



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 1

**Agenda Date:** October 18, 2023

**In Control:** Public Comment Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Neighborhood and Housing Services

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Veronica Garcia, Director

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Public Hearing for the City's application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Pathways to Removing Obstacles grant program.

**SUMMARY:**

Public Hearing for the City's Pathways to Removing Obstacles grant application due October 30, 2023.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is accepting applications for its first Pathways to Removing Obstacles grant through October 30, 2023. The purpose of the grant is to support communities to identify and remove barriers to affordable housing production and preservation. State and local governments along with metropolitan planning organizations and multi-jurisdictional entities are eligible to apply. Approximately 20 awards are expected each ranging from \$1 million to \$10 million for a grant term of six years.

**ISSUE:**

The Neighborhood and Housing Services Department will apply for the Pathways to Removing Obstacles grant in the amount of \$10 million. The grant application proposes to support the implementation of several key strategies from the Strategic Housing Implementation Plan. The grant can support land banking activities, establishing community land trusts, development code updates, and transit-oriented development with an anti-displacement and preservation focus. These efforts will lay the foundation for a Housing Preservation Network.

The grant application proposes specific areas for these citywide efforts to focus on first, including the Advanced Rapid Transit Green Line and planned Advanced Rapid Transit Silver Line.

**Citizen Participation**

On October 10, 2023, the City issued a public notice in the San Antonio Express-News announcing a public comment period and this public hearing on October 18, 2023. A final presentation will be made to the Housing Commission on October 25, 2023 where public comment will also be accepted.

Comments received by 11:59 pm on October 25th will be included in our comment log. All comments will be responded to and staff will explain if and how comments changed the application draft.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The City could not apply for this grant opportunity.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This item will not have an impact on the City's General Fund Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

No action required.