

# REGIONAL AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019

The Regional Affordability Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 in the Boards and Commissions Room at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Garza called the Committee Meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Delia Garza (Chair) - City of Austin

Dr. Nora Comstock- ACC Board of Trustees

Sherri Greenberg- Central Health

Terry Cook – Williamson County

Jeff Travillion – Travis County

Jayme Mathias – Austin ISD

Jim MacKay—Leander ISD

Brigid Shea – Travis County

Paige Ellis – City of Austin

Terry Mitchell – Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the May 22, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously 10-0 on a motion by Member Greenberg, seconded by Member Travillion.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL None.

## DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

3. Strategic Initiative 1- Affordable and Attainable Housing: Briefing, discussion, and possible action on the Best Single Source Plus Program

Kirsty Robertson, CEO of Caritas of Austin discussed their Best Single Source Plus Program and the assistance it offers to the community. Robertson noted that the Program revolves around the client and the resources are provided internal to the program rather than externally. This Program has been proven to work better for the client and the service providers. Currently, 12 of Austin's non-profits are members of the Best Single Source Plus Program and any potential new client could approach any of the 12 partnering organizations to be partnered with landlords who work with clients in need. The single solitary goal is to have the clients be stable in housing before all other needs. Chair Garza emphasized the importance of investing in these types of programs due to the positive life changing effects they create for the public. The Commissioners requested additional information about the landlord outreach resources available within the Best Single Source Plus Program.

- 4. Strategic Initiative 1 Affordable and Attainable Housing: Discussion and possible action on the Austin Tenant's Council recommendations on helping with evictions in Central Texas A list of policy recommendations was previously provided to the Commissioners by the Austin Tenant's Council. Chair Garza requested that the Commissioners take the list back to County staff for input. Commissioner Shea will provide feedback after the next Travis County Commissioners Court meeting.
- 5. Strategic Initiative 3- Government Efficiency: Discussion and possible action on updates to the Regional Affordability Committee Strategic Plan The Commissioners discussed potential areas of change in the plan. Chair Garza's staff plans on working to update areas of the plan where processes have changed. Chair Garza suggested spending time at a Committee work session to identify which areas have been addressed and which still need attention. Commissioner Greenberg requested a list of items that still need updates.

## **FUTURE ITEMS**

- 8. Identify items to discuss as future meetings
  - Updates to the Regional Affordability Committee Strategic Plan
  - Budgeting cap recommendations (in preparation for 2020 bond)
  - Presentation by Central Health regarding budget and funding
  - Update from City of Austin, Travis County and the Austin ISD Joint Subcommittee about AISD property utilization for affordable housing
  - Update from NHCD on bonds, criteria, and resources, and the affordable housing data portal along with HACA

## **ADJOURN**

Chair Garza adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m. without objection.