MFTE COVID Related Extensions Finance & Housing Committee July 9, 2021 City of Seattle July 22, 2021 Office of Housing

Multi-Family Tax Exemption Program

- Provides a 12-year exemption in return for income and rent restrictions on 20% or 25% of units
- One of City's primary tools for creating income and rent restricted housing
- Currently over 5,000 units in market-rate buildings across the City

Accommodating Time Sensitive & Required Updates to the RCW

Bifurcated strategy to accommodate changes locally:

- Ordinance #1: Additional time to complete for projects impacted by COVID-19 (July)
- Ordinance #2: Other time sensitive or required changes, including extension option (August)
- Resolution: Address other program issues when Council considers program renewal (August)

Proposed MFTE Ordinance: Additional Time to Complete

 Currently, projects have 5 years from time of application to receive Certificate of Occupancy

 Because of COVID-19, RCW now allows an additional 5 years for some projects to complete

Proposed MFTE Ordinance: Additional Time to Complete

- Some projects can remain vested under older programs while receiving an additional 5 years to complete.
- Narrowly structured must demonstrate delay due to COVID-19 plus other timing conditions
- Estimate at most a handful of projects will take advantage of it

Questions?

