



**REGIONAL AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, May 18<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**The Regional Affordability Committee convened in a regular meeting on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in the Boards and Commissions Room at City Hall, 301 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.**

**Vice Chair Paul Saldaña called the Committee Meeting to order at 3:10pm.**

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Paul Saldaña (Vice Chair) - Austin Independent School District, Council Member Ann Kitchen, Council Member Ellen Troxclair, Margaret Gómez - Travis County Commissioners Court, Brigid Shea - Travis County Commissioners Court, Allen Kaplan - Austin Community College Board of Trustees, Terry Mitchell - Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors, Dr. Edmund T. Gordon - Austin Independent School District, Darla Wegner - Del Valle Independent School District, Lisa Mallory - Leander Independent School District, Charles Chadwell - Round Rock Independent School District, Dr. Thomas Coopwood- Central Health Board of Directors

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Travis County Commissioner Margaret Gómez made the motion to approve the minutes from the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Del Valle Trustee Darla Wegner. Passed unanimously.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

2. Bill Oakey, author of the blog [Austinaffordability.com](http://Austinaffordability.com), passed out a document highlighting his proposals for a strategic action plan on affordability to address the needs of the community and the rising cost of housing. He discussed the information in this document, including a data collection effort to find the impact of taxes and fees on houses by zip code, as well as a taxpayer impact statement for each taxing entity. David King, Zilker neighborhood resident, expressed his support for the formation of the committee. He further discussed the need to target low income and moderate income families with policies that will allow them to stay in their homes, as well as using the land development code as a tool to tackle affordability.

**STAFF BRIEFING**

3. **Presentation by HousingWorks on the state of housing within the City of Austin and future focus studies for the surrounding areas.**  
Mandy DeMayo, Executive Director of HousingWorks, presented on issues and trends currently facing the City of Austin, as well as discussing the current state of housing within the City of

Austin and potential for future focus studies for surrounding areas. Mandy DeMayo, Executive Director of HousingWorks, then answered questions from committee members.

**4. Presentation on the property appraisal process and status of residential and commercial protests.**

Mayra Crigler, Chief Appraiser for the Travis Central Appraisal District, provided information on what the appraisal district does, its responsibilities, and its role in the property tax burden. Chief Appraiser Crigler answered questions from the committee following her presentation.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**5. Discussion of committee strategic plan for the year.**

Committee Members discussed potential ideas for inclusion into the strategic plan for the upcoming year, including an appraisal value for apartment complexes before and after protesting, a list of surplus property owned by each taxing entity, and the status of interlocal agreements between all taxing entities.

**6. Discussion of subcommittees of the Regional Affordability Committee.**

Committee members discussed subcommittees and working groups that would report to the full committee and would be appointed based on each member's interests. Members committed to providing a list of principles to guide the Committee to consider at the next meeting.

**FUTURE ITEMS**

**7. Discussion of future agenda items.**

The Committee members proposed discussion of the strategic plan and a taxpayer impact statement in June, and zoning regulations and land use policies associated with housing issues and budget impacts in August.

**ADJOURN**

**Vice Chair Paul Saldaña adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m. without objection.**