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 BOARD POLICY INFO ONLY, NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA ITEM
Idaho Park and Recreation Quarterly Meeting
May 18-19, 2022
Fairfield by Marriott
1000 W. Pullman Rd.
Moscow, ID

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide IDPR Employee Housing Issues

ACTION REQUIRED: Information Only

PRESENTER: Director Buxton and Adam Zaragoza

PRESENTATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Permanent and seasonal staff housing continue to be an issue statewide. IDPR recognized this issue approximately two years ago, particularly for staff recruitment and retention. This agenda item is informational only.

For Fiscal Year 2021, the Board and Idaho State Legislature appropriated \$80,000 for a staff housing pilot program. At the time, the line item assumed a pre-manufactured building. Because of the lapse of time between Board approval and appropriation, only general concepts were developed for housing as escalation of construction costs began to be realized.

For Fiscal Year 2023, the Board and Idaho State Legislature appropriated an additional \$720,000 for Seasonal Housing, bringing the total agency funds to \$800,000 to address the housing needs. The fiscal year starts July 1, 2022.

In addition, the agency was appropriated ARPA funds for fiscal year 2023 to address the surge of visitation to Idaho State Parks during the pandemic. Part of managing that surge is having sufficient staff to manage visitation. Since staff and seasonal housing is an integral part of recruitment and retention, staff has line itemed an additional \$1.2 million bringing the total staff housing budget to \$2.0 million.

On May 2, 2022, development staff and the region managers held a kickoff call to layout concepts of permanent and seasonal housing. Concepts and priority locations are still being considered by staff. With the fiscal year starting in approximately 6 weeks, all alternatives are on the table including partnerships, purchasing RV's, manufactured homes or stick build. Addressing the housing needs is of upmost priority for the agency.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Information Only.