



Affordable Housing Taskforce

February 4, 2022, 2pm to 3pm

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89005771825>

Meeting ID: 890 0577 1825

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Attendees (30): Dan Sullivan, Corky Poster, Kate Hiller, Tom Litwicki, Joy Taylor, Bastien Andruet, Ben Buehler-Garcia, Betty Villegas, Carla Blackwell, Daniela Figueroa, David Higuera, Erica Smith, Francisco Garcia, Vanessa Barchfield, Jenifer Darland, Joel Gastelum, John Bremond, Karin Uhlich, Kim Fitch, Kylie Walzak, Maggie Amado Tellez, Marcos Ysmael, Meghan Heddings, Michael Guymon, Ravi (SAAF), Shaq McCoy, Mark Clark, Liz Morales, Cassie Lundin

Agenda/Minutes

Charge: The Affordable Housing Taskforce was empaneled by the County Administrator for the purpose of informing the Board's actions and policies to improve housing affordability across Pima County.

- I. **Welcome & Introductions:** Tom Litwicki, CEO of OPCS & Task Force Chair, 2:03pm those in attendance introduced themselves and their affiliation; Tom shared that this initial meeting is a meet and greet.
- II. **Zoom Etiquette and Ground Rules:** Tom Litwicki, Chair
 - ✓ Please raise your hand while others are speaking;
 - ✓ Feel free to enter questions in the chat;
 - ✓ Please mute your microphone when not speaking;
 - ✓ Currently meetings are scheduled virtually with the potential to have in person meetings at a later time.
 - ✓ Overall we are here to help others in Pima County.

Ground Rules: Carla Blackwell, Development Services Director & Co-Chair

- ✓ Please do not send substitutes to meetings.
- ✓ Meetings are scheduled for an hour and we will respect your time.
- ✓ Only members are able to vote – proxies are not allowed.

- III. **Explanation of Purpose:** Dr. Francisco Garcia, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer, welcomed everyone and passed along gratitude from Acting County Administrator; Francisco reviewed the history of housing affordability and encouraged the taskforce to look for the gaps that cannot be funded through other funding, and see how the market effects the cost of housing;
- IV. **Timeline:** Tom Litwicki, Chair – Tom reviewed the timeline of the taskforce includes bi-weekly meetings, with a facilitator coming in March to help the group prioritize and focus on affordable housing needs.

V. **Homework:** Tom Litwicki, Chair

- ✓ Review Executive Summary and complete the subject matter expert survey
- ✓ If you have other studies or materials, please send so we can share the information
- ✓ Carla reviewed the Executive Summary and build upon what is already out and utilize that as a baseline and then focus on the entire region and how to support the City on those recommendations.

Dr. Garcia introduced Liz Morales with the City of Tucson- looking at this as a trans jurisdictional process, think about how these solutions apply in South Tucson Ajo, Sahuarita, etc. Solutions that are portable to other cities/towns. Broader considerations and how that would apply to all jurisdictions in Pima County.

Corky Poster discussed the memo history of the Housing Commission, and asked if the taskforce would be policy recommendations, resources ratios. Tom stated that our charge is both not only focus on resources but also make recommendations on policy, sustainable funding source to get us where we want to go.

Carla shared information from one of the studies in the packet that discusses the types of housing options available and how the taskforce will review that and determine costs and resources to leverage. Resources isn't just funding but also parcels of land that could be leveraged on housing. Pima County focused on economic development projects and the same could be done for affordable housing.

Dan - What is the dedicated funding? Think about the federal funds that already exist in the community to address the full spectrum of affordable housing

Betty looked at the group and asked "What does Affordable Housing mean to each of us?" What is housing affordability? Suggested that we go back to the basics, housing affordability mean to us and the people we serve.

Corky reference the book Shelter Poverty. 30% affordability rule only works at working class level. Wealthy afford more than 30% poverty you can't reach the 30%. Housing plus Transportation Affordability Index – cost of transportation included in housing affordability (add cost of transportation to the affordability of those units) Center for Neighborhood Technology

David shared that there is a lot of reading material attached to the Executive Summary. Morrison Institute Report – State Level legal barriers to Affordable Housing. Each barrier has room to be creative in those areas.

Tom stated that the facilitator that will come in will help the taskforce prioritize. Tom also asked that the taskforce send information that they would like or think should be included. Cassie asked that if you have a report that you would like, to please send it to Cassie.Lundin@pima.gov

Kate reviewed the GAP Analysis study and has a really nice executive summary. In D1 they are talking about the Tempe housing study. Kate suggested that based on this group that they also prioritize housing and creating more housing in the community

VI. **Adjourn,** 3:02pm

[Next meeting is February 18, 2022 at 2pm](#)

Please email Cassie.Lundin@pima.gov if you are unable to log into the meeting.