



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: November 17, 2021

In Control: San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Verónica R. Soto

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 affecting the Housing Commission and its charge.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Topics to be discussed are: (a) Follow-up questions asked during the Housing Commission Special Meeting on October 12, 2021 and Regular Meeting on October 27, 2021; (b) Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) Update; (c) Housing Bond Update; (d) HOME-ARPA update; (e) Upcoming Meetings.

ISSUE:

Topics to be discussed are: (a) Follow-up questions asked during the Housing Commission Special Meeting on October 12, 2021 and Regular Meeting on October 27, 2021; (b) Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) Update; (c) Housing Bond Update; (d) Upcoming Meetings.

a) The follow-up for questions asked during the October 12, 2021 Special Meeting included providing a copy of the draft Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) and a briefing on the SA Ready to Work program. A copy of the draft SHIP has been sent to the Commissioners, and a briefing on SA Ready to Work is scheduled to take place during the November 17, 2021 Housing Commission Meeting.

The follow-up items from the October 27, 2021 regular meeting included scheduling LISC to provide a briefing when their study on our local housing system. Staff will schedule this briefing for a meeting when the study is complete and presented to the Bexar County commissioners who commissioned the study. Staff was asked to explore bus cards and TV news messages. We have been gathering details on how both options can be used to improve public engagement efforts in the future.

b) NHSD opened public comment on the SHIP on November 1, 2021. Originally, comment was to be open until November 15, 2021. At the request of Council, the public comment period has been extended to 9:00 am on December 6th.

On the SHIP website, the public can review the following materials and give feedback:

- SHIP Summary document (English & Spanish)
- Full SHIP Draft (English & Spanish)
- A recorded video presentation of the SHIP by Ian Benavidez. This is the same information provided at the public meetings.
- Recordings of the public meetings. The first meeting an error occurred with the Spanish recording. However, meetings 2 and 3 are available in both English & Spanish.

Public comment and feedback are being collected in a variety of ways.

- Four public meetings. The meetings were hybrid in-person and virtual. Spanish translation was provided virtually during all three meetings. ASL interpretation was available virtually during the third meeting. Members of the Public Engagement & Outreach subcommittee attended the meetings. The fourth and final meeting is scheduled for December 4th at 10 am at Mission Branch Library.
- Input collection form. English and Spanish input collection forms are available both online and paper. Paper forms can be picked-up and returned at 1400 S. Flores, the UTSA Westside Community Center, and 100 W. Houston Street.
- Video, voice recording, or written statement sent to housingpolicy@sanantonio.gov
- Phone comment or voicemail by calling 210-207-0194.

Staff is collecting input and will summarize the feedback received and changes made to the SHIP as a result of the feedback when the comment period closes. The SHIP is scheduled to be brought to City Council for adoption on December 16th, 2021.

c) The Community Bond Committees that were announced in October have begun meeting. The Housing Committee will be developing recommendations for uses for the City's first \$150

million Housing Bond which is slated to go before the public for a vote in May 2022. The Housing Committee is comprised of the following members:

Co-Chairs: Katie Vela & Shirley Gonzales

Committee Members:

Christine Drennon, District 1

Jose Gonzalez, II, District 1

Leilah Powell, District 1

Lawson Picasso, District 2

Mia Loseff, District 2

Stephanie McGowan, District 2

Amelia Guzman, District 3

Dr. George Hinojosa, District 3

Thad Rutherford, District 3

H. Drew Galloway, District 4

Peter Onofre, District 4

Sergio Soto, District 4

Amy Kastely, District 5

Kayla Miranda, District 5

Linda Ortega, District 5

Celine Williams, District 6

Efrain Sosa, District 6

Lauro De Leon, District 6

Mike Phillips, District 7

Veronica Livar, District 7

Bonnie Connor, District 8

Jennifer Gonzalez, District 8

William Burrus, District 8

Art Reinhardt, District 9

Rich Acosta, District 9

Sue Hernandez, District 9

Brett Finley, District 10

Calvin New, District 10

Lori Tips, District 10

The Committee has set three meetings, all of which are open to the public. All meetings will be held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center located at 900 E. Market Street from 6 to 8 p.m. The first meeting was on November 3rd from 6:00-8:00 pm. The second will be November 17th from 6:00-8:00 pm and the third on December 8th from 6:00-8:00 pm. More information about all bond committees is available here; <https://www.sanantonio.gov/2022Bond>.

d) The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), includes additional HOME program funds designated to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability. The City of San Antonio received \$20 million allocated through the HOME-ARP program.

The City must complete a needs assessment and follow citizen participation guidelines prior to submitting a plan to HUD for review and acceptance. DHS and NHSD will engage with stakeholders, including the Planning and Community Development Committee, the Housing Commission, the South Alamo Regional Alliance for the Homeless, and providers as requested by HUD.

Staff will host a community public input meeting on December 1 at 1400 South Flores Street. Staff will return to the Planning and Community Development Committee with recommendations in December, with anticipated adoption of the HOME-ARP allocation plan by Council in January 2022 to subsequently submit to HUD.

e) The next regular meeting of the Housing Commission will be held on January 26, 2021.

The Community Bond Committee focused on Housing will meet on November 17th and December 8th from 6:00-8:00 pm. Both meetings will be at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center located at 900 E. Market Street.

The Public Engagement and Outreach Subcommittee will meet virtually December 2nd from 3:00-4:00 pm

The Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Subcommittee will meet on November 10th at 12:00 pm at the Mission Public Library. The next three meetings will be held at 1400 S. Flores on November 19th at 12:00 pm, December 3rd at 12:00 pm and December 10th at 12:00 pm. These meetings are open to the public and will have both in person and virtual attendance options.

Planning and Community Development Committee will meet November 15th and December 8th at 10:00 am.

There are two more American Rescue Plan Act meetings. The next one is November 17th at St. Paul Community Center at 7:00 pm. The last meeting will be on November 20th at the Mission Branch Library at 10:00 am.

City Council will review the Housing Tax Credit Policy on November 18th and the SHIP on December 16th.

The City Offices will be closed for Thanksgiving on November 25th and November 26th.

The fourth and final public meeting on the SHIP will be held on December 4th at 10 am at Mission Branch Library.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.