

May 2025 Monthly Update Newsletter

Thank you for your interest in learning more about the Ashland School District housing initiative. The role of Sunstone Housing Collaborative includes vision stewardship, project management, community liaison and most importantly ASD advocate. Our purpose is to facilitate and support partnerships that will bring new housing to Ashland that is affordable and accessible, providing stability and comfort to school staff, families with children and other income qualified households.

Progress

On May 19, Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) announced a generous award of \$30,000 to Sunstone for operating expenses and the upcoming community led design process for the Ashland Attainable Housing Project. The funding is a Community Grant which includes support from the OCF Fund of Ashland community visionaries William and Florence Schneider. We are so grateful to utilize this funding to further the development of valuable partnerships to do the work of bridging the gap between mission-oriented landowners and building affordable housing.

On May 30, following a months-long collaborative application process, Build up Oregon, and Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) announced the award of an \$850,000 grant to developer Edlen + Co. and Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC) for the co-location of Early Childhood Education (ECE) within the proposed Ashland Attainable Housing Project. This grant will provide funding to build the ECE facility which will be managed by OCDC and situated within the new housing, a game changing setup for families with young children in Ashland. Additionally, this partnership reinforces the Ashland School District increasing enrollment goals through a streamlined, reliable approach to this essential service much needed within our community.

Geoffrey Lowry, Program Director for the Oregon Child Development Coalition, Krista Palmer, Executive Director Sunstone Housing Collaborative, along with Andrea Bell, Director of OHCS, joined Jefferson Exchange Host Mike Green to discuss the co-location project.



Listen HERE



JPR Senior Producer, Natalie Golay

What's Next?

Ashland School District and developer Edlen & Co. are undergoing negotiations for the approval of an ENA (Exclusive Negotiating Agreement). The purpose of the ENA is to define terms and expectations for the pre-development phase and determining feasibility of the project. The ENA does not include land disposition. That is a process which will occur once both parties agree upon project viability based on due diligence outlined in the agreement. Approval of the ENA will occur in public forum at an ASD board meeting, date pending.



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