

Fair Housing Assessment Protocol & Fair Housing Assessment Tool

## **Presentation Overview**



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# Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing



The <u>Fair Housing Act</u>, requires HUD and recipients of federal funds from HUD to affirmatively further the policies and purposes of the Fair Housing Act, also known as "affirmatively further fair housing" or "AFFH."

• The obligation requires meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics

The North Texas Regional Housing Assessment was an analysis undertaken pursuant to 24 CFR Part 5.152 that included the analysis of fair housing data, an assessment of housing issues and contributing factors, and identification of fair housing priorities and goals specific to Dallas.

Fair Housing affirmatively furthers fair housing by directly addressing fair housing issues.

 In the Fair Housing Assessment Tool this includes the use and scoring of specified North Texas Regional Housing Assessment goals.



# Fair Housing Assessment History



In accordance with the Comprehensive Housing Policy (CHP) 4% and 9% HTC applications must meet threshold requirements, including:

 Development must contribute to the City's obligations to affirmatively further fair housing;

In 2021, the Office of Equity and Inclusion – Fair Housing Division worked to improve the Fair Housing assessment protocol and the Fair Housing Assessment Tool.

- The protocol and tool are utilized to assess proposed housing projects or developments that require fair housing review due to an applicant seeking city funds, tax credit, no objection and/or support.
- Currently, the Fair Housing Division's role is to assess and ensure projects affirmatively further fair housing in the City of Dallas



# Fair Housing Assessment Tool



The Fair Housing Assessment Tool consists of three parts:

### • Scoring of goals:

The application is scored on 6 goals based on the objectives outlined in the North Texas Regional Housing Assessment. A total of 30 possible points is available, with 5 points allotted per goal

### Summary analysis:

A brief synopsis of the project application and primary information is considered.

### • Department updates:

The Fair Housing Division will contact City departments to provide information on whether a location has any current or future planning, economic development, or transportation projects in place. Departments contacted include the Office of Economic Development, the Department of Transportation, and the Planning and Urban Design Department. The Fair Housing Division also addresses whether the property has had any fair housing complaints or issues in the past.



## Scoring of Assessment Goals



- Goals are based on the objectives outlined in the North Texas Regional Housing Assessment
- 5 possible points per goal for a total of 30 possible points

Final Goals			
Goal A	Increase access to affordable housing in high opportunity areas		
Goal B	Prevent loss of existing affordable housing stock and increase supply of new affordable housing, especially in higher opportunity areas		
Goal C	Increase supply of accessible, affordable housing for persons with disabilities		
Goal D	Make investments in targeted and segregated neighborhoods to increase opportunity while protecting residents from displacement		
Goal E	Increase support and services for residents of publicly supported housing, and maintain and improve the quality and management of publicly supported housing		
Goal F	Increase access to information and resources on fair and affordable housing		



# **Summary Analysis**

**Project** 



 Summary of project application and primary information

ame	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	- Census Tract #
ddress	Poverty Rate %
	<ul><li>Is it High Poverty Rate?</li></ul>
	• Is it R/ECAP ?
	Council District #
	- # Units
	% of units at market rate
	• % of units are affordable at % AMI
	• Unit types ( 1Bedroom, 2Bedroom,
	etc.)
	- Resident Services
	<ul><li>What are services?</li></ul>
	- Will seek:
	<ul> <li>Land Use Restrictive Agreement</li> </ul>
	(LURA) ?
	<ul> <li>Dallas Housing Finance Corporation</li> </ul>
	partnership?
	<ul> <li>City Affordable Housing Funds?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Public Facilities Corporation (PFC) ?</li> </ul>
	- Transit
	<ul> <li>Nearest DART bus stop or DART rail #</li> </ul>
	miles away
	<ul> <li>Bike lanes available? What is the</li> </ul>

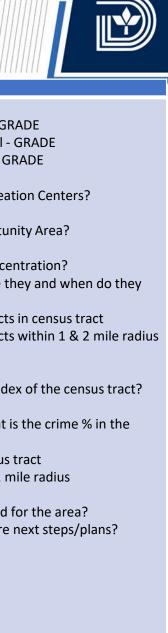
distance to the property?

**Summary Analysis** - Type of project

- Multifamily properties in the area	- Schools
<ul> <li># within census tract</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Elementary - GRAD</li> </ul>
<ul> <li># within 1 &amp; 2 mile radius</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Middle School - GF</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>High School – GRA</li> </ul>
- Number of homeless facilities	ŭ
<ul> <li># within census tract</li> </ul>	- Libraries and Recreatio
<ul> <li># within 1 &amp; 2 mile radius</li> </ul>	
	- Is it in High Opportunity
- Are there parks/greenspace?	0 11
# within census tract	- Is there LIHTC Concentr
<ul> <li># within 1 &amp; 2 mile radius</li> </ul>	If yes, how old are they
	expire?
- Does the area have a tree canopy?	<ul> <li># LIHTC projects in</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>How hot or how cool is this area?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li># LIHTC projects w</li> </ul>
- Equity	- Walkability Index
<ul> <li>Does the project burden the existing</li> </ul>	• What is the index of
neighborhood with over saturation of	
affordable housing? (including, but	- Public Safety: What is the
not limited to LIHTC, public housing,	census tract?
etc. concentration)	• # within census tra
• Is this in a saturated area or a	• # within 1 & 2 mile
targeted/High Opportunity Area	
neighborhood?	- Is the project zoned for
<ul> <li>Does this project address or prevent</li> </ul>	• If not, what are ne
gentrification or loss affordable	

housing? (including, but not limited to

LIHTC, MIHDB, etc. projects)





## City Department Updates



- Information provided from City departments on and whether the location has any future planning, economic development, or transportation initiatives/projects
- The Fair Housing Division also checks to see if there have been Fair Housing complaints

### **City Department Update Questions:**

Would your department know of any future development initiatives/projects for this location/area? (Y/N)

- If yes, what plans are in place for this location/area?

Has the property had any Fair Housing complaints or issues in the past?



## Fair Housing Assessment Timelines



A two-track approach has been developed for the Fair Housing assessment protocol, including:

### **Expedited Timeline**

 The expedited timeline details an accelerated assessment process when additional information or inquiries are not needed to make a final assessment.

### Request for Additional Information (RFAI) Timeline

• The RFAI timeline makes inquiries when an application is incomplete or when the Fair Housing Division needs additional information to finalize the assessment.



## **Expedited Timeline**



### **Project Received**



• Day 1:

Project submited to the Fair Housing Division by the originating department Fair Housing Assessment

• Week 1:

Fair Housing
Division completes
assessment using
the Fair Housing
Assessment Tool
(FHAT)

 Assessment completed within 5 to 7 business days from original receipt **Chief Review** 

• Week 2:

Fair Housing
Division reviews
project
assessment with
Chief of Equity and
Inclusion

 Executive review completed within
 to 7 days from completion of final assessment **Final Determination** 

• Completion

Assessment is complete and a final determination is provided to the originating department

Estimated Completion Time: 14 Business Days



## Request for Additional Information Timeline



**Project Received** 



### • Day 1:

Project submited to Fair Housing Division by originating department

Fair Housing Assessment

#### •Week 1:

Fair Housing Division completes assessment using the Fair Housing Assessment Tool (FHAT)

 Assessment completed within 5 to 7 business days from original receipt RFAL

### •Week 2 +:

Fair Housing Division submits questions to originating department and awaits a response for additional consideration

- Assessment is paused until developer provides a response
- Upon receipt, assessment commences and is completed in 5 to 7 business days from response receipt
- Additional inquiries may arise and extend assessment timeframe

**Chief Review** 

### •Week 3 +:

Fair Housing Division reviews project assessment with Chief of Equity and Inclusion

 Executive review completed within 5 to 7 days from completion of final assessment Final Determination

#### Completion

Assessment is complete and a final determination is provided to the originating department

Estimated CompletionTime:21+ Business Days





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