

AGENDA

Housing Opportunity Fund (HOF)

April 1, 2025 @ 3:00 PM

Recording Uploaded to the City of Pittsburgh YouTube Channel

A. Roll Call

Present: Tanika Harris, Adrienne Walnoha, Jerome Jackson, Elly Fisher, Darius Wallace, Rochelle Preston, Lena Andrews, Alan Sisco, Deborah Gross

Not Present: Marcus Reed, James Reid, Terrel Thomas, Karen Garrett, Deidra Washington

B. Review and Acceptance of Minutes from March 4, 2025, Meeting

First motion- Tanika Harris

Second motion- Jerome Jackson

C. Public Comment – Anyone from the public who desires to speak may address the Advisory

Board for a maximum of three minutes. To provide public comment virtually, you must register prior to 4:00 PM on Monday, March 31, 2024, by e-mailing your phone number and email information to hof@ura.org or by calling 412.255.6694, ext. 6721.

Megan Hammond- Fair Housing protection is being rolled back federally. Sex orientation and gender identity are understood to no longer be jurisdictional within the HUD fair housing administrative complaint process. Additionally, the Federal requirements for language access by recipients of Federal Funds have been rescinded. Considering this, my ask is that The Advisory Board be mindful of the mayor's executive orders by including in its assessment of proposals for funding whether the proposal includes the city fair housing protections or not.

D. URA Administrative Updates

- HOF Advisory Board Membership
 - Robert Helwig – Fair Housing Advocate

- Rebecca (Becky) Yago – Financial Institution
- Homeowner Assistance Program (HAP)
- Program Application Closed
- Small Landlord Fund
- Program Application Closed

E. HG1-Lytle in Hazelwood

- Rental Gap Program

Authorization to enter into a Rental Gap Program (RGP) loan agreement with HG Lytle, LLC, or a related entity, in an amount of up to \$750,000 for the new construction of HG1-Lytle, in the Hazelwood neighborhood, Ward 15 of the City of Pittsburgh.

First motion- Tanika Harris

Second motion- Deidra Washington

Abstention/Conflict of interest- Lena Andrews

F. Demonstration Program

- Demonstration Program Emergency Applications - COI
- PCSI- Requesting \$50,000.00 for Rental Assistance in the efforts to support house rental households who are struggling to pay rent or need help paying the first months rent to get into safe and secure affordable housing. They're specifically targeting families with children under 18 and seniors on a fixed income.

First Motion- Tanika Harris

Second Motion- Darius Wallace

Abstention- Deidra Washington

Abstention- Lena Andrews

Opposed- Elly Fisher, Alan Sisco, Adrienne Walnoha, Deborah Gross

A discussion was held about whether this program fell under the umbrella of an Emergent need as described in the guidelines of the Demo Dollars. Upon the completion of that discussion, it was voted against denying PCSI in their request for \$50,000. The vote was four against and three in favor.

- DHS
- Requesting \$224,000 to help resettlement agencies support immigrants and refugees coming to the city of Pittsburgh. The support would be in the form of assisting with rent, security deposit, furniture and furnishings, as well as essentials, Id's, cell phone service, transportation and seasonal clothing.

First motion- Lena Andrews

Second motion- Elly Fisher

Abstention- Tanika Harris

Abstention- Adrienne Walnoha

A discussion was held about whether this program fell under the umbrella of an Emergent need as described in the guidelines of the Demo Dollars. Upon the completion of that discussion, it was determined that it was, and DHS was approved for the amount of \$224,000.

- Demonstration Program Innovation Application
- JotForm Application Review
- Scoring Guide Review

It was agreed that the three-line items mentioned above would be discussed at the next board meeting May 6, 2025, from 3:00pm-5:00pm.

G. State of HOF/Programmatic Expenditures and Updates

- Regular Update
- HOF Repay Balance- \$89,267.22
- Rental Gap- \$392, 386.04
- Down Payment and Closing Costs - \$137,500.00

- For-Sale Development- \$217,589.59
- Homeowner Assistance- \$242,282.15
- Legal Assistance- \$96,832.30

- Additional Information
 - Small Landlord Fund
 - Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program- In the year 2024 we completed 125 projects.
 - Homeowner Assistance Program- In the year 2024 we completed 95 projects

H. Adjournment

The next HOF Advisory Board Meeting is May 6, 2025, from 3:00pm-5:00pm, held at the URA Office (412 Boulevard of the Allies Pittsburgh PA 15222) in the Lower Level Conference Room, virtually, and aired live on the City of Pittsburgh's YouTube Channel. This location may be subject to change due to availability, please stay alert for updates.

Motion to adjourn- Lena Andrews