City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date:

- September 22, 2026

Staff Resources:

- Nikki Reid, Housing and Economic Development Department Director
- James Shelton, Community Development Division Manager

Action Requested:

- Public Hearing on the HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment.

Background:

- The City's Community Development Division, in collaboration with the Asheville Regional Housing Consortium (ARHC), developed the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, which guides the allocation of funds aimed at mitigating homelessness and fulfilling regional housing needs.
- The proposed substantial amendment revises the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to add preferences and referral methods designed to address the increased need for housing assistance following Hurricane Helene.
- The amendment establishes a preference for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including those experiencing homelessness for the first time as a result of Hurricane Helene, and incorporates the Coordinated Entry system and other eligible referral sources to ensure assistance is targeted to households with the greatest need.
- The ARHC voted unanimously to approve the amended Allocation Plan on August 12, 2026.
- Public Comment period opened August 31, 2026 and will remain open until October 2, 2026. A draft HOME-ARP Substantial Amendment is available on the City's Community Development website and a Public Notice was announced on August 30, 2026 via the Asheville Citizens Times.
- All public comments will be brought to the City Council on October 13, 2026 as part of the final approval of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment.

Vendor Outreach:

- N/A

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- Quality Affordable Housing

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- Housing

Committee(s):

- The Asheville Regional Housing Consortium Board (ARHC) convened on August 12, 2026, to review and offer feedback on the proposed HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment. Following this review, the Consortium voted to advance the proposed recommendations for the Allocation Plan. (Unanimous consent)

Fiscal Impact:

- N/A

Suggested Motion:

- None - Purpose of this hearing is to receive public comment and City Council feedback only

Attachment(s):

- None