

Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) Transcript – 10/27/2022

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[10:43:16 AM]

thing that many cities cannot do. And these pieces are vital to continuing that piece. And I'll close by saying environment versus economy is a false dichotomy. We preserved Barton springs. You preserved Barton springs and look what it has done for us.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> This is another opportunity for another generation of that kind of forward thinking infrastructure. Thank you for your time.

>> Mayor, the last speaker that we have in the queue is wanting to speak on the Austin housing finance corporation.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Let's go ahead right now at 10:43 and recess the Austin city council meeting. Let's go ahead and convene the Austin housing finance corporation meeting here today on October 27th, 2022. We have a quorum of the directors present. We are in the city council chambers here at city hall. We're convening for the purpose

[10:44:16 AM]

this morning of calling for speakers. I think we had one sign up. Would you call that speaker?

>> We have one remote and we do have a couple in person, I believe.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. We'll call those too, here, in just a second.

>> Okay. The first remote speaker, Tracy fine for item 2.

>> Hi. This is Tracy fine. I'm a senior director of housing at national church residences. I am working on Arbors at creekside and I'm available for questions. I really appreciate support for the renovation and preservation of this project. I'm available for questions if needed.

>> Thank you. Let me switch to in-person real quick.

[10:45:17 AM]

Brian Cooke, followed by Jan Letral. Brian Cooke, are you here? Jan Letral. Okay. Followed by Jan will be Joyce McGee.

>> Thank you, everyone, for your patience. Hello, I'm Jeannie, I've lived at Arbors at creekside since 2015 and I'm a member of the Arbors residence association. I support the bonds because Arbors was built 20 years ago and has not been maintained.

[10:46:19 AM]

It is substandard housing and no money has been invested except what the city has done since they took over. These bonds are really important because the complex needs a major overhaul. Many of us are living with air conditioning and electrical problems, elevators going out and serious security issues. The roofs leak and there's mold everywhere. We're seniors who have worked hard all our lives. Now we are left to scrape by and live in conditions that no one should have to endure. I'm thankful for the investments the city has made so far, but the bonds are really needed so that we can stop patching and start repairing things and making Arbors into a happy home again. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you.

>> Joyce McGee, and then will be Gus Peña.

[10:47:27 AM]

>> Hello. My name is Joyce McGee. I live at Arbors at creekside, a member of the Arbors residents association. I support the passing of the bond for rehab and improvement of our complex. The units, repairs, security, elevators, lighting, interior doors, flooring, and make units more healthy to live in. Make our lives more comfortable. Thank you. God bless, and have a blessed day.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you.

>> Mayor. May I?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

>> I just wanted to tell y'all thank you for coming down today. I think the timing for the Arbors at creekside residence is serendipitous as we have an item that talks about residents organizing. I don't know if y'all remember one of the first calls I got when I took office was from the residents at primrose. They told me to come to the neighborhood association meeting. They had some things they wanted to show me and tell me. And so to sort of fast forward four years, I'm really very

[10:48:28 AM]

proud to see that the time and the effort that a group of people who described themselves as seniors on fixed incomes but who would not accept less than what they deserve -- I remember that distinctly. It made me proud to be in the room. I really, really am just grateful that we have arrived at this place. And I want to congratulate you for your fierce advocacy for yourselves and for your neighbors. Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Mr. Peña, you have one minute.

>> Yes, good morning to everybody. Gus Peña on number 20. The evictions, work with the community on that, because there's too many evictions going on. Number 23, approve an ordinance amending city code 414 related to notices of proposed eviction. You can't have that. Number 31, authorize the execution with sunrise church to provides street outreach

[10:49:29 AM]

services.

>> Mayor Adler: I want to make sure that you're speaking at the right time.

>> Oh, okay.

>> Mayor Adler: This is comments on the Austin housing finance corporation agenda right now, which just has two items. I'll call you in just a moment -- I don't want it to be lost.

>> That's okay. I won't be lost.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. We'll get to you in a moment. Do we have any other speakers that are signed up for Austin housing finance corporation? The two items on the agenda are to have a public hearing. Anybody else signed up to speak?

>> I have a Debbie Kaiser and that's the last one.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. And then we'll see if we can close out this meeting.

>> Hi. I'm the founder and CEO of imagine art. And I just want to thank you all for your support for the live meg apartment project and I'm here today if you have any

[10:50:30 AM]

questions on that project.

>> Mayor Adler: Great. Thank you. Anyone else signed up to speak?

>> That's all we had registered.

>> Mayor Adler: I'm sorry? Is anybody else here wishing to speak O the Austin housing finance corporation agenda items? Hearing none, I think staff, we just closed those public hearings. And then that's the only items we have for action today, is that correct?

>> Mandy Demayo, Austin housing finance corporation, you have three items on your agenda. One is approving the meeting minutes for the September 29th board meeting and the two public hearings, which you can close out. And I'm happy to lay out those two items for your approval.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. The consent agenda consists of all three items. We've had the hearings, so we would be closing the public hearing for today. And we would be approving the minutes. Is there a motion to approve the consent agenda? Mayor pro tem -- director alter

[10:51:30 AM]

makes the motion, director Ellis seconds that motion. Any discussion on the consent agenda? Is there anything that you need to lay out for the record before we take a vote?

>> No. I want to profusely thank the residents of Arbors at creekside who have exhibited enormous patience and grace as we have worked through getting this project to fruition. We're really excited about the renovations that are going to take place and the improvements in the community, and I am confident that it is going to be a showcase community for senior housing in the city of Austin. We're thrilled to be partnering with ncr, a national nonprofit organization that focuses on senior housing. I think it's just going to be a great partnership and good things to come. So, thank you to the residents. Thank you to Basta for really working closely with the residents and with us as we go through this.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. All three items have been moved and seconded. Councilmember Renteria?

[10:52:30 AM]

>> Renteria: I really want to thank the staff for the development there on Tillery street, the housing. We have worked on this issue for years. Even when I was on the community development commission we had discussion about this piece of property. And it sat there vacant for too many years, so I want to thank the staff for bringing it and finally getting this done.

>> Thank you. I didn't mean to exclude the housing. We're super excited about it. That was a solicitation that ahfc put out a couple of years ago. We are excited that that is coming to fruition. That's going to be 66 units of housing, including housing for artists. It's going to be fantastic.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Director Kelly.

>> Thank you. I will be voting no on item 3 on the ahfc agenda.

>> Mayor Adler: So noted. Anything else before we vote on the consent agenda? Let's take a vote. Those in favor, please raise your hand. Those opposed? It's unanimous, directors, with

[10:53:30 AM]

the notation made, and director vela off the dais. Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, councilmember.

>> I missed the earlier opportunity to do this, but I wanted to thank all of those, our staff and the many residents through the years of primrose who have advocated for a better solution there for their families before, when we were the at large council, I also worked with renters in that facility. It was so long overdue. I just appreciate so very much the community members who have continued to advocate for themselves and their neighbors.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. With that, then, at 10:54, this meeting of the Austin housing finance corporation is adjourned. Thank you very much for your participation.