Session 1: Thursday, September 14th 4:15-5:15pm

Location: Carnegie

Session Title: Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

Organizer: Leah Hendey

Primary Notetaker: Kathy Pettit

Attending: April Urban, Mike Carnathan, Ashley Clark, Ryan Gerety, Nina Holzer

LINKS

Tom’s AFFH handout from San Antonio: <http://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/library/catalog/hud%E2%80%99s-new-affirmatively-furthering-fair-housing-affh-rule-implications>

AFFH resources: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/affh/resources/

Anticipated AFH Compliance Dates: <http://nlihc.org/issues/affh/afh_dates/> (not updated for the first round of grantees that chose to do regional plans)

AFFH e-mailing List: <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/sign-up-now-the-affirmatively-furthering-fair-housing-affh-mailing-list/>

Raw data: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources-zip/AFFH-Raw-Data.zip>

AFFH data tool: <https://egis.hud.gov/affht/>

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Leah gives an overview, talks about guide.

April – First suburbs just going to do this 1 week before

Ryan - NOLA published a draft of their plan - specific analysis, but very broad goals.

https://hano.org/home/agency\_plans/AFH%20DRAFT%20NOTICE%2008\_19\_2016.pdf

Atlanta – already thinking about pulling jurisdictions together.

April – this is a heavy lift to get this to a more meaningful effort.

Ryan – empowering community groups to participate in the conversation - to propose

Atlanta – they are working to organize the “tea parties” – there are a lot of folks that will derail what we want to talk about

April – In Cleveland, people say that housing is too cheap. Housing is too affordable.

Leah – But this is an opportunity to talk about things other than housing – access to opportunity. It is where people people can come to an agreement

April - you’ve read through it and I likely won’t – what should we let our groups know.

Leah - our guide is focused on community groups.  Telling organizations where to go - university centers, fair housing organizations, how to prioritize the data.

Mike C – it would be helpful to have guidance on what the regional component needs to have.  We could do that once - and then there wouldn’t be the need to re-do the work?

Ashley - is this looking for meaningful community engagement?  Does HUD have any guidelines on how to define this?

Ryan – Not just engagement, but accountability. We need to be loud about what’s not happening.

Ashley – is monitoring built into this? Anything to make sure it happens?

Leah – maybe this changes what you put into your consolidated plan.

April – is there any follow-up from the plans?

Leah – HUD needs to review them and “approve” the plans.

Ryan – HUD didn’t improve its capacity – it would be up to each community’s groups to hold their jurisdiction accountable. It could be a tool to pressure governments since there’s money attached to it.

Leah – we are doing a process evaluation in Philly and 2 around Long Beach.

KP – Difficult to ask fair housing orgs to think about crime, etc.

April – What does city department of community development? It could be a perfunctory exercise – or a great opportunity. Neighborhood Progress can organize CDCs to pressure the city.

Ashley – we don’t have any affordable housing advocacy group. There’s an advisory board. They’ve wiped out all the CDCs. The 2 affordable housing developers rely on funds from the city. Other organizations are not engaged.

KP - What is the advocacy infrastructure? That will determine what’s possible

April – please summarize what we should do.

Leah – HUD gave me this data, even though I know that’s not good enough.

April – that is less my worry. People know what’s available to them. But maybe this is an opportunity to advocate for better planning.

Nina – We’re getting all the CDBG funding cut. ½ goes to individual council people

April – I don’t speak HUD. The city might say that HUD is stupid and we don’t care.