

City of Poulsbo

Housing, Health and Human Services



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Ribbon Cutting Celebrates Opening of New Affordable Housing in Poulsbo

Poulsbo WA—A ribbon cutting and open house will be held on September 16 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. to celebrate the completion of the Nordic Cottages, Poulsbo's first city-led affordable housing project. The Nordic Cottage project is a collaboration between the City of Poulsbo, which owns the land and the cottages, and Housing Kitsap who will oversee and manage the property. The Nordic Cottages will provide 8 deeply affordable homes for older adults and adults with disabilities whose income qualifies them for residence. The ribbon cutting will start at 12:00 p.m. and the public is welcome to attend. The address is 609 NE Lincoln Road in Poulsbo. Mayor Becky Erickson will speak along with representatives from Housing Kitsap.

A wide range of partners came together to make this affordable housing possible. Construction was provided by the BJC Group, with design by Coates Design. Gateway Fellowship, a neighboring congregation, is sharing land to support the project's parking requirements. Solar panels, provided through a Puget Sound Energy (PSE) grant program and supported by PSE Green Power customers, are expected to generate 13,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity each year—helping to reduce utility costs for Cottage residents. Community volunteers also played a role. The Peninsula Support Organization Bluebills, a local nonprofit offering handyman services, donated their labor to create "Hope Gardens," a community gardening space adjacent to the Cottages.

Funding for the project was made possible through a combination of state and local resources. The State of Washington, with advocacy from Representative Tarra Simmons, awarded critical funds alongside grants from the State Department of Commerce's

Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program (CHIP) and Kitsap County's HOME/CDBG program. Residents of Poulsbo are contributing to the remaining costs through a local affordable housing tax of one-tenth of one percent.

"This project represents the best of what happens when the community comes together," said Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson. "These Cottages are more than housing—they are hope, stability, and community for people with deep roots in Poulsbo. Preference for living in the Cottages is given to people who live or work in our area; we hope this is the first of many projects that helps vulnerable, low-income neighbors stay in Poulsbo."

"Communities that invest in affordable housing for seniors and vulnerable adults benefit everyone," says Housing Health and Human Services Director Kim Hendrickson.

"Affordable housing reduces strain on emergency services, healthcare systems, and shelters, while strengthening intergenerational connections and neighborhood stability. Well-designed affordable housing, like the Nordic Cottages, also supports aging in place, allowing older adults to remain close to family, friends, and services."

"Housing Kitsap is very excited about this partnership and this groundbreaking project," says Housing Kitsap Director Heather Blough. "This will be the only project in our portfolio that is owned by a City and managed by Housing Kitsap. We are able to leverage our expertise as a housing authority with the City's expertise in engineering, building, permitting—and benefit from their connections to partners and volunteers that will make this a true community initiative."

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