



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: February 23, 2023

In Control: Planning and Community Development Committee

DEPARTMENT: Office of Historic Preservation

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Shanon Shea Miller

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing relating to the REHABARAMA program which provides repair and maintenance projects for older and historic housing stock. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; Shanon Miller, Director, Office of Historic Preservation].

SUMMARY:

OHP staff will provide a briefing and update regarding the REHABARAMA program which leverages volunteer support and private donations to preserve San Antonio's older, affordable housing stock. Staff proposes utilizing existing general funds to expand and enhance the services provided.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The annual REHABARAMA event was launched in 2017 by OHP as an opportunity to prolong the useful life of San Antonio's older housing stock through hands-on service learning and volunteerism.

Goals of the program are to:

- Preserve historic and aging housing stock to allow for aging in place & generational wealth
- Leverage volunteer and sponsor contributions to expand value of projects
- Integrate trades education and learning opportunities

Past REHABARAMA events have been held in Council Districts 2, 3 and 5.

ISSUE:

Approximately 25% of San Antonio's existing housing was constructed prior to 1960. Our older housing stock provides a higher proportion of naturally occurring affordable housing that remains largely unsubsidized and unprotected. These existing units are at risk of demolition due to deferred maintenance, vacancy, or as a result of local code enforcement programs. Prioritizing repair and maintenance programs for our older housing stock is supported by the City's Strategic Housing Implementation Plan as an environmentally and economically sustainable method of housing preservation.

The REHABARAMA program focuses on building hands-on, preservation trades and emphasizes retention and preservation of original building materials and architectural character. Qualified participants are eligible to receive assistance with home repair and maintenance at no cost through projects focused on prolonging the useful life of the home and maintaining a living environment that is safe, dry, and warm.

In partnership with NHSD, \$500,000 funding is available for up to 30 homes in FY23.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

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RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.