



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: February 23, 2022

In Control: San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Verónica R. Soto

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action related to a recruitment plan for the non-commission members of the Renters' Issues Subcommittee (RIS).

SUMMARY:

The Housing Commissioners appointed to the Renters' Issues Subcommittee (RIS) plan to recruit the seven non-commission members of the subcommittee.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On June 14, 2021 the Culture & Neighborhood Services Committee recommended the Housing Commission create a subcommittee to focus on renter specific issues.

In January 2022, the Housing Commission voted to form a Renters' Issues Subcommittee (RIS). The subcommittee will consist of nine members: two Housing Commissioners, four renters, and three property owners or property managers. The Housing Commission voted to have

Commissioners Johnson and Davila serve as the Commissioner representatives on the RIS.

The RIS is charged with advising the Housing Commission on renter-related issues including, but not limited to emergency rental assistance, Tenants’ Rights & Legal Aid, education, outreach, & training, and legislative items. They will make recommendations to the Housing Commission on renter-related issues that are part of commission conversations and encourage the development of relationships and understanding between property managers and renters.

ISSUE:

Commissioners Johnson and Davila were asked to develop a recruitment plan for the non-commission subcommittee members. As part of their process, they presented their plan to the Public Engagement and Outreach (PEO) subcommittee and sought additional recommendations.

The PEO recommended including more direct identification questions on the application to ensure selected applicants represent diverse backgrounds and experiences. They also recommended additional networks that could be used for recruitment.

The proposed plan for recruitment of non-commission members of the RIS includes:

1. Constructing an application that will help Commissioners find applicants with a broad range of experiences. Application questions include:	
Optional demographic information:	Questions about lived experiences including:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Veteran Status · Age · Disability · Domestic Violence Survivor · Homeless 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Eviction · Applying for Rental Assistance · Credit Issues · Notice to Vacate · Public Housing or Housing Choice Voucher · Landlord of small or large property s · Experience with low-income tenants

2. Disseminate paper and electronic versions of the application in both Spanish and English. The PEO, NHSD, Housing Commissioners, and other partners can help get the information out to physical locations and via email.	
Printed applications at accessible locations city-wide:	Electronic application accessible through:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · City facilities: libraries, lobbies, Senior Centers · Bibliotech locations · Domestic Violence Shelters · City Council offices · SAMM · South Alamo Regional Alliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Housing Commission’s webpage · SASpeakup · Social media · Community partner and NHSD email networks · City Council networks · Bexar Necessities; United Way · EHAP participant list

for the Homeless (SARAH) · National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) · San Antonio Housing Authority · Haven for Hope · Justice of the Peace Courts · Veterans Association	· San Antonio Legal Services Association & TRLA · Successful Aging & Living in San Antonio (SALSA) · SARAH's Youth Advisory Board · Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) · Property management and ownership groups such as the San Antonio Apartment Association
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Upon Housing Commission's approval of the plan, NHSD will post the application which will be open from March 1st to April 1st. Commissioners Johnson and Davila will meet to review the applications received and provide their recommendations at the April Housing Commission meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

ALTERNATIVES:

Housing Commission may choose not approve or to amend the Renters' Issues Subcommittee recruitment plan proposed by Commissioners Johnson and Davila. This may delay the recruitment of non-commission members to the subcommittee.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Housing Commission approve the application and recruitment plan developed by Commissioners Johnson and Davila for the non-commission members of the Renters' Issues Subcommittee.