



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
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**Agenda Item Number:** 4

**Agenda Date:** February 22, 2023

**In Control:** San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

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**DEPARTMENT:** Neighborhood and Housing Services

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Veronica Garcia, Director

**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 directly affecting the Housing Commission and its charge.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Director's Report: (a) Property Tax Help Campaign Update; (b) Housing Assistance Program Funding Update; (c) Housing Production Program Update; (d) SHIP Event Recap (e) Upcoming meetings.

**ISSUE:**

### **a. Property Tax Help Campaign (PTHC)**

The City of San Antonio has launched a Property Tax Help Campaign to help homeowners file for homestead exemptions and learn about how to protest their property tax valuations. NHSD has partnered with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA) and San Antonio Legal Services Association (SALSA) to help facilitate and provide free legal services. Other resources, including the Bexar County Tax Assessor, will be available.

The Campaign will feature fourteen sessions throughout the City with onsite American Sign Language and Spanish interpretation services. There will be at least one session in each Council District. There will be one session entirely in Spanish. In addition, residents may access information online at their convenience at <https://www.sanantonio.gov/NHSD/Programs/TaxProtest>.

There have been 2 sessions so far:

**- Monday, February 13: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

Carver Library, 3350 E Commerce St, 78220

**- Monday, February 20: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

Mission Branch Library, 3134 Roosevelt Ave, 78214

Information about the remaining 12 sessions is below:

**- Monday, February 27: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

Maverick Library, 8700 Mystic Park, 78254

**- Saturday, March 4: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Palo Alto College, 1400 W Villaret Blvd, 78224

**- Monday, March 6: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

McCreless Library, 1023 Ada St, 78223

**- Monday, March 20: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

San Antonio Food Bank, 5200 Historic Old Hwy 90, 78227

**- Monday, March 27: 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

Ron Darner Park Headquarters, 5800 Historic Old Hwy 90, 78227

**- Monday, April 3: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

Bibliotech EDU, 626 N Flores St, 78205

**- Monday, April 10: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

Cody Library, 11441 Vance Jackson Rd, 78230

**- Thursday, April 13: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

Second Baptist Church Community Center, 3310 E Commerce St, 78220

**- Monday, April 17: 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

Alamodome, 100 Montana St, 78203

**- Monday, April 24: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

Walker Ranch Senior Center, 835 W Rhapsody, 78216

**- Saturday, May 6: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Lanier High School, 1514 W Cesar E Chavez Blvd, 78207

**- Monday, May 8: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

Semmes Library, 15060 Judson Rd, 78247

## **b. Housing Assistance Program Funding Update**

The Housing Assistance Program (HAP) provides financial assistance to stabilize renters experiencing emergency situations affecting their ability to pay rent and utilities. NHSD reopened the HAP application period for rental assistance on February 1st. NHSD's outreach included sharing bilingual information with community-based organizations, stakeholders, and the public. NHSD also participated in outreach events in coordination with Districts 1, 2, and 5 to assist residents with submitting their applications. NHSD received approximately 6,000 online applications and staff anticipates fully funding all eligible applications in the queue. While the rental assistance portal closed on Thursday, February 16th, the Relocation Assistance and Eviction Intervention programs continue to be available for families in need of supportive services.

## **c. Housing Production Program Update**

NHSD received 3,580 applications for Home Rehab programs, exhibiting a 203% increase compared to FY 2022. Staff is in the process of selecting applicants to fill all 640 major and minor rehab/roof slots utilizing the revised Equity Scoring Matrix prioritizing seniors, families with disabilities and homes located in areas with higher combined equity scores. The online application included automating scoring up to 70 pts and the remaining points (up to 30) is scored based on a family's income. The briefing will provide a thorough understanding of applicants' home location and equity score areas, length of homeownership and how the home was acquired, AMI for top scoring applications, number of apps by Council District and number of families with disabilities.

## **d. SHIP Event Recap**

The SHIP Event was called Housing Affordability in San Antonio: Resources + Community Conversations and hosted by NHSD, Opportunity Home, San Antonio Housing Trust (SAHT), and Bexar County. The event was held on January 28, 2023, and had over 250 attendees, including U.S. Congressman Joaquin Castro, Mayor Ron Nirenberg, NHSD's Director Veronica Garcia, and Housing Commission Chair Shirley Gonzales. The event was a part of the Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) strategy to meaningfully engage with the community regarding progress of SHIP's implementation and took place at Tafolla Middle School in District 5. Event highlights included open panel discussions, numerous Housing Commissioner meet and greets, well attended workshops, 30 resource tables, and 150 Foodbank produce bags distributed.

## **e. Upcoming Meetings**

The next regular meeting of the Housing Commission will be held on March 22, 2023. Other important upcoming meetings may include:

- 3/2: Renters' Solutions Subcommittee Meeting
- 3/6: Public Engagement & Outreach Subcommittee
- 3/21: Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Subcommittee
- April: Dashboard & Annual Report Subcommittee

## **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.