



CITY OF BETHLEHEM

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Memo

To: Bethlehem City Council
From: Tina Roseberry
CC: Mayor Robert Donchez
Date: June 8, 2021
Re: Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI)

As a federal HUD entitlement community receiving both CDBG and HOME program funds, the City is required to affirmatively further fair housing under Section 808 of the Fair Housing Act. To affirmatively further fair housing, the City must conduct an analysis to identify impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction and take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through the analysis.

The Cities of Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton, in partnership with Northampton County, have prepared a joint Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). The AI is a planning document that examines any public or private actions that have the effect of restricting housing choice, or the availability of housing, based on an individual's race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

All comments on the draft AI must be received no later than July 16th, 2021. After this date, City Council will be asked to approve the AI by resolution to submit to HUD shortly thereafter.

Copies of the AI are available for public viewing beginning June 14, 2021 through 16, July, 2021 on the City's website ([https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Community-Economic-Development/Community-Development/CDBG-HOME-\(1\)](https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Community-Economic-Development/Community-Development/CDBG-HOME-(1))) or by email. To request a copy by email, send the request to: Tina Roseberry at CRoseberry@bethlehem-pa.gov.

ACTION: At this time, DCED requests that City Council's approval to hold a public hearing, organized and held by DCED to present the City's AI findings and receive public comment.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM
APPROVING THE ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING
CHOICE AND AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF THE ANALYSIS OF
IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE WITH THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD).**

WHEREAS, the City of Bethlehem receives funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and pursuant to 24 CFR § 91.225, and as a condition to receiving funds, the City of Bethlehem annually certifies that it will affirmatively further fair housing; and

WHEREAS, such certification serves as the City's acknowledgment that it accepts the obligation to promote fair housing within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the City carries out its certification by implementing a process to address the following three (3) components of the certification: 1) Conducting an analysis to identify impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction; 2) Taking appropriate action to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis; and 3) Maintaining records reflecting the analysis and actions in this regard; and

WHEREAS, the City, in conjunction with the Cities of Allentown and Easton, and Northampton County, have prepared the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice; and

WHEREAS, drafts of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) was on public display from June 14, 2021 through July 16, 2021, the City was a part of a larger public outreach process and held meetings on the said AI and the comments of various agencies, groups, and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final document; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to confirm its continuing commitment to affirmatively furthering fair housing choice in the City of Bethlehem, which includes a commitment to and the requirement to equally enforce all zoning and other laws regarding accessibility of housing in its jurisdiction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM, LEHIGH/NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Council hereby approves and adopts the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and confirms the City's continued commitment to affirmatively further fair housing through the following activities:

SECTION 1. That the City of Bethlehem has conducted an Analysis of Impediment to Fair Housing Choice within its jurisdiction; and

SECTION 2. That the City of Bethlehem will take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through the Analysis; and

SECTION 3. That the Administrator, on behalf of the City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, is authorized to file the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ADOPTED INTO A RESOLUTION THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021 BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM, PA.

Sponsored by: _____

ATTEST:

BETHLEHEM CITY COUNCIL

City Clerk

President of City Council