



Housing Governance Report

Overview, Proposed
Process, and Next Steps

**RHODE
ISLAND**

Overview

- Overview of the statutory requirement
- Approach
- Process
- Discussion: Survey for state agencies, boards, and commissions
- Next Steps

The FY25 Enacted Budget included a new reporting requirement for the Department of Housing. This report – due December 31, 2024 – will review and recommend options for housing governance.

Statutory Language

“On or before December 31, 2024 develop a housing organizational plan to be provided to the general assembly that includes a review, analysis, and assessment of functions related to housing of all state departments, quasi-public agencies, boards, and commissions.

Provided, further, the secretary, with the input from each department, agency, board, and commission, shall include in the plan comprehensive options, including the advantages and disadvantages of each option and recommendations relating to the functions and structure of the department of housing, including suggested statutory revisions.”

Why now?

- RI continues to experience a housing crisis – examining governance will allow us to continue to consider how we can maximize efforts and resources across entities to address the crisis.
- There have been many changes in governance for housing over the years. How can we continue to iterate to ensure the core capacity of each entity is being leveraged and clarify the roles and responsibilities across entities?

Approach

- There has been significant work done to review and consider the best approach for governance of housing functions in Rhode Island. This report will build on these efforts, not start from scratch. Recent efforts include:
 - Boston Consulting Group Report, 2022
 - Visualizing RI's Ecosystem, 2022 – HousingWorks Mapping
 - Housing Department Governance Report, 2022
 - State Comprehensive Plans
 - Entities' Strategic Plans
 - State Housing Planning Process (ongoing)
- We are not coming to this process with pre-defined answers; we are going to ask many questions throughout this process, with the goal of framing opportunities and their tradeoffs.
- We will continually provide updates on the report and have a process of iteration; the goal is not to have a 'big reveal' at the end.

What other reports or documents should be incorporated?

Process Overview

Summary of Report Process



Study Limitations

- Timeline
- Timing with related initiatives
- Capacity

Engagement and Input

This process will involve many different ways to engage, including:

- Regular discussions at public meetings, including at the Housing Resources Commission and Continuum of Care
- Stakeholder interviews and focus groups, especially at the landscape analysis and develop/review options phases
- Email listserv updates on report progress and opportunities to review
- Webpage with updates, resources, drafts, and upcoming meetings

Process Overview

Summary of Report Process



Discussion: Survey for Departments, Quasi-public agencies, Boards, and Commissions.

Feedback Welcome

Draft question categories:

- What are your organization's roles in housing and homelessness services?
 - What current functions are aligned with your core capacity/mission?
 - What current functions are misaligned with your core capacity/mission?
- What are the state or federal statutes your organizational is charged with related to housing/homelessness?
- Who are your constituents/clients?
- What assets (funding, land, FTEs, etc) does your organization have to support the housing/homelessness space?
- What are your housing / homelessness KPIs?

Next Steps

- *Stakeholder survey*
- *Capacity*
- *Webpage*