REGIONAL AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE   REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES   MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

The Regional Affordability Committee convened in a regular meeting on Monday, September 21, 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 3:05 p.m.

Committee Members in Attendance: Delia Garza (Chair) - City of Austin, Paul Saldaña (Vice Chair) - Austin Independent School District, Ann Kitchen - City of Austin, Ellen Troxclair - City of Austin, Margaret Goméz - Travis County Commissioners Court, Darla Wegner – Del Valle Independent School Distrcit, Allen Kaplan - Austin Community College Board of Trustees, Dr. Thomas Coopwood- Central Health Board of Managers, Charles Chadwell- Round Rock Independent School District

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
1. Minutes approved on Chair Garza's motion, approved unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL
2. None.

STAFF BRIEFINGS
3. **Presentation and discussion on Interlocal agreements between participating taxing entities regarding programs and services provided across jurisdictions.**
   Mel Wexler, General Counsel for AISD, presented on Interlocal agreements. Mr. Wexler noted the fluid nature of this document, and provided a high level overview of the AISD Interlocal program. Mr. Wexler passed out a packet of information for the committee members to review, and answered questions from committee members.

4. **Presentation by Conversation Corps on the outcomes of the July Conversation Corps meeting on housing affordability.**
   Larry Schooler, Community Engagement Division Manager, City of Austin, presented on the Conversation Corps mission and goals, including an overview of the program and the work plan for the upcoming months. Julie Smith, Leadership Austin, presented on the outcomes from the July Conversation Corps meeting on housing affordability, including the high level themes that

resulted from the discussion. Mr. Schooler and Ms. Smith then answered questions from the committee members.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

5. **Discussion on the development of the Committee's Strategic Plan.**

Chair Garza initiated the discussion on the Committee's strategic plan, including the use of underutilized land and how to address gentrification before it happens. Chair Garza passed around a study done by UCLA-Berkley, an early warning toolkit to help with gentrification (FIX). Commissioner Gomez mentioned the recently held East Austin (Travis County Expo) discussion. Chair Garza and Councilmember Kitchen agreed to move forward with crafting the strategic plan. Councilmember Kitchen discussed affordable housing as an important component of the strategic plan. Chair Garza suggested each committee member go back to their respective boards with an update on the strategic plan. Vice Chair Saldana discussed the work of the Joint Subcommittee's meeting the previous week and how it may fit within the Regional Affordability Committee's strategic plan. Commissioner Kaplan discussed student debt and the rising cost of education as another impact to affordability.

6. **Discussion on the taxpayer impact statement, including strategies for incorporating other participating taxing entities.**

Councilmember Troxclair introduced the taxpayer impact statement, and passed out a draft of the statement and the resolution establishing its creation. Committee members then discussed the taxpayer impact statement. Motion made by Councilmember Troxclair, seconded by Dr. Coopwood, to draft a letter in support of all the different taxing entities creating their own taxpayer impact statement. The motion was passed unanimously.

FUTURE ITEMS

1. **Discussion of future agenda items.**

The Committee members discussed having presentations by different taxing entities on their budgeting process and where they ended up for this past fiscal year. Chair Garza also mentioned having a presentation on the findings from the Spirit of East Austin meeting at a future council date.

ADJOURN

Chair Garza adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m. without objection.