



December Standing Committee & Initiative Reports

Public Policy Committee

In December, this Committee discussed policy strategies to assist some of GNOHA's top year-end initiatives and priorities: Healthy Homes, Rental Registry, Smart Housing Mix and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit's Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP). GNOHA has also teamed up with the Louisiana Housing Alliance (LHA) for its annual statewide Listening Tour, which will result in a statewide housing policy agenda for the 2017 Legislative Session. The statewide policy agenda will be utilized by this Committee to help direct its efforts over the next year.

Homeownership Committee

The Homeownership Committee did not meet in December, but plans to meet in January to discuss strategies and next steps for Own the Crescent and The Third Line.

FAM Tour

GNOHA partnered with the City of New Orleans to host the V.I.P. Affordable Home Tour on Saturday, December 10th. The Tour took a total of 15 participants including graduates of the City's STRIVE program on a tour of New Orleans' options for affordable rental and homeownership opportunities. The V.I.P. Affordable Home Tour began at Gallier Hall with breakfast and made stops at Bienville Basin, Make It Right, Lower 9th Ward NENA, Project Homecoming, Marrero Commons, Neighborhood Development Foundation, and Harmony Oaks and ended with lunch and presentations including that of Executive Director of FANO Damon Burns and Jericho Road's Executive Director Nicole Barnes.

Rental Committee

The City has introduced its preliminary Rental Registry ordinance, which would mandate inspections and safety standards for all rental properties, and will be discussing at the January Community Development Committee Meeting. The draft ordinance was introduced on December 12th, 2016. The committee will be making written comments as well as advocating at the Development Committee meeting. The LHC held their first QAP workshop, during which they collected input on designing a process for the next QAP.

Outreach and Advocacy Committee

Current advocacy efforts include the rental registry, Smart Housing Mix Ordinance, HOME funds, and the Louisiana Housing Corporation. Three legs of the LHA listening tour have been held; in New Orleans, Alexandria, and Baton Rouge, all of which have been well attended and resulting in robust discussion and articulation of regional housing goals. For each discussion, GNOHA sent a follow up survey to attendees to rank housing goals that were articulated at the meetings. The remaining five regional discussions will be taking place in December and early 2017, and GNOHA is reaching out to community leaders across the state to attend.

Emergency Preparedness Committee

The newly named Housing FIRST Alliance (of the Capital Area) has been meeting and forming subcommittees. GNOHA partnered with the Housing FIRST Alliance and GNOFHAC to submit comments on the State's Recovery Master Action Plan.

The Collaborative

The Collaborative Review Team hosted one-on-one review sessions with nine of the ten agencies that submitted certification applications on December 8th and December 13th. Any questions from or concerns with the agencies were addressed during these review sessions. After the review sessions were completed, each agency received a letter detailing their fully, conditionally or not certified status. Those agencies with conditional approval were given a deadline of December 22nd to fully address any deficiencies to receive full certification. The 2017-2018 list of certified agencies were published on the GNOHA website on January 3rd at noon. The next Collaborative meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 20th at 12pm at the Neighborhood Development Foundation.

Capacity Building

The Capacity Building Committee did not meet in December; however a call took place between the University Of New Orleans Department of Urban Studies and Planning and the City's The Network for Economic Opportunity to discuss the UNO PLUS Development Finance Certificate Program and how The Network could help find another location and attract more participants. The search for more capacity building opportunities is ongoing.

Lenders Roundtable

The Lenders Roundtable did not meet in December, but plans to meet early January.

Nonprofit Roundtable

The Nonprofit Roundtable did not meet in December; however, a meeting with Brenda Breaux and Ellen Lee took place to discuss how the City could assist the Nonprofit Roundtable with getting cases moved along and citizens back into their homes.

Road Home Liaison Group

As of December 30, 2016 the Road Home Liaison Group (RHLG) has relieved 483 (+49 from last month) applicants of their debt to the Road Home Program through compliance or establishing occupancy. An additional 126 (+17 from last report) files have been archived due to the death of the grant recipient. RHLG is proud to report that a total of 33 million dollars (+3 million dollars from last report) has been applied to Road Home recipients' cases to date. Of this \$1,236,571.05 (+1,115,000 from last report), has been closed on for construction. 17 homes have been funded for construction as the result of RHLG work (+1 from last month), 12 (+5 from last report) of which have been completed.

RHLG Case Managers have now begun working all of the cases assigned to GNOHA by the State. Several cases remain in progress towards completion. The RHLG contract expires February 28, 2016. Until then, RHLG will continue to see walk in clients, complete work with assigned clients, and focus on closing out other program activities.

Louisiana Housing Trust Fund Initiative

The Louisiana Housing Trust Fund Initiative met for a half-day session in December to discuss and plan for the Housing Trust Fund to be introduced at the 2017 Legislative Session. The group discussed possible revenue sources, action items and the timeline.

HousingNOLA December Initiatives

Workforce Housing Council

The Workforce Housing Council will next be meeting in January to discuss next steps to developing a workforce housing strategy that includes a study of the connections between workforce housing and transportation opportunities in the Greater New Orleans region.

Inclusionary Housing Tiger Team

The Smart Housing Mix Tiger Team is a group of housing and planning professionals in New Orleans that have been holding calls with HousingNOLA's consultant from Grounded Solutions Network, Sasha Hauswald. This team is tasked with determining the feasibility of implementing a mandatory Inclusionary Housing Policy in New Orleans. Out of numerous meetings and calls, a study was produced. This study has been submitted to the City Planning Commission and will be included in their Smart Housing Mix Ordinance Study. The timeline for the CPC's study has changed. There is now an extension to February 24th for the CPC to complete the study. Written comments will be accepted up to **5pm on Monday, February 13th**. Comments can be emailed to cpcinfo@nola.gov or mailed to

*City of New Orleans
City Planning Commission
1300 Perdido Street, 7th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112*

Assessor Working Group

The group has followed up with the Assessor and is awaiting a response regarding the requested homestead exemptions for Road Home clients as well as the data request for Assessor's senior citizen tax freeze initiative.

Insurance Task Force

The Insurance Task Force did not meet in December, but did receive follow-up information from the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI) regarding estimates of the average cost of flood insurance in Louisiana and liability insurance rates both included in the homeowner insurance premium and those available as a la carte options. The task force plans to meet in January to discuss the new information from LDI and next steps, including the creation of a questionnaire to distribute to potential homeowners to educate them on the appropriate questions to ask when shopping for homeowner and flood insurance.

Healthy Homes Initiative

The Healthy Homes Initiative has been collecting resources on mold and dampness treatment, and exploring statewide initiatives. The newly formed Housing FIRST Alliance will advocate for best practices in mold remediation in the Baton Rouge recovery process.

Leadership Board

The Leadership Board did not meeting this month, but will be meeting in January. Following the November Leadership Board meeting, which served as the New Orleans leg of the Louisiana Statewide Housing Listening Tour, the Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance and the Louisiana Housing Alliance have completed tours in Alexandria and Baton Rouge. The series of events and accompanying surveys are aimed at developing a 2017 legislative agenda based upon the needs of the entire state.

Data Working Group

Updates are being worked to supplement the data analysis conducted in the 2016 Annual Report Card. Furthermore, data is being compiled towards the release of the quarterly review detailing unit production.

Community Engagement Working Group

HousingNOLA continues to work with partners towards cultivating community engagement partnerships. In December, HousingNOLA participated in a roundtable discussion on the design of a public safety assessment tool led by the United Way.

Policy Working Group

There are no updates for the Policy Working Group for December. In January, HousingNOLA will continue to work on the Master Plan Amendment process. The public hearing on amendments to the Future Land Use Map and the text of the Future Land Use Map category descriptions on Tuesday, January 24th at 3pm in the City Council Chamber, City Hall. The public hearing on amendments to the text of the Master Plan, not including to the Future Land Use Map category descriptions, on Tuesday, February 7th at 1:30pm in the City Council Chamber, City Hall. The preliminary staff report for proposed Master Plan amendments will be released in two parts. On January 10th, the staff report will be released covering amendments to the Future Land Use Map and the text of the Future Land Use Map category descriptions. On January 17, the staff report will be released covering amendments to the text of the Master Plan. The deadline for submission of written comments for amendments being considered on Jan. 24 is 5pm, Monday, January 9, 2017. The deadline for submission of written comments for amendments being considered on Jan. 31 is 12pm, Tuesday, January 17, 2017.

HousingNOLA will also work on the introducing Affordable Housing Impact Statements. A Text Amending to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to incorporate recommendations provided in the CPC's Affordable Housing Impact Statement Study will be heard at the CPC meeting on Tuesday, January 10 at 1:30pm at City Council Chamber, City Hall.