

ACTION PLAN 2016-2017

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The easiest action for City Council to take is to adopt the draft Action Plan for use of federal dollars in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 prepared by City staff. I am suggesting that Council consider adding the following language to the plan:

1. Once again federal funds will not be used to eliminate the waiting list for home repairs for very low income homeowners, despite Austin's embracing of Homestead Preservation Districts allowable by state law in Texas. This topic will be considered during 2016-2017 budget deliberations.
2. Once again federal funds will not be used to significantly increase the supply of S.M.A.R.T. Housing for low and moderate income homeowners at a production level that would allow homeowners who are part of flood plain buyout programs to remain or return to Austin if they chose to do so. This topic will be considered during 2016-2017 budget deliberations.
3. Austin is considering a draft Housing Plan establishing housing goals and possible actions for the next 10 years. Some object to the proposal to include market rate housing production along with affordable housing production in the 10 year plan. Federal funds cannot align with Housing Plan goals until a decision on goals is completed.
4. Austin is considering a new Fair Housing Initiative that may include a nexus study on inclusionary zoning in homestead preservation districts; housing impact fees; and density bonuses. Federal funds cannot align with fair housing goals and strategies until actions on the Fair Housing Initiative are completed