



HOUSING DIRECTORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

April 2018

Purpose:

COG's Housing Directors Advisory Committee convenes to share data and best practices to support the region's ability to shape communities where all citizens— young to old, single persons or families—can afford to live.

Members:

The members of the Housing Directors Advisory Committee are comprised of the region's Directors of Housing and Community Development and senior government staff within COG member jurisdictions.

Co-Chairs:

Polly Donaldson, Director, Housing and Community Development, District of Columbia
Helen McIlvaine, Director, Office of Housing, City of Alexandria, VA

PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES

The Housing Directors Advisory Committee has explored a wide range of topics relevant to the preservation and creation of affordable housing, fostering strategic partnerships, and addressing key demographic trends impacting housing in a high-cost market such as the metropolitan Washington region. HDAC supports and informs COG's Human Services Policy Committee as well as the COG Board of Directors on issues of housing affordability.

In December 2017, HDAC submitted an MOU to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to collaborate regionally on the **Assessment of Fair Housing**. In January 2018, HUD issued a Notice delaying the deadline for submission of the AFH. The region's entitlement jurisdictions (currently eight) as well as seven Public Housing Authorities, are regrouping to submit a regional **Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing**. This is a multi-year planning project, with an anticipated submission date in the spring of 2021. The goal is to use the framework of the AFH on a regional level to ensure fair housing goals are consistent, collaborative, reduce duplication of effort, and deepen the impact of any one jurisdiction's efforts to remedy past housing segregation patterns and build truly equitable and inclusive communities.

HDAC members are also key contributors to the **Housing Leaders Group of Greater Washington** which seeks to work regionally on expanding access to capital and increasing the supply of homes available to households facing housing cost burdens in our region.

RECENT AGENDA TOPICS AND POTENTIAL JOINT MEETING DATES 2018

HDAC meets six times a year, beginning in January. During **January 2018**, we focused on the recently-passed tax bill and discussed potential implications for affordable housing production in our region.

The **March 2018** meeting covered housing communications – how do we discuss housing affordability challenges with community members and elected officials in a way that builds understanding and support for meeting the housing needs of our current and future residents?

PAST PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Past projects include partnering with the Urban Institute to produce the 2014 research study *Housing Security in the Washington Region*. Funded by the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region with support from the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, the study quantifies critical gaps in affordable housing across a range of incomes. The study also summarizes local government housing programs and philanthropic support for housing and homelessness programs throughout the region.

HDAC has also held several events for its committee members and partners on **shared equity homeownership** as well as preparing for **HUD's Assessment of Fair Housing** in March of 2016. HDAC members share strategies and tools to communicate the region's affordable housing needs and advance solutions.

For further information, please contact COG staff member Hilary Chapman, Housing Programs Manager, at 202-962-3346 or hchapman@mwkog.org.