



Department Source: Community Development - CDBG/Home

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 3, 2019

Re: Consideration of the Findings and Recommendations from the Fair Housing Task Force Related to an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) for FY 2020-2024

Executive Summary

City Council approved a resolution setting a public hearing for consideration of the findings and recommendations from the Fair Housing Task Force Related to the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) at the Council's June 3, 2019 meeting. Staff has prepared a resolution to consider the Fair Housing Task Force (FHTF) Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and related findings and recommendations of the FHTF. The Task Force approved the final version of the report and resolution at its April 22, 2019 meeting with the understanding the City staff would be conducting a final review for form.

Discussion

The City of Columbia is classified by HUD as an Entitlement Community and Participating Jurisdiction due to its population and demographics, therefore, it receives an annual formula based allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funding. Entitlement Communities are mandated by HUD to meet federal requirements to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing (AFFH). As provided in the rule, AFFH means "taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunity, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. These requirements are met by completing HUD's required Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI).

The Fair Housing Task Force identified the following impediments to fair housing choice to help inform the development of the City of Columbia's FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan as follows:

1. A lack of safe, healthy and affordable housing for households below 80% of the area median income.
2. A lack of safe, healthy and affordable housing distributed across all regions of Columbia.
3. A lack of accessible affordable housing for persons with a disability and the elderly.
4. Increasing costs of land, labor and materials to construct affordable housing.
5. Neighborhood resistance to the siting of new affordable housing.



- 6. Lack of public transportation capacity to meet growing needs in areas to the north and northeast.
- 7. Lack of options to meet the growing need of homeless populations, and chronically homeless in particular.

A draft resolution formulated by the Fair Housing Task Force and comprehensive final report is attached. Results of the report and analysis will assist the City in meeting its federal requirements to affirmatively further fair housing, inform funding decisions for the FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and assist in formulating other policy considerations. The Community Development Commission reviewed the report at its May 8, 2019 meeting.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None.
 Long-Term Impact: None.

Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Social Equity, Secondary Impact: Infrastructure, Tertiary Impact: Economy

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities,

Legislative History

Date	Action
2/19/2018	City Council approved the formation of the Fair Housing Task Force.
5/21/2018	City Council appointed members of the Fair Housing Task Force.
7/16/2018	City Council appointed an additional Fair Housing Task Force Member.

Suggested Council Action

Consideration of the Fair Housing Task Force Resolution and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) for FY 2020-2024.