



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 7

Agenda Date: January 24, 2024

In Control: San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Director to report updates on Neighborhood and Housing Services Department Programs.

SUMMARY:

Each month the Director prepares a report on program updates directly affecting the Housing Commission and its charge.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

(a) Housing Commission Retreat Report; (b) Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) Event; (c) Housing Assistance Program Update; (d) Upcoming meetings.

ISSUE:

a) Housing Commission Retreat Report Update

The Housing Commission met on October 11, 2023, at Towne Twin Village for a retreat. The

Commission reviewed their current work and started to develop priorities for the Housing Commission and its subcommittees in the next two years. The report summarizes the day's topics, discussions, and adopted priorities. The report will be posted on the Housing Commission's website and referenced in future retreats.

b) Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) Event Update

On January 27, 2024, the City of San Antonio's Neighborhood & Housing Services Department (NHSD), Opportunity Home San Antonio, San Antonio Housing Trust (SAHT), and Bexar County will host the 2nd Annual SHIP Event - "Housing in San Antonio". The event will take place at Sam Houston High School in District 2 from 10:00AM – 2:00PM. Some featured key speakers are HUD Deputy Secretary Todman, Mayor Nirenberg, and Councilman McKee-Rodriguez. Registration and more information can be found at <https://www.sanantonio.gov/SHIP>.

c) Housing Assistance Program Update

The Housing Assistance Program (HAP) accepted Rental Assistance applications from October 16-22, 2023. NHSD received 4,403 online applications during this application period. To date, the program has assisted 1,204 applicants with \$3.6 million in rental and utility assistance. The average income level for all applications is 30.93% of the area median income (AMI). The council district with the highest number of applications received and assistance awarded is District 2. The program expects to finish processing applications by the end of January 2024.

To be eligible for rental assistance, San Antonio households must have income no greater than 80% AMI; demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing stability; and experience financial hardship due directly or indirectly to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, households are not eligible for an additional rental assistance award if they received assistance from HAP within the last 12 months.

Eligible households receive up to three months of rental assistance not to exceed \$3,500. Households may also be eligible for assistance with utilities and internet service not to exceed \$1,500. Households facing eviction and domestic violence are prioritized.

d) Upcoming Meetings

The next regular meeting of the Housing Commission will be held on February 28, 2024. Other important upcoming meetings include:

- 1/27: SHIP Annual Event- Housing in San Antonio
- 2/1: Renters' Solutions Subcommittee Meeting
- 2/5: Public Engagement & Outreach Subcommittee
- 2/20: Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Development & Preservation Subcommittee

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing and discussion purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing and discussion purposes only.