



SAN DIEGO CITY-COUNTY REINVESTMENT TASK FORCE



Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 15, 2018, 12:00 PM
County Administration Center
7th Floor Meeting Room
1600 Pacific Highway, Downtown San Diego

For information, contact Daisy Crompton, RTF Manager
 San Diego Housing Commission
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ATTENDANCE

Present: Antonio Barbosa Ricardo Flores Krista Torquato
 Barbara Bry Andrea Sorce Adolfo Ventura
 Chi Elder Cher Stingo Laura Nunn for Stephen Russell
 Rockette Ewell Adrian Granda for Supervisor Ron Roberts

Absent: Ron Roberts Kyra Greene Elizabeth Schott
 Rossina Gallegos Stephen Russell

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Barbara Bry called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

ITEM 2 PUBLIC COMMENT

David Oddo spoke about federal legislation that would curb the Community Reinvestment Act.

ITEM 3 TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS

There was no member comment.

ITEM 4 STAFF REPORT

- The Governor has released the list of census tracts that will qualify for **Opportunity Zone** status in San Diego County and throughout California. San Diego County's tracts are primarily in the City of San Diego and include the San Diego Promise Zone.
- A reminder, as announced last month, that the annual **San Diego Fair Housing Conference**, produced by the San Diego Regional Alliance for Fair Housing (SDRAFFH), the Housing Federation, and LISC, will be Friday, April 6 at the downtown library.

ITEM 5 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the November 16, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved on a motion by Chi Elder, seconded by Antonio Barbosa, and passed by a vote of 9-0.

ITEM 6 Action Item: Update to RTF Bylaws

The RTF did not have a supermajority present, and will reschedule the vote for a future date.

ITEM 7 Information Item: Housing Solutions for San Diego Police Department

San Diego Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry and City Councilmember Chris Cate presented their proposal for a financial assistance and home ownership program that could work to reduce police officer vacancies faced by the City of San Diego. The program would provide officers with assistance with purchasing homes in certain higher-need, CRA-eligible census tracts in the City of San Diego. The assistance would take the form of loans, made from a revolving loan fund, for down payments or closing costs, and officers would agree to remain with the San Diego force for a set period of time. The plan seeks to provide two benefits to San Diegans: improving officer recruitment and retention, and encouraging officers to live in City of San Diego neighborhoods instead of outside city limits.

The guest speakers sought feedback from the RTF on the idea, which is in its earliest stages. Members suggested that they look in great detail at the programs implemented by the other cities they've heard have tried it – administration, funding, eligibility, how cities were able to do it. Some members have contacts in those cities that they offered to share. Other discussion concerned income limits for the program and for CRA eligibility, CRA priorities, and potential sources of long-term, patient capital for these kinds of loans. Members agreed that it was a creative solution to an important issue.

ITEM 8 Information Item: Inner City Capital Connections Small Business Training Program

Staff briefed members on a new small business training and development program, supported by Kaiser Permanente and the Boston-based the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City, starting in San Diego in September. The program, Inner City Capital Connections-San Diego, provides educational seminars and webinars, one-on-one coaching, and access to capital providers for small businesses that are poised for expansion and job creation. The program also seeks to build the capacity of these companies to grow through access to business and government contracts. A kick-off meeting for organizations that will nominate potential participants will be held at the Jacobs Center on April 25. RTF members were asked to help spread the word and recruit nominators from their own and partner organizations.

ITEM 9 Discussion Item: Free Tax Prep Collective Action Project

Staff provided a summary of the free tax preparation and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) collective action project's activities through the first half of the tax season, which opened on January 29. With a focus on outreach and service to residents of affordable housing complexes owned by the Housing Commission and nonprofit partners, and recipients of Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8), a Free Tax Prep San Diego-branded campaign, logo and materials were created. Mailers, flyers and email were sent to Commission clients and residents, and distributed to RTF members and community partners for additional distribution. New tax preparation sites were opened at Westfield Mission Valley Mall, the Housing Commission, and four affordable housing properties in San Diego City and County. The Coalition held a campaign press conference on February 9th that included partners, elected officials, and Citi.

RTF discussion centered on activities for the remainder of the campaign, the use of tax prep volunteers, and the volume and patterns of tax prep client participation this year compared to other years.

ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chair Barbara Bry adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Daisy Crompton – Reinvestment Task Force Manager
San Diego Housing Commission