# Housing Governance Report

Overview, Proposed Process, and Next Steps



### **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.



### **Process Overview**

**Summary of Report Process** 

December August/September October November Develop and Process Step Opportunity Landscape Refine and Review and Criteria analysis Recommend Governance Definition **Options** Question How effectively do different What is the current status of What are the challenges/ opportunities What are the emerging top that governance can address? What governance options address options? housing-related functions? are criteria of success? those challenges/opportunities? Survey for departments, **Emerging findings from** National best practices Stakeholder input **Process Inputs** quasi-publics, state housing planning Proposed options from Discussions with commissions, and boards process and resident prior reports departments, quasisurvey State Housing Planning publics, commissions, Stakeholder input Stakeholder interviews and and boards Resident survey Input from departments, focus groups Stakeholder interviews quasi-publics, National best practices commissions, and boards Review of recent reports

# **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**

August/September Develop and **Process Step** Opportunity Landscape Review Refine and and Criteria analysis Recommend Governance Definition Options Question What is the current status of vernance can address? What housing-related functions? Survey for departments, merging findings from National best practices Stakeholder input Process Inputs quasi-publics, Proposed options from commissions, and boards rocess and resident departments, quasi-State Housing Planning Stakeholder input Resident survey Input from departments, Stakeholder interviews lational best practices Review of recent reports **Current Phase** 9

### 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