

RON NIRENBERG MAYOR

October 17, 2023

Dear Housing Commissioners,

The San Antonio Housing Commission has played a pivotal role in informing the implementation of the Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) after its overwhelming adoption by the San Antonio City Council in December 2021. Since its adoption, the Housing Commission has made strides in guiding the implementation of several key strategies focused on preserving neighborhoods and increasing our affordable housing stock. I am pleased to hear that the outcome of October's Housing Commission retreat included setting collective priorities on zoning, land banking, transit-oriented development, public engagement, and homelessness prevention.

As the Commission engages in these priorities over the next two years, I am recommending the creation of a technical working group under the Housing Commission and the Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Subcommittee focused on developing recommendations to the Unified Development Code that facilitate the creation of affordable housing near and along transit corridors. This charge aligns with the recommendations in the SHIP (CHS 2; p. 25), as well as the collective priorities of the Commission. The technical working group should be appointed by the co-chairs of the Removing Barriers Subcommittee, and membership should be comprised of subject matter experts on transit-oriented development, housing, planning, sustainability, code, and at least 1 representative from the Housing Commission. The working group should produce their recommendations in a report to the Removing Barriers Subcommittee and the Housing Commission. The creation of this working group and the subsequent recommendations produced by the Housing Commission will aid in advancing housing availability and affordability along transit corridors in San Antonio.

Sincerely,

Ron Nirenberg MAYOR

COPIES TO: Mark Carmona, Chief Housing Officer; Veronica Garcia, Director, NHSD; Veronica Gonzalez, Assistant Director, NHSD; Ian Benavidez, Deputy Director, NHSD; Mike Shannon, Director, DSD; Melissa Ramirez, Assistant Director, DSD; Rudy Nino, Interim Director, Planning Department; Catherine Hernandez, Director, Transportation Department.