



HOUSING
DEPARTMENT

PRO Housing

Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing

HUD Grant Application

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Grant Background

The HUD Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) funding opportunity will provide \$85 million in funding for communities across the country to identify and remove barriers to affordable housing production and preservation. Congress has directed HUD to undertake a competition using the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) statutory and regulatory framework.

Eligible applicants include local and state governments, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and multijurisdictional entities. *Note priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate a commitment to and progress toward overcoming local barriers to affordable housing and have an acute demand for affordable housing (Austin qualifies as a priority geography).

Minimum Grant Size: \$1 million

Maximum Grant Size: \$10 million

Grant Goals & Objectives

- Elevate and enable promising practices for identifying and removing barriers to affordable housing production and preservation, while preventing displacement .
- Institutionalize state and local analysis and implementation of effective, equitable, and resilient approaches to affordable housing production and preservation .
- Provide technical assistance to help communities fulfill the Consolidated Plan's requirement of identifying barriers to affordable housing and to implement solutions .
- Facilitate collaboration and harness innovative approaches from jurisdictions, researchers, advocates, and stakeholders to further the national conversation on affordable housing .
- Affirmatively further fair housing by addressing and removing barriers that perpetuate segregation, inhibit access to areas of opportunity for protected class groups and vulnerable populations, and concentrate affordable housing in underresourced areas .



Proposed Activities

Current Challenges

Opportunities

Update Austin's Strategic Housing Blueprint

Reconfigure Austin's Density Bonus Incentive Programs, including SMART Housing Program

Research and Deploy Opportunity Mapping

Update Austin's Affordable Housing Online Search Tool (AHOST)

Partner with Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) to provide financing

Magnitude, Identifying the City's Sphere of Influence, and Actionable Strategies

Number of Conflicting Programs, Calibration, and Administration

Keeping Data Current, and Capturing Nuance of Opportunity

Static Tool, Quarterly Updates, and Data Limitations

Lack of capital for small and/or marginalized developers, and Lack of accessible funding for acquisition

Update Goals, and Align with Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan

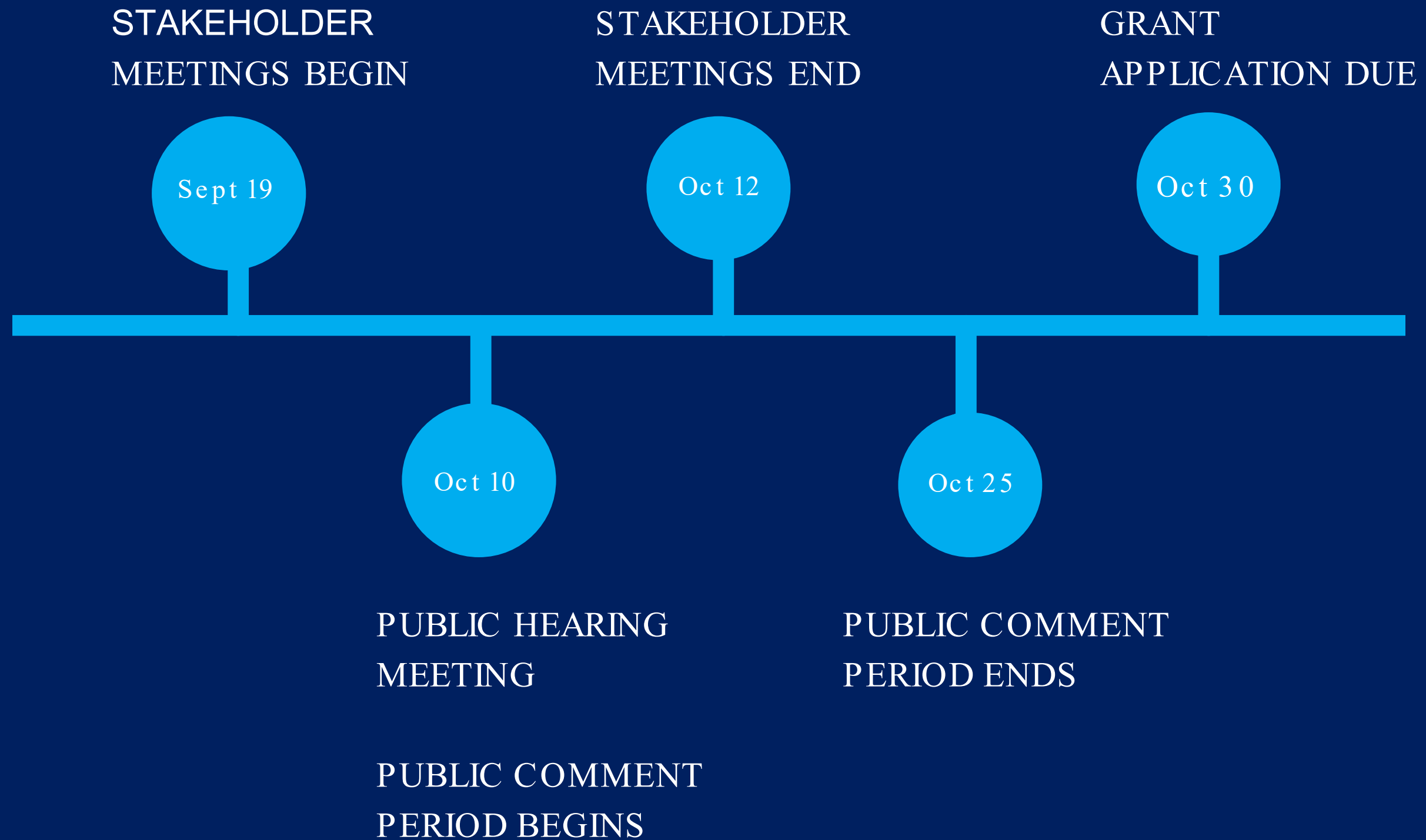
Alignment, Simplicity, and Income-Restricted Units in High Opportunity Areas

VISTA Research on Best Practices, and Utilization throughout Department

Improved Interface, Vacancy Tracking, Online Applications, and Peer City Examples

Diversification of development community, Additional small scale, infill development, Partnership with local CDFI, and Capacity building

Grant Timeline





Public Hearing Meeting

This meeting will be held at the Austin Community Development Commission Meeting

Date: Tuesday October 10, 2023

Time: 6:30pm

Location: City Hall, Board and Commission Room 1101
301 W. 2nd St., Austin, TX 78701

<https://speakupaustin.org/PROHousingGrant>



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Questions?