



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 5

Agenda Date: May 26, 2022

In Control: Planning and Community Development Committee

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Interim Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Fair Housing Resources Update

SUMMARY:

Briefing on available fair housing resources for San Antonio tenants subject to rental housing challenges including inadequate living conditions, evictions, and significant code compliance violations. The City of San Antonio has several services, programs, and resources to assist residents with potential solutions to fair housing concerns.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Maintaining a safe and healthy residential environment is essential to San Antonio's community to ensure that everyone, regardless of income, can access quality housing options. Safe housing protects family members from exposure to environmental hazards, helps prevent unintentional injuries, and promotes physical and emotional health. In contrast, when landlords fail to meet the City's property maintenance and safety codes, rental properties begin to have a negative impact

on the health and quality of life for tenants and their families struggling with the effects of inadequate housing.

The City's fair housing resources promote the welfare of tenants and their families residing in substandard properties. This includes addressing key concerns that can lead to inadequate living conditions, evictions, and significant code compliance violations:

- Severe deficiencies in plumbing, heating, electricity, and upkeep
- Non-timely responses for life-threatening repair requests
- Suspect construction or neglecting building code upkeep
- Retaliatory practices or actions

ISSUE:

The City of San Antonio has several services, programs, and resources to address fair housing concerns, mitigate the effects of substandard housing, and enforce code compliance. Resident relocation assistance, housing counseling services, and access to free legal aid resources can help tenants identify potential solutions to housing challenges. In addition, code compliance and enforcement programs work with landlords to address ongoing issues. The Multi Tenant Inspection team, led by Development Services Department, works to facilitate resolution of code violations and ensure landlords correct property maintenance concerns. The City's Boarding Home Team and Mobile Living Park Team are dedicated to proactively ensuring the living conditions for some of our City's most vulnerable residents meet the minimum health, safety and quality of life standards. Finally, the Dangerous Assessment Response team is a proactive unit that investigates nuisance properties with a two-year documented code and/or criminal history.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.