



City of Austin

MEMO

Neighborhood Housing and Community Development

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Date: July 28, 2016

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: Letitia Brown, Acting Assistant Director

Subject: City of Austin's Fiscal Year 2016-17 Action Plan

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the City of Austin's Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Action Plan and Community Development Program. Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office (NHCD) will request City Council approval of the document on August 4, 2016.

About the Action Plan

The Action Plan serves as the City of Austin's application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for four federal formula grants. These include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). The Action Plan describes the community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities that these dollars will fund with regards to housing, community and economic development, and public services.

The City of Austin anticipates receiving approximately \$11.5 million from HUD to be spent in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 to address the needs of Austin's low to moderate-income families. Each year, the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office seeks the community's input to help drive investment decisions about these funds that can help address the community's needs related to housing and community development activities.

The Action Plan is due to HUD no later than August 15, 2016, in order for the City of Austin to receive the funds.

Citizen Participation

The outreach strategy for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Action Plan was responsive to the City of Austin's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), which describes expectations for encouraging public participation in the development of federal reports. It was developed in parallel with the Austin Strategic Housing Plan, and was informed by the same rich engagement process. Outreach methods and responses are summarized below.¹

- 8 Boards and Commissions Consulted

¹ Note: Attachment 1 of the FY 2016-17 Action Plan features copies of all written comments received.

- African American Resource Advisory Commission
- Asian American Quality of Life Commission
- Commission on Immigrant Affairs
- Commission on Seniors
- Community Development Commission
- Early Childhood Council
- Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Commission
- Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities
- **22** Community Meetings, at least one in each City Council District
 - **314** attendees
- Public Hearings: **4**
 - Austin City Council on April 21, 2016, and June 23, 2016
 - Community Development Commission on April 12, 2016, and June 14, 2016
- **1,572** Survey Responses - English and Spanish versions, online and paper formats
- **11,000+** Website Views of www.austintexas.gov/housingplan
- Hardcopy Distribution of the draft document posted at **10** community centers
- Notification in Austin Energy utility bill inserts
- Letters / Statements from Citizens or Organizations: **14**

Households Served in Fiscal Year 2014-15

In Fiscal Year 2014-15, NHCD served approximately 1,659 households with CDBG and/or HOME funds. Among households served, 60 percent were extremely low-income, 25 percent were low income, and 15 percent were moderate-income.² These percentages reflect deliberate strides made by the City of Austin to direct federal and local dollars toward services benefiting extremely low-income residents.

The Action Plan is publicly available as backup for the August 4, 2016, Austin City Council Meeting, here: <https://austintexas.gov/departments/city-council/council-meetings>.

For more information regarding the Action Plan, please contact me at (512) 974-3182 or Erica Leak, Housing Planning & Policy Manager, at (512) 974-9375.

Cc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
 Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager
 Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer

² Source: City of Austin Fiscal Year 2014-15 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report