



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: April 26, 2023

In Control: San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

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 Update; (c) Housing Base Launch; (d) upcoming meetings.

ISSUE:

a. Property Tax Help Campaign (PTHC)

The City's Property Tax Help Campaign helps homeowners file for homestead exemptions and

learn about how to protest their property tax valuations. NHSD partnered with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA) and San Antonio Legal Services Association (SALSA) to help facilitate and provide free legal services to homeowners seeking assistance. Other resources, including the Bexar County Tax Assessor, are available.

The Campaign features 14 public sessions throughout the City with onsite American Sign Language and Spanish interpretation services. One of the sessions was held entirely in Spanish. In addition, residents may access information online at their convenience at <https://www.sanantonio.gov/NHSD/Programs/TaxProtest>.

Staff will provide an update on the Campaign progress through April 24th. As of the Commission's meeting date, two sessions will remain:

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.

Tool Yard (Northeast Service Center), 10303 Tool Yard, Building 1, 78284

b. Housing Assistance Program

The Housing Assistance Program (HAP) offers temporary rental and utility assistance to help ensure housing stability through times of crisis. Since October 1, 2022, the City has awarded \$5.7 million to 2,136 eligible families. While the demand for housing stability services remains high, the City leverages funds from a variety of state, federal and local sources including a new Treasury reallocation of \$5.2 million to be utilized for HAP's rental assistance program. The City will reopen the rental assistance application period on May 15th to continue to provide assistance for low-income families seeking rent relief.

c. Housing Base Launch

Housing Base, the City's affordable housing locator tool, went live to the public on April 10th. This tool helps households in need of income-restricted housing find a location that fits their budget and lifestyle needs. The site has had over 500 hits a day since launch and can be visited at housingbasesanantonio.com (hyperlink)

d. Upcoming Meetings

A special meeting of the Housing Commission will be held on May 10, 2023. The next regular meeting of the Housing Commission will be held on May 24, 2023. Other important upcoming meetings may include:

4/27: Planning & Community Development Committee

5/1: Public Engagement & Outreach Subcommittee

5/4: City Council – Anticipated consideration of Tenants' Rights Awareness Campaign item

5/4: Renters' Solutions Subcommittee Meeting

5/16: Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Development & Preservation Subcommittee

7/21: 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.