



News Release

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801

Phone: 541-276-3165

www.ctuir.org

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Contact: Kaeleen McGuire, Communications Director, 541-429-7393

Governor appoints CTUIR Planning Director J.D. Tovey to Housing Production Advisory Council

Salem, OR – Governor Tina Kotek has appointed J.D. Tovey, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) Planning Director, as the Co-Chair of the Housing Production Advisory Council (HPAC). The decision came after the January Executive Order she signed to establish a production goal of 36,000 new homes built annually in Oregon. The HPAC will develop an action plan to meet those new construction targets.

“We are very pleased to see the Governor put J.D. in a position where he can use his experience to make a difference for the whole state,” said Chair Kat Brigham. “We look forward to seeing what the council can accomplish together.”

Tovey has served as the Planning Director since 2014. During that time, he played a crucial role in the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the CTUIR rollout of the vaccine distribution. He has served in several positions in both the non-profit and for-profit sectors regionally and nationally over the past 25 years. Mr. Tovey holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Idaho and a Master of Urban Planning from the University of Washington. He is finishing a Ph.D. in Urban Design & Planning at the University of Washington with a research focus on rural development.

The HPAC will hold a first meeting on Friday, March 10, and will provide a framework for their action plan by April 1, 2023.

“We are on a fast track to get this work going,” said Tovey. “The council is made up of some of the most diverse and respected experts in the field of housing, and it’s an honor to work with them to carry out the ambitious and achievable goals set forth by the Governor.”

With the goal of 36,000 additional housing units annually at all levels of affordability across the state, the plan will need to keep pace with projected population growth. This represents an 80 percent increase over current construction trends and would set Oregon on a path to build 360,000 additional homes over the next decade.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation is made up of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla Tribes, formed under the Treaty of 1855 at the Walla Walla Valley. In 1949, the Tribes adopted a constitutional form of government to protect, preserve and enhance the treaty rights guaranteed under federal statute.

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