what we've achieved so far and to be starting 2018 with new, exciting work under way. We have more hard work ahead of us to reach our goals, but we have this historic opportunity to make a difference in our community because of you.

Thank you and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ted Wheeler



## Coming soon to Southeast Portland: New affordable homes

New affordable housing is coming to Southeast Portland thanks to Portland's Housing Bond. We've purchased a site in the Creston-Kenilworth neighborhood —where residents are at risk from rising rents—to build homes for Portland families in need of stable housing.

The new homes will be built at the site of the former Safari Club at 3000 SE Powell Blvd. We're starting the design process immediately, with construction expected to begin early next year.



# A New Lease on Life at the Ellington Apartments

At the Ellington Apartments, Portland families who have struggled to afford housing are finding stability and community in a place they're glad to call home. The City acquired the Ellington in 2017, the first property purchased thanks to Portland's Housing Bond. Now plans are underway to transform all 263 units into permanently affordable homes. So far, 28 families with children that were previously homeless are now living there. For residents like Alana Padilla, the effect has been life-changing.

A mother of four, Padilla had lived in a trailer with no electricity and spent many nights on the street before qualifying for an affordable apartment at the Ellington. Now that she's settled in, she feels a renewed sense of comfort and stability.

"I kept telling my kids, 'we're gonna get this place, we're gonna get it!'" she recalls. "When I finally got it, they were really stoked." Now that she's settled in at the Ellington, Padilla feels a renewed sense of comfort and stability.

"A lot of my problems are resolved because I have a steady place to live and I don't have to worry about it," she said. Padilla's journey is just one example of how Portland's Housing Bond is changing lives. As more families move into the Ellington and other Portland Housing Bond projects move ahead, we're proud to make a difference for even more Portland families.



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## HELP PORTLAND BUILD MORE AFFORDABLE HOMES

Calling all developers, property owners and their representatives: We are seeking proposals to purchase land or existing multifamily residential buildings that can be developed into affordable homes. We're accepting proposals on a rolling basis— visit [portlandhousingbond.com](http://portlandhousingbond.com) to find out more.