

**HOUSING, NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES & REDEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE**  
March 27, 2019

**Members Present:** Council Member, Chair Crystal Murillo  
Council Member, Vice Chair Allison Hiltz  
Council Member Johnny Watson

**Others Present:** Michelle Wolfe, Andrea Amonick, Sydney Hawkins, Tim Joyce, Anita M. Burkhart, Chris Davis, Craig Maraschky, Sandra Youngman, Malcolm Hankins, Signy Mikita, Mary Lewis, Karen Hancock, Brian Arnold, Stephanie Kok, Gayle Jetchick, Chance Horiuchi, and Deana Foxen.

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## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Council Member Murillo welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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## **MINUTES**

The February 27, 2019 minutes were approved by Council Members Murillo, Hiltz, & Watson.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

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## **NEW ITEMS**

### **AURORA HOUSING AUTHORITY (AHA) PRESENTATION**

#### **Summary of Issue and Discussion**

Craig Maraschky, AHA Executive Director, introduced himself and explained in detail, how the AHA organization was created by the City of Aurora in 1975, focusing primarily on affordable rental housing. Today, operating with 55 employees on a \$50 million budget, AHA also receives low-income housing tax credits to assist residents in need of rental assistance. Through the support of their funding partners, AHA offers 810 physical units of affordable rental housing, administers approximately 2,000 Section 8 vouchers, and provides approximately \$1,000 of rental assistance per household on a monthly basis. Mr. Maraschky identified the city of Aurora as a crucial partner, which allocates AHA \$7,000 annually from the Aurora @ Home Program. The organization operates under State statutes, and is exempt from Federal, State, and Local taxes. Mr. Maraschky shared a map which identified the vast array of properties across Aurora that are receiving assistance. He explained that an extensive wait list exists dating back to 2005, but added there are vouchers that do become available as people leave the program, which are prioritized for homeless families.

**Questions/Comments** – Council Member Murillo asked if the housing authority does any work to assist with system-involved youth. Mr. Maraschky didn't know the answer, however, will research to provide the information to Ms. Murillo.

**Outcome** – Chair Murillo thanked Mr. Maraschky for the presentation.

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### **2019 AGENDA ITEMS & 2018 AGENDA ITEM STATUS**

#### **Summary of Issue and Discussion**

Council Member Murillo recently met with Michelle Wolfe, Deputy City Manager, to discuss agenda items that had been presented in 2018, but were incomplete and in need of reporting findings or status to the Committee. A

spreadsheet was prepared for the Committee's review, and a handful of items were identified that needed closure. Andrea Amonick, Development Services and AURA Manager, advised the Committee of her intent to present status of all the Urban Renewal projects currently in process, particularly in the Fitzsimons area, for discussion in May.

Questions/Comments – Council Member Murillo thanked staff for providing time doing research and creating the spreadsheet.

Outcome – Following the Committee's discussion, it was determined that the appropriate staff affected will return results to the Committee as soon as possible.

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### MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

Council Member Murillo shared that a constituent had been in touch with her regarding concerns of traffic and infrastructure insufficiencies in the Morris Heights neighborhood. The neighborhood's location near the Anschutz Medical Campus, the impact of light rail, and the transit-oriented development projects in the area have all contributed to major traffic issues for those living there. Council Member Murillo requested staff research instances of any prior concerns reported in relation to infrastructure in the Morris Heights Neighborhood. Staff will research and advise the Committee of findings.

A recent discussion at Study Session raised a request for the status of the King's Inn, a 95-unit motel along Colfax, where, in 2017, new ownership had displaced a number of occupants as a result of excessive rental rate increases. Consequently, the city assisted 47 households with city funds to find alternate housing.

Malcolm Hankins, Neighborhood Services Director, explained the property has once again sold, however, major renovations have been made to both the interior and exterior of the building. The Summit View Inn, as it is now called, has improved statistically according to the city's systematic inspection program, which provides for proactive interior and exterior inspections of all multi-family properties. Aurora Police data revealed issues of trespassing as the primary call for service. This is likely a result of the owner/manager calling to have previous residents trespassed, however, Mr. Hankins will work with Police to obtain more detailed information. Council Member Murillo requested information on how other communities compare to Aurora with methods of housing residents in motels within their jurisdictions. Staff will make inquiries and return information at a later time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting: Tuesday April 23, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
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Committee Chair, Crystal Murillo