



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: November 16, 2022

In Control: San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Interim Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action related to the approval of recommended appointees to the Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Development & Preservation Subcommittee of the Housing Commission.

SUMMARY:

Chair Gonzales and Commissioners Alanis and Johnson, the Housing Commissioners currently appointed to the Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Development and Preservation subcommittee, reviewed applications and are recommending seven non-commission members of the subcommittee.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On October 12, 2021, the Housing Commission formalized the Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Development & Preservation Subcommittee (RBSC). The purpose for the subcommittee was to formalize an ad hoc working group appointed by the Mayor which had previously convened

beginning in 2019. This group had been developing Unified Development Code (UDC) amendments, which are reviewed every five years. The UDC amendments and work of the ad hoc group was paused in March 2020 due to the pandemic. The Development Services Department (DSD) resumed the process on October 1st, 2021 and established a February 1, 2022 deadline to submit amendments.

In light of the deadline, staff worked with leaders of the ad hoc committee and the Housing Commission chair to make recommended appointments. The Housing Commission made these appointments through Council's approval of the UDC amendments and committed to a public recruitment process for subsequent appointments.

The recruitment process ran from October 3rd - October 21st. The application was co-created with members of the current RBSC, Public Engagement & Outreach Subcommittee, and staff. The application was posted on SA Speak Up and advertised through NHSD's newsletter and list serv.

ISSUE:

The Commission is recruiting a total of nine appointments. Two appointments must be made from the Commission. Chair recommended that Commissioners Alanis and Johnson continue to serve in these roles. The remaining seven appointments can be made from the general public and two alternates can be selected. The Commission is seeking applicants with broad work experiences as well as content and technical expertise.

A total of 15 applications were received for seven non-Commissioner slots. Chair Gonzales, Commissioners Alanis and Johnson recommend the following seven individuals be appointed to the RBSC:

Jim Bailey, Alamo Architects

- Previous tri-Chair of the Mayor's ad hoc group and member of Removing Barriers Subcommittee

Jordan Ghawi, Community Advocate, Board Member of the San Antonio Housing Trust

- Previous participant in the Mayor's ad hoc group and member of the Removing Barriers Subcommittee

Melanie Cawthon, disABILITY SA

- Previous member of the Removing Barriers Subcommittee
- Member of the Public Engagement & Outreach Subcommittee

Michael Taylor, Cross Timber Homes

- Previous member of the Removing Barriers Subcommittee

Seema Kairam, Able City

Taylor Beaver, Akerman Law Firm

Meredith Siegel, Merced Housing Texas

Alternates: Jason Arechiga, NRP and Chris Salas, Rolling Inspiration

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

ALTERNATIVES:

Housing Commission may decide to approve none or some of the recommended appointees.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Housing Commission approve the list of recommended appointees for the non-commission members of the RBSC.