



CITY OF PITTSBURGH

Commission on Human Relations

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Pittsburgh (PA) - The City of Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations is urging members of the City's Planning Commission to consider its fair housing obligations as it makes deliberations related housing and land use developments. As a recipient of housing and community development funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the city has an obligation to affirmatively further fair housing, as is stated in the Fair Housing Act. All development plans with a housing component must take into account whether the housing will effectively be made available to members of protected classes, not only in theory, but intentionally.

In its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the city makes a number of fair housing recommendations, including; *increasing the supply of affordable, decent, safe, sound and accessible housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other special needs populations, and support and encourage both private developers and non-profit housing providers to develop plans for the construction of new, affordable, mixed income rental housing.*

Housing developments that perpetuate segregation or that effectively exclude members of protected classes cannot be found to create a favorable social impact. In order to consider favorable social impact, the city through its Planning Department, must require developers to provide information regarding the market characteristics/demands of people in protected classes as part of all development activities.

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