

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 7/14/04
Department Name: HCD
Department No.: 550
Agenda Date: 7/27/04
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ed Moses, Director
Housing Community Development Department

STAFF CONTACT: Patricia Gabel, Housing Finance Program Manager
Ext. 3522

SUBJECT: Housing Advisory Committee Activity Report

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Receive a report of six months of Housing Advisory Committee (HAC) activity.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendations are primarily aligned with Goal No. 5. Quality of Life: A high quality of life for all residents, and Goal No. 7. Families and Children: A community that fosters the safety and well-being of families and children.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

The Housing Advisory Committee has begun its challenge to advise the Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) on its formation of housing policies in a manner that respects local decision making while allowing the County to accomplish its goals in making provisions for attainable housing for every economic strata throughout the county.

Background

On July 15, 2003, the Board of Supervisors adopted the HCD Mission and Vision Statements, conceptually approved HCD's request to form the HAC. On October 28, 2003 the Board of Supervisors approved and adopted the Housing Advisory Committee, Housing Advisory Committee By-laws, Code of Ethics, Organizational Structure, Origination Plan, and Implementation Time Line. The Board of Supervisors also reserved seats on the Steering Committee for a representative from each of the cities in Santa Barbara County and appointed Steering Committee and Subcommittee Members.

Between October 2003 and February 2004, an orientation was conducted for the HAC members, the Steering Committee and subcommittees elected officers to begin their work addressing various housing

issues/problems and the Board appointed the elected chairperson of each of the seven committees to the Steering Committee.

HAC Activity Report

The first recommended action on this Board letter asks that the Board of Supervisors receive the following report of the six months of Housing Advisory Committee activity completed since the February 2004 Board letter:

- The Homeownership Subcommittee and Homelessness Subcommittee and the Workforce, Multifamily, Farmworker, Special Needs, and Senior Housing Subcommittees continued to meet regularly to assess needs specific to their areas of emphasis and to identify issues for further study.
- The Steering Committee heard workplan and goal status reports from the Chairperson of each subcommittee on a rotating basis and responded with comments and direction.
- The Homeownership and Multifamily Housing Subcommittees developed housing policy recommendations and proposed them to the Steering Committee.
- The Steering Committee called Joint Meeting of the Housing Advisory Committee Steering Committee and Subcommittees to be held on June 7, 2004 in Solvang. Four focus groups representing a cross section of members from the Steering Committee and all subcommittees evaluated and recommended modifications to the proposed policy recommendations.
- The Steering Committee reviewed the modifications of the focus groups and developed a final draft of policy recommendations to present to HCD staff for research and follow-up. The Steering Committee also prepared Subcommittee workplan recommendations for the next six months.
- HCD staff evaluated and vetted the housing policy recommendations presented by the Steering Committee and scheduled HCD and Planning and Development follow – up presentations to the Steering Committee.
- The first HAC policy recommendations to the Board of Supervisors will follow in the next 60 days.

Mandates and Service Levels:

The HAC is not mandated. All positions within the HAC are volunteer positions.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There are no impacts to the General Fund. As required by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's: (I) HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME); 24CFR92.207(c) and (f), and (II) the State Community Development Block Grant Program (State CDBG) sponsored under Title 25 HCD, Division 1, Chapter 7 Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 7068; and HUD's 24CFR570.486(a) and (b), HCD has incorporated in its FY 04/05 budget monies to provide for citizens input and participation. These are the sources of funds designated to cover HAC related costs.

Special Instructions:

None