

Resolution approving Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) Plan and authorization of phased implementation.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse, as a recipient of federal grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, must periodically conduct a fair housing study known as an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). Because housing is a regional issue, La Crosse and Monroe Counties, La Crosse County Housing Authority, the City of La Crosse Public Housing Authority, the Tomah Housing Authority, and the Monroe County Housing Authority (the partners) all joined with the City of La Crosse to support the study; and

WHEREAS, during 2018, the City and its partners led the process of developing said plan with significant support and assistance from the consultancy firm Mosaic, based out of Atlanta, Georgia, and studied patterns of integration and segregation; racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty; disparities in access to opportunity; and disproportionate housing needs; and

WHEREAS, this document took into consideration Census data, existing plans, and conducted significant public engagement to obtain participation from nearly 900 residents and other stakeholders through meetings, focus groups, interviews, and a survey. Stakeholders consulted included public housing residents, mortgage lenders, low income families with young children, people with disabilities, county government staff, and many non-profit organizations; and

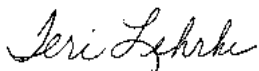
WHEREAS, based on the findings of this research, the report proposes fair and affordable housing strategies to overcome the identified fair housing issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse that it hereby adopts the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) and directs Planning Staff and the Community Development Committee with phased implementation of the plan's recommendations in order to address the following objectives:

1. Work collaboratively with other municipalities and non-governmental partners to expand access to affordable housing needs, especially affordable rental housing.
2. Expand access to housing throughout the city and the region through alternative transportation strategies, land use strategies, and work with the City Public Housing Authority to expand access to the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance.
3. Address the poor quality of rental housing conditions in the City.
4. Increase the quantity accessible housing for people with disabilities.
5. Collaborate with the City of La Crosse Public Housing Authority to rebuild public trust and improve customer service.
6. Expand opportunities for racial and ethnic minorities to become homeowners.
7. Strengthen the City of La Crosse Human Rights Commission
8. Coordinate Fair Housing Education and Enforcement

BE IT RESOLVED, that if through the public participation process of receiving comments on the plan, additional edits are required, staff are authorized to make additional changes to the survey which do not change the content significantly, and obtain final approval of the document by the Community Development Committee.

I, Teri Lehrke, certify that this resolution was duly and officially adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse on April 11, 2019.



*Teri Lehrke, City Clerk
City of La Crosse, Wisconsin*