



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

Office of the City Manager

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Kurt D. Hodgen
City Manager

TO: Kurt Hodgen, City Manager
FROM: Kristin McCombe, Grant Compliance Officer
DATE: July 28, 2016
RE: Assessment of Fair Housing Public Hearing

Summary: The primary purpose of this JOINT Public Hearing is to present the draft AFH to City Council and the HRHA Board of Commissioners, including the goals to address any impediments to fair housing that were uncovered, and open the public display period.

Background: The Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) is a legal requirement that both the City and HRHA must complete in order to continue receiving federal housing and community development funding from the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). Specifically, the AFH is an analysis undertaken pursuant to 24 CFR Part 5.154 that includes an analysis of fair housing data, an assessment of fair housing issues and contributing factors, and an identification of fair housing priorities and goals specific to Harrisonburg. Examples of fair housing issues include regional demographics, segregation, racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, access to opportunity, disproportionate housing need, publicly supported housing, access to persons with disabilities, and fair housing enforcement and outreach capacity.

Key Issues: This document will inform the creation of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. The CDBG will be required to fulfill the goals set forth in the AFH document.

Environmental Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: Some of the AFH's goals for the city and HRHA could result in shifts in CDBG allocation spending. The AFH also proposes actions to address fair housing that may result in incentivizing housing development projects that include fair housing units.

Prior Actions:

- From June 8-10, city staff and M&L conducted a series of stakeholder interviews to learn about fair housing issues facing the city.
- A Public Hearing was held on June 9th. There was no attendance at this meeting.
- An online survey was posted on the City's website through July 4th to solicit input from citizens and stakeholders.

RE:

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Alternatives: (a) Open 45 day Public Comment Period; or
(b) Do not open 45 day Public Comment Period

Community Engagement: See *Prior Actions* above.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that Council open the 45 day Public Comment Period.

Attachments: DNR Display Notice
2016 Assessment of Fair Housing

Review:

The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

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