



**REGIONAL AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2015**

The Regional Affordability Committee convened in a regular meeting on Monday, August 17, 2015 in the Boards and Commissions Room at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Delia Garza called the Committee Meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

Committee Members in Attendance: Council Member Delia Garza, (Chair) – City of Austin, Paul Saldaña (Vice Chair) - Austin Independent School District, Council Member Ann Kitchen, 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, Charles Chadwell - Round Rock ISD.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes approved on Chair Garza' motion, seconded by Commissioner Shea. Approved unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

2. None.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

3. **Presentation and discussion of affordable housing opportunities and public-private partnerships.**

Mandy De Mayo, Executive Director of HousingWorks Austin, Ward Tisdale, President of the Real Estate Council of Austin, and Terry Mitchell, President of Momark Development and Regional Affordability Committee Member, presented on affordable housing and solutions, including a program called Home Base, which builds and sells affordable housing units for lower income residents. The presenters discussed the new approach to affordable housing, looking at the issue from a holistic perspective, as well as talked about case studies related to affordable housing. The team also proposed several recommendations for a regional approach to affordable housing from the American Planning Association. Committee members discussed the presentation, its impacts, and the Austin- and Texas-specific challenges facing a comprehensive approach to affordable housing. Ms. De Mayo, Mr. Tisdale, and Mr. Mitchell then answered questions from Committee Members.

4. Presentation on the status of affordable housing projects in and around the City of Austin and discussion on potential interlocal agreements and use of public land for affordable housing

Betsy Spencer, Director of Austin Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, presented an overview of their department and the Austin Housing Finance Corporation, and the different types of programs the department administers and/or subcontracts. Ms. Spencer also discussed the regulations and legal requirements the department operates under. Ms. Spencer then provided a high level overview of the Housing Bond expenditures from the recent bond elections, including a status of the projects and potential future project expansions. Ms. Spencer then answered questions from Committee Members

FUTURE ITEMS

5. Discussion of future agenda items.

Chair Garza brought up Interlocal agreements, including definitions and examples, as a potential future topic, with AISD and the County leading. The Committee discussed inviting the Joint Subcommittee to present at the next meeting. Committee Member Shea discussed an update on the HOPE housing model, while Committee Member Kitchen brought up discussion of the strategic plan for the Committee. Committee Member Troxclair mentioned the newly-created Taxpayer Impact Statement and the idea of expanding it to include other entities in the region.

ADJOURN

Chair Garza adjourned the meeting at 5:23 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 21 day of September 2015 on Commissioner Gomez's motion, Trustee Wegner's second on a 12-0 vote.