



Housing Opportunities Commission Minutes  
January 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.  
Virtual Online – WebEx Meeting

---

Members Present: Betzig-Lundberg, Chaput, Elliott (left at 6:00), Moseley, Poser, Rogers, Theisen, Councilmember Werthmann

Members Absent: Carruthers, Filipczak, Peterson

Staff Present: Allen, Draxler, Hufford, Johnathan

1. Call to Order by Chairperson Elliott at 5:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call – Members and staff were present virtually online.
3. Meeting minutes of December 8, 2021, were approved on a motion by Councilmember Werthmann and seconded by Commissioner Betzig-Lundberg.
4. Open Public Comment Period – None.
5. Public Discussions
  - A. 2021 Work Plan review and assessment – Mr. Allen presented the 2021 Work Plan and opened the floor for the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) to review and assess the 2021 Work Plan. Commission members referenced the Affordable Housing Fund scoring criteria and discussed an evaluation of 2021’s process and criteria.
  - B. 2022 Work Plan review and approval – The Commission discussed the 2022 Work Plan and confirmed the changes from last meeting, including reordering the Work Plan to reflect the importance of the topic and combining certain items.
  - C. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds – Staff referenced the January 10, 2022 City Council Work Session to discuss program and project priorities, referring Commission members to the [video of the discussion online](#). Councilmember Werthmann suggested drafting a formal letter of support to the City Council prioritizing funding for affordable housing development. The consensus on the Commission was in favor of this approach and requested that such a letter be presented for consideration at the next meeting.
6. Other Business Agenda Items
  - A. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) update – Commission members inquired as to the status of affordable housing funding with the newly closed Soo Line Tax Incremental District (TID #7).
  - B. Barriers to housing development review and next steps – Staff provided an update on the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) zoning for affordable housing project and shared that the League of Wisconsin Municipalities and CNU will host a public officials and city staff [training event](#) on February 21<sup>st</sup> in Eau Claire. The final product is a report and guide, which has yet to be released.
  - C. Regional Housing Conference – The Commission agreed that the work group that initially formed earlier in 2021 on this topic should restart in earnest as soon as possible, with an eye towards a Fall 2022 conference. Commissioners Rogers and Moseley volunteered to lead the work group. Commissioners Poser and Chaput offered to provide topic-specific assistance as needed.

- D. Staff Updates – The Commission requested a recurring agenda item on the proposed Regional Housing Study.

*[Chairperson Elliott left at 6:00, with Vice-Chairperson Chaput assuming Chairperson duties.]*

7. Discussion and Direction

- A. Future Agenda Items – CIP update; Land Trusts; Regional Housing Study; Regional Housing Conference

- B. Announcements – The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2022.

- 8. On a motion by Councilmember Werthmann and seconded by Commissioner Betzig-Lundberg the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.