

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF MADISON, WISCONSIN

Resolution No. 4406

Resolution reaffirming the CDA Board of Commissioner's support for equitable and just housing and directing staff to examine historic inequities in CDA practice.

Presented August 13, 2020
Referred _____
Reported Back _____
Adopted _____
Placed on File _____
Moved By _____
Seconded By _____
Yeas _____ Nays _____ Absent _____
Rules Suspended _____
Legistar File Number _____

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Article 25 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights recognizes that housing is fundamental to a person's right to an adequate standard of living for the health and well-being of themselves and their family; and

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local governments have created policies (e.g., redlining) over time to deliberately segregate housing based on race in neighborhoods across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of these policies and existing power structures continues to create disparities and discrimination in housing; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of housing and local income disparities in the City of Madison have made safe and desirable housing unaffordable to many people and families of color in the City; and

WHEREAS, the recent local protests have brought the longstanding discrimination faced by communities and people of color to the forefront of public dialogue; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Authority of the City of Madison (CDA) in its current form was created in 1978 to effectively and efficiently provide safe and healthy housing and to promote stable communities and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the CDA does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, family status, or disability; and

WHEREAS, the CDA actively promotes housing equity in the City of Madison, seeks to create an inclusive environment for staff and residents, and supports efforts to change national laws, policies, and power structures that perpetuate systemic racism in housing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Community Development Authority of the City of Madison reaffirms the CDA's commitment to equitable and just housing practices; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners reaffirms the ideals of Gay Braxton, an early leader in Madison's housing movement, in "striving to provide a place where different cultures are valued and not replaced;" and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners does not tolerate racism or discrimination among staff or toward residents; and

BE IT RESOLVED that, as part of the CDA's process to establish priorities that will guide the organization's activities, the Board of Commissioners directs staff to identify historic disparities in CDA housing practice and to present the Board with options during redevelopment that address the roots of these disparities; and

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners directs staff to propose a new CDA mission statement that reflects the values reaffirmed herein for approval by the Board.