

APPENDIX A. SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FROM KICKOFF PUBLIC HEARING

MDHA held a public hearing on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at Goodwill Industries. The purpose of the public hearing was to take comments on the amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan and the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) process. Below is a summary of questions and comments received and MDHA's responses.

Comments on Citizen Participation Plan

- As part of the outreach, will there be Web portal and/or social media access for input?

MDHA will post information on its website and via social media platforms. Input can be provided using the dedicated email: fairhousingplan@nashville-mdha.org.

- Will there be any radio ads? Especially in terms of populations with visual impairments

We will explore the use of radio ads.

- In terms of retirement community, night meetings aren't appealing – how about breakfast meetings? Mid-morning is usually preferred.

We will attempt to hold meetings on days and at times and locations that are convenient for the public. During the draft development phase, we'll schedule appointments, too.

Comments for AFH Process

- Comment from Councilman Freddie O'Connell: What's the shape or the ordinance or purpose of legislative approach to the AFH?

As with our past submissions of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) and the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the purpose of an ordinance (3 readings) is to approve the documents and authorize the Mayor to submit to HUD [for the Consolidated Plan programs].

- The issue for many individuals is how this plan is different than other fair housing laws recent plans – how is this different from what residents have heard before?

For this plan – unlike previous plans, HUD has provided in-depth questions not only about access to housing but access to opportunities and has provided data to assist with the analysis. In addition, MDHA will have to address issues that are under its purview in its next Five-Year Public Housing Agency Plan and Metro (with MDHA as the lead agency) will have to address issues under the purview of Five-Year Consolidated Plan when it is updated in 2018. We hope, too, that others will use the report to help address the issues identified.

- In the sense of a big or “real picture”, how are you working with tools for other counties – How are the trends in terms of inter-county housing concerns and movement going to be addressed by this plan?

AFH questions require an analysis of issues in the jurisdiction (Nashville-Davidson County) and the region (MSA). HUD has also provided regional data.

- You are collecting data from these communities, what are looking for from industry?

We hope that industry representatives will provide input on housing issues from their perspective and help us identify areas where we need to increase fair housing awareness.

- Where would age factor in to any of these discriminations (contributing factors)? Under disability?

Although age is not a protected class, we will take input on age-related barriers. Often, age and disability are connected. Sometimes age and familial status are connected, particularly when a grandparent is caring for a grandchild.