

For Immediate Release: April 10, 2018

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WHAT: 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act: Press conference, keynote address, panel

WHEN: April 11th from 11:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: August Wilson Center: 980 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222

WHO: Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations: City-County Fair Housing Task Force

WHY: To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act; to release a summary of draft recommendations to address barriers to fair housing in our communities; to learn more about the state of fair housing in Pittsburgh; and to invite the public to take part in an extensive community process throughout the City to gather feedback on fair housing recommendations and develop new recommendations based on community input.

Fifty years after the Fair Housing Act was enacted, the struggle to achieve fair and inclusive housing in our region continues. Decades of research have shown that persistent housing discrimination and segregation—on the basis of race, disability, sex and other protected characteristics—are at the root of inequalities that persist in our region today, in terms of access to good quality schools, job opportunities, public transportation, nutritious food, health care etc. On this 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations and the City-County Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Task Force invite the public to gather and celebrate the Fair Housing Act, to learn about the persistent state of housing segregation and discrimination in our region, to share your own experiences, ideas and expertise, and to learn more about ways that you can help to work for new policies and practices that will more vigorously affirm fair housing in all of our neighborhoods. On April 11th:

- At 11:45am, the Fair Housing Task Force will release summaries of its draft recommendations and announce the beginning of an extensive process to gather community feedback in five upcoming meetings spanning five different geographic locations around the City of Pittsburgh;
- At 12:00 pm doors at the August Wilson Center open to the public for lunch and viewing of gallery of images by Teenie Harris and other photo-documentarians of the struggle for fair housing in Pittsburgh, provided by the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh;
- 1:15 pm: Welcome by Director Torres and opening remarks by Mayor Peduto;
- 1:30-2:15 pm: keynote speaker Francis A. Pearman, Professor of urban education at the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Urban Education, will address the

interplay of poverty, race, geography, education, and opportunity in our current crisis of segregation by gentrification;

- 2:15-4:30 pm: panel discussion and then Q&A on the state of housing in Pittsburgh and how we can affirm fair housing: past, present and future, including George Moses, long time fair and affordable housing advocate; Esther Bush, Director of the Urban League; Barbara Delaney of HUD; and Charles Morrison, former Director of the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations;
- 4:30 pm: Closing remarks from Senator Bob Casey's office.