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# CITY of BEAVERTON

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS EXPLORE RENT BURDEN IN BEAVERTON**

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** – Housing affordability and availability are important topics in our region, and many cities across the nation are seeing an increase in the amount of income families and individuals dedicate to rent and other housing-related expenses.

Community members and housing and service providers are invited to attend public workshops to learn about Beaverton's housing costs and share feedback about resources needed as we strive to reduce rent burden in our city:

### **Understanding Rent Burden for Housing & Service Providers**

**Thursday, Dec. 6 | 2-4 p.m.**

**The Beaverton Building, Council Chambers | 12725 SW Millikan Way**

Designed for housing and service providers, this workshop will provide an opportunity to have a candid conversation with our housing partners regarding rent burden, barriers to housing affordability, its equity impact on the community, and potential strategies to reduce the number of rent burdened households and inequality in the city.

### **Understanding Rent Burden for Community Members**

**Thursday, Dec. 6 | 6-8 p.m.**

**Beaverton City Library, Meeting Rooms A & B | 12375 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Street**

Designed for community members and residents, this workshop will empower community members to better understand and respond to challenges of rising rents with stagnating income. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

Attendees will hear a brief presentation about Beaverton's housing situation, and break into small groups for discussion. The workshops are part of ongoing conversations to help guide policies and programs concerning housing in Beaverton.

Spanish interpretation is available for both sessions, and other languages are available by request. To request interpretation services, please call 503-526-2439 or email [pesteban@BeavertonOregon.gov](mailto:pesteban@BeavertonOregon.gov).

In 2018, the 79<sup>th</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 4006, which requires cities with a population greater than 10,000 and with more than 25 percent of renter households experiencing rent burden to hold a public meeting to discuss the causes and consequences of severe rent burden, barriers to reducing the burden and possible solutions.

According to the US Census Bureau, approximately 25 percent of Beaverton residents were severely rent burdened in 2016. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

defines severely rent burdened as housing costs exceeding 50 percent of the household's reported income.

For more information, visit [www.beavertonoregon.gov/HousingEvents](http://www.beavertonoregon.gov/HousingEvents).

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