


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-536	Meeting:	December 4, 2023
	Agenda Item:	16	Roll Call:	23-1690
	Submitted by:	Chris Johansen, Neighborhood Services Department Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Resolution approving 28E Agreement between the City of West Des Moines, Polk County, Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency (DMMHA), and City of Des Moines for the Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing.

SYNOPSIS:

Every five (5) years, the City of Des Moines reviews fair housing issues and creates a strategy to address those issues as part of the requirements for receiving entitlement grant funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The AI is the document that dives into those fair housing concerns and outlines the affirmatively furthering fair housing strategy the City will implement now through December 31, 2029.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- As outlined in the Federal Register dated July 16, 2015, and 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 5, HUD program participants are required to affirmatively further the purposes and policies of the Fair Housing Act, which is title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, in their local planning processes.
- City of Des Moines staff are working collaboratively with the City of West Des Moines, Polk County, and DMMHA to create a fair housing strategy that can be adopted by all program participants. These entities were selected because all receive or intend to receive direct funding from HUD within the Community Based Statistical Area (CBSA), which includes the six (6) counties of Dallas, Guthrie, Jasper, Madison, Polk, and Warren.
- Affirmatively furthering fair housing 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 or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws.

- The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all of a program participant's activities and programs relating to housing and urban development.
- A Steering Committee consisting of stakeholders across the metropolitan area will also give staff feedback on the public participation, data, goals, and implantation of the fair housing strategy as it is developed over the next nine (9) months.
- The Steering Committee consists of representatives from Polk County Housing Trust Fund; Mid-Iowa Health Foundation; United Way; Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); Evelyn K. Davis Center; Des Moines Area Regional Transit (DART); City of Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Commission; City of West Des Moines Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and Iowa State University Extension Office.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

In fall of 2024, City Council will set and hold a public hearing to receive and file the plan.

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