

Review Submission

Review the content of your AFH before completing the certification and submission to HUD.

Cover

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Executive Summary

Instructions

II.1. Summarize the fair housing issues, significant contributing factors, and goals. Also include an overview of the process and analysis used to reach the goals.

 Revised (Click for previous text)

The Jonesboro AFH is a joint submission between the City of Jonesboro and the Jonesboro Urban Renewal Housing Authority (JURHA). Public Housing contributing factors and goals sections were written by JURHA

Two public hearings were held as well as oral discussions with community leaders and officials. JURHA distributed surveys to gain input from residents of public housing. Based on information received from public hearings, surveys, community partners and stakeholders, and staff knowledge, the following fair housing issues were identified and recognized as recurring themes throughout the process:

Fair Housing Issues:

1. Segregation - Table 2 shows there has been a 20% decrease of the White, Non-Hispanic population, an increase of 13% in the Black, Non-Hispanic population, an increase of 5% in the Hispanic population, and an increase of 1% in the Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic population and a slight decrease of 0.01% of the Native American, Non-Hispanic population. Comparing Map 2 Race/Ethnicity Trends shows that the black, Non-Hispanic to be segregated in census track 6.01 and 6.02 which include the R/ECAP.
2. R/ECAPs - City of Jonesboro notes that the R/ECAP shown in Maps 1 and 3 has historically been documented by census data as concentrated areas of poverty and minority populations. Tables 1 and 2 show that as the population increases, more minorities inhabit the inner city, as the majority population decreases within the city and moves to more suburban areas. If this trend continues, we will see a higher level of segregation in the jurisdiction. Without policy changes and community support, this trend will remain the same. Table 4 shows that 71.24 percent of Jonesboro residents are white; 19.65 percent are black; and 5.41% are Hispanic. However, when we look at the 2,925 residents living in the R/ECAP on Map 1, 1650 of the residents are black, 225 are Hispanic, and 1050 are white. So while whites are 71.24 percent of the overall population, they are only 35.8% in the R/ECAP, leaving a disproportionate number of minorities in the R/ECAP of 64.2%.
3. Access to Opportunity - While Jonesboro is proud of the opportunities within the city, for our most vulnerable populations, these opportunities are not always accessible due to a lack of sufficient public transportation, infrastructure, and other diverse modes of travel. Based on the data provided, Blacks and Hispanics have the least amount of access to jobs and the labor markets. While the R/ECAP has a disproportionately high number of these protected groups, the R/ECAP has the lowest labor market index in the jurisdiction. The same holds true for those protected by national origin as well as family status. Transportation is a major hindrance to job access; along with employment skills (ie. job readiness, interview & resume skills, and experience/training). Also, the lack of affordable housing, concentration of affordable housing in certain areas, and density limitations of affordable housing limits or denies access to opportunity and can promote segregation.
4. Disproportionate Housing Needs - While Jonesboro has come a long way in building affordable housing, there is still a disproportionate need for families on the lower end of the income scale, and for those transitioning from facilities to homes. The Jonesboro Housing Authority has a high percentage of families with a disabled persons which makes finding affordable housing difficult. Transportation and the need to expand affordable housing outside of the R/ECAP area was identified in the RAB meeting as barriers to finding housing.
5. Publicly Supported Housing - The Jonesboro Housing Authority's analysis of Map 6 - Housing Choice Voucher and Race/Ethnicity shows the highest percentage of Housing Choice Vouchers are located in outside the R/ECAP area in census 6.01 > 17.74%. The R/ECAP area is in census 6.02 which is 11.17% - 17.74%. Our housing software shows census track 6 with a total of 379 which is comprised of census 6.01 and 6.02. These two areas are typically referred to the "north side" of Jonesboro and considered less desirable but also has more affordable rents which ultimately results in many voucher holders leasing in these areas. As the voucher program is comprised of 64.76% Black, non-hispanic population this also results in segregation of this area. The majority of public housing is located outside the R/ECAP, however all are located in the "north side" of Jonesboro described above. Nineteen (12.58%) of the 151 public housing units are located within the R/ECAP. Thirty six of the 132 units outside of the R/ECAP are located within one block of the R/ECAP on streets that intersect with the northern border (Belt Street) of the R/ECAP area. Since Jonesboro Public Housing is comprised of 70% Black and the LIHTC property, located inside the R/ECAP, managed by JURHA is 80% Black, this continues the segregation of this area.
6. Disability Access - According to Map 16, Jonesboro has no pattern of segregating individuals with disabilities. While there are a few residents with disability living in our R/ECAP area, there are residents with disabilities living across the city. However, those attending the public hearing expressed a need for better access to transportation and more transitional housing. Fair Housing Enforcement & Outreach - The Jonesboro Housing Authority RAB meeting, Resident Council and PCC meeting identified a lack of knowledge of fair housing among the following groups: Real Estate Agents, Residents, Bankers/Lenders, and Landlords. Legal aid of Arkansas has also recognized the need for Fair Housing testing and enforcement and are looking into applying for a grant that would allow them to

assist locally with fair housing complaints. The City currently has no official process of fair housing outreach and/or enforcement. Education of the process and an official process has been identified as crucial in moving forward.

7. The City partners with the Fair Housing Commission to provide outreach and education. This partnership with the Commission will continue as well as new partnerships that have developed as a result of the public hearings. A local private effort is planned to ensure all seven of the protected classes are informed about their rights to fair housing and an understanding about the enforcement process. Outreach and education will empower protected classes and provide a avenue to have concerns heard with a reasonable expectation of a fair decision.

Contributing Factors:

Significant contributing factors were prioritized based on how substantially they impact fair housing issues in Jonesboro and our ability to address the contributing factor. In general, actors that contribute to multiple fair housing issues (Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach) are given higher priority than those that may impact one or two fair housing issues. Additionally, we have considered our ability to affect change in our prioritization. We focus our initial attention and highest priority on the factors within our control, acknowledging that we should not ignore factors outside our immediate control but that we may need additional time and resources to develop partnerships and strategies to affect change over those factors. Our prioritization strategy helps us focus our actions to address factors that are root causes of multiple issues in the community.

The following contributing factors were rated as a high priority because they limit, deny, or fair housing or civil rights compliance. These contributing factors have been addressed in the 'Goals' portion of the AFH with appropriate metrics and milestones. There are only eight goals listed as some of the goals cover more than one of the contributing factors.

Segregation

- Community Opposition
- Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities
- Lack of private investment in specific neighbors
- Occupancy codes and restrictions
- Private discrimination
- Deteriorated and abandoned properties
- Location and type of affordable housing
- The availability, type frequency and reliability of public transportation

R/ECAPS

- Deteriorated and abandoned properties
- Lack of community revitalization strategies
- Community Opposition
- Lack of public investment in certain neighborhoods
- Private discrimination
- The availability, type, frequency and reliability of public transportation
- Location and type of affordable housing

Disparities in Access to Opportunity

- The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation
- Community opposition
- Location and type of affordable housing
- Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods
- Private discrimination
- Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Disproportionate housing needs

- The availability of affordable units in a range of sizes

- *Community Opposition*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *Private discrimination*
- *Deteriorated and abandoned properties*

Publicly supported housing Location and Occupancy

- *Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities – transportation*
- *Lack of private investment in specific neighborhoods*
- *Lack of knowledge of fair housing among residents, landlords, real estate agents, and bankers/lenders as well as the lack of agencies and/or organizations devoted*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *Community Opposition*
- *Private discrimination*

Disability and Access

- *Access to transportation for persons with disabilities*
- *In accessible sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, or other infrastructure*
- *Lack of assistance for transitioning from institutional setting to integrated housing*
- *Community opposition*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *Private discrimination*

Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources

- *Community Opposition*
- *Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities*
- *Lack of private investment in specific neighbors*
- *Occupancy codes and restrictions*
- *Private discrimination*
- *Deteriorated and abandoned properties*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *The availability, type frequency and reliability of public transportation*

GOALS:

- Improve the availability of public transportation (JET) for Publicly Supported Housing families in the evening and on weekends.
- The City will establish a Citizens Fair Housing Board to address Community Opposition and to educate all residents (with a focus on protected classes) on how to effectively utilize fair housing laws to promote and encourage public investments in specific neighborhoods, and the location and type of affordable housing.
- Establish a partnership with City staff, City Council, residents, economic developers and other private investors to develop community revitalization strategies to reverse the trend of segregation in the R/ECAP; address contributing factors in each fair housing issue.
- Through outreach efforts and the CFHB, increase knowledge and understanding of fair housing and affirmatively furthering fair housing, international property maintenance codes, and revised state landlord/tenant laws.
- To support local organizations and obtain support from local organizations in increasing awareness and enforcement of fair housing for publicly assisted families.
- Diversify and expand affordable means of transportation and affordable housing.
- Establish a land bank/land trust to make homes more affordable for low-wealth families, help eliminate slums and blight, and reverse the trend of deteriorating property in low-income areas by making two (2) low-income home a year available.

- The City will establish a master pedestrian and bicycle plan that will include ADA-compliant sidewalks and pedestrian crossings in order to provide accessibility for our low-wealth and disabled residents within all neighborhoods. In addition, the City will look into expanding the public transit through its para-transit services in providing coverage in all areas of the City.
- Promote the Housing Choice Voucher program to property owners to open up available housing throughout the community due to the lack of affordable housing for Publicly assisted families in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

PROCESS AND ANALYSES FOR GOAL SETTING:

Government & Public Input

Input was received from the Mayor, the COO, and the CFO in establishing goals that will require City resources (i.e. staff, space, and funds) when taking into consideration whether certain goals can be met with the resources available to us.

Public & Stakeholder input – Not only from AFH public hearings but from several public hearings held throughout the year, including CDBG, MPO, Ward meetings, and the Mayors annual citywide meetings with residents.

Is the Goal Achievable?

In our establishment of goals, we calculated and analyzed if the goal is achievable within the 5-year time-frame of the AFH and Consolidated plan.

Fair Housing Choice

Will this goal substantially affect potential and current fair housing choice, access to opportunity and/or civil rights?

Building on the Last AI

Listed below are the suggested actions to consider as listed in the most recent (2013) AI. These suggested action were also taken into consideration in the establishment of AFH goals, along with the accompanying public input.

1. Consider establishing a Fair Housing Board to hear complaints and monitor adherence to fair house policies and regulations.
2. Increase knowledge and understanding of fair housing and affirmatively furthering fair housing through outreach and education:
3. Offer meeting space and set up educational schedule for both consumers and providers of housing to be carried out by the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission (AFHC)
 - Assist in coordinating local delivery of educational services to local renters
 - Assist in coordinating local delivery of professional training services to landlords, program managers, other rental housing providers,
4. Prominently display posters, flyers, and fair housing educational printed materials,
5. Distribute printed materials from that present information regarding:
 - Definitions of reasonable accommodation and modification
 - Examples of discriminatory terms and conditions in rental markets
 - Differences between affirmatively furthering fair housing, affordable housing production and preservation, and landlord/tenant rights and responsibilities,
6. Consider updating the 1980 Jonesboro Fair Housing Ordinance to be consistent with current state and federal fair housing laws and enhance the accessibility and awareness of this resolution,
7. Create improved referral system by distributing information about fair housing including how to file a complaint,
8. Create fair housing outreach e-mail distribution list for fair housing materials that might be distributed quarterly to all those who may be interested in fair housing,
9. Request technical support from the state's Little Rock HUD office for outreach and education activities that might be targeted to racial and ethnic minority consumers of housing.

10. Establish baseline of the actual level and types of discrimination occurring in the community through audit testing activities,

- Request that the City track complaint data more closely and use complaint data to compare year-to-year changes in fair housing activities. While more complaints are likely to be filed if educational efforts are successful, the goal of this action is to decrease the *percentage* of complaints that are found to be without cause and increase the percentage of those that are amicably reconciled. An additional goal is the decrease of the number of persons who abandon the complaint process without resolution.

11. Coordinate renter, homebuyer and homeowner credit training with local bankers and Realtors

- Enhance understanding of credit, what leads to poor credit and the attributes of predatory Lending
- Enhance the understanding of poor real estate business practices, such as steering, redlining, and blockbusting

12. More broadly inform the public of recent land use changes to exclusionary zoning and land use policies

- Consider how the public currently perceives zoning and land use policies,
- Determine the best way to improve the public's understanding of zoning and land use

Community Participation Process

Instructions

III.1. Describe outreach activities undertaken to encourage and broaden meaningful community participation in the AFH process, including the types of outreach activities and dates of public hearings or meetings. Identify media outlets used and include a description of efforts made to reach the public, including those representing populations that are typically underrepresented in the planning process such as persons who reside in areas identified as R/ECAPs, persons who are limited English proficient (LEP), and persons with disabilities. Briefly explain how these communications were designed to reach the broadest audience possible. For PHAs, identify your meetings with the Resident Advisory Board.

Instructions

In an effort to achieve sufficient community input, The City held two public hearings: July 11 at 5:30 p.m. and July 18 at 3:00 p.m. A press release was prepared and distributed to local media outlets, staff provided information on hearings, focus groups sessions and the input process. In addition to public hearings and focus groups, residents were encouraged to participate in online surveys or have the survey mailed to them.

Arkansas United Change Coalition (AUCC) sponsored a focus group sessions for limited English Speaking residents. The meeting was held at the AUCC office on September 15, 2016.

A Focus Group was also held for the Northeast Arkansas Realtors Association on, September 12, 2016 in the Municipal Building conference room.

The Jonesboro Housing Authority (JURHA) developed a "Fair Housing Survey" which was mailed out on May 6, 2016 to all participants and property owners on the program. The PHA mailed out 1,328 surveys to HCV participants and 592 surveys to participating owners. The PHA received 23 surveys from program participants and 2 surveys from participating owners.

JURHA also mailed program participants an invitation on May 6, 2016 to be part of the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) focusing on identifying existing impediments to Fair Housing and to obtain recommendation on finding solutions to existing impediments. Out of the 1,328 invitations we received 8 participants that requested to be part of the RAB.

The RAB met on July 19, 2016 with 3 participants attending and 3 participants asking to participate by mail. Two participants did not attend the meeting or request to participate by mail.

JURHA also administers a HCV FSS program which has a Program Coordinating Committee (PCC) made up of local organizations. On June 15, 2016 JURHA meet with the PCC to discuss "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing" and received input from those attending on Impediments to Fair Housing. There was an attendance of 18 representing the following organizations: Jonesboro Public Library, Jonesboro Police Department, PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly), Wesley House (Elderly complex) Habitat for Humanity, Arkansas State University at Newport, Legal aid of Arkansas, Better Life Counseling, and JURHA.

A "Fair Housing Survey" developed by Jonesboro Housing Authority (JURHA) was mailed out on May 6, 2016 to a total of 251 Public Housing, 202 Section 8 Project Based residents and Low Income Housing Tax Credit resident. Twenty Nine surveys were returned of the 251 mailed.

The Jonesboro Housing Authority Public Housing Resident Council met on August 11, 2016. Five of the seven resident council members participated in the meeting, this was above average participation for a Resident Council Meeting.

III.2. Provide a list of organizations consulted during the community participation process.

Instructions

The City of Jonesboro received input from the following organizations:

Jonesboro Urban Renewal and Housing Authority (JURHA)

Hispanic Community Services Inc. (HCSI)

Arkansas United Change Coalition (AUCC)

Northeast Arkansas Realtors Association

Jonesboro Homeless Taskforce

The Jonesboro Housing Authority met with the following local organizations:

Jonesboro Public Library

Jonesboro Police Department

PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly)

Wesley Housing (Elderly complex)

Habitat for Humanity

Arkansas State University at Newport

Legal aid of Arkansas

Better Life Counseling

Jonesboro Housing Authority Resident Advisory Board

Jonesboro Housing Authority Public Housing Resident Council

III.3. How successful were the efforts at eliciting meaningful community participation? If there was low participation, provide the reasons.

i Instructions

Assessment of Fair Housing Public Hearings were not as well attended as hoped. Although the turnout was low, the input and quality of responses were very meaningful. At both public hearings, the majority of those in attendance voiced their input with boldness and passion. We believe there were a couple reasons the turnout was low: (1) Looking back, we could have done a better job promoting the public hearings. One-on-one contact should have been initiated in addition to the other methods we used such as media and email; (2) We believe that certain groups of residents (elderly, low-income, Latinos and handicapped) did not participate because they felt uncomfortable and/or unsure of what to expect. The focus group for the realtors was well attended and realtors expressed a desire and eagerness to be involved with improving fair housing issues. The Latino focus group session was not well attended; However, of the four people attending the meeting, there was tremendous input and recommendations. Including that the City host monthly meetings to keep Latino residents informed—with an assurance from those in attendance to increase attendance at the meetings.

The Jonesboro Housing Authority typically has low participation rates for the RAB meetings with usually only one or two participants attending the meetings. This year we requested interested participants fill out a form if they wished to be part of the RAB and a survey that could be anonymously completed with or without being part of the RAB. We received a response from 8 participants which is more than double our normal response. Since it was difficult for all participants to agree on a date and time to meet the meeting was scheduled for the best time as indicated on the RAB form and the participants were encourage to attend but were also allowed participate by mail if unable to come to the meeting.

Jonesboro Housing Authority typically has low or no participation in the Resident Council meetings, due to varied working hours and transportation difficulties. The members were invited via personal letter and telephone outreach. Five of the seven members participated in this meeting and we feel this is better than normal participation. Transportation was discussed as being the biggest issue, including lack of sidewalks, inconvenient bus stops for the Jonesboro Economical Transit System and lack of bus schedule to accommodate employees needing transportation after 6:00 p.m.

III.4. Summarize all comments obtained in the community participation process. Include a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why.

i Instructions

Resident comments at Public Hearing #1

- The City should provide more variety for independent living for elderly and disabled resident
- Senior housing should provide amenities such as recreational activities to improve the quality of life
- Transportation for the elderly and disabled leaves much to be desired. Yes, the City provides public transportation (JETS), but how do you get to the bus stops when you are elderly or disabled. The individual was informed about the 'para transit' service provided by JETS, and responded that he was aware of the service and that it involved an extra fee.
- The City should provide more affordable housing for residents
- CRDC has 11 affordable units, however, the units are seldom available for rent
- JURHA stated their subsidized and public housing also stayed full. Residents could possibly wait up to 2 years for affordable housing.
- The City needs to provide more sidewalks to provide safety for the elderly and those in wheelchairs.

Resident comments at Public Hearing #2:

- Arkansas is the only state that has not adopted at least the minimum standard of the Uniform Landlord Tenant Law. The effect of the law is to bring the landlords and tenants onto an even playing field. If anything is happening with a property before move in, there is no

law that says the Landlord has to fix it. There are no clear rules or guidelines for evicting renters; the process is not defined or outlined for renters. These issues vastly impact the success of the Fair Housing Act on any level.

- The housing authority added that when they go out on inspections, it is not uncommon for landlords to have several things that need to be fixed to bring to their standards—but this is just a minimum standard.
- One resident offered that schools play a huge part in keeping ethnic schools ethnic. Despite the publicity, she stated, she does not see any real interest. There seems to be a great deal of manipulation to make sure the schools stay where they are. Adding she has noticed no positive change since the magnet system came into existence. The magnet system is like desegregation.
- "I have seen definite change in West Jonesboro. It has taken a step up—nothing drastic, but little-by-little. Homeownership is very diverse."
- The lack of transportation infrastructure helps keep the population segregated.
- Lack of transportation limits areas where families can use their Choice Vouchers.
- Federally funded public transit is not the only response to the transportation issue.
- The State of Arkansas may be the biggest barrier to fair housing because ("as I understand it")the states has no minimum habitability laws

Focus Group 1: NEA Board of Realtors

- Educate realtors and real estate agents on housing assistance
- Find the right people to inform (the public as well as agencies)
- Person-to-person interaction will be necessary to gain trust and momentum
- Educate the community and realtors/agents on what's going on and how they can benefit.
- The City can do a better job of educating realtors/agents on housing services
- City zoning regulations block developers from wanting to develop affordable housing
 - The cost of permits and the burden that it bares on the developer makes it less lucrative for the developer
 - Changing 'dirt' cost to be cheaper to encourage more development
 - Changing the ordinance to match the standard of living
- More tax incentives from local government for developers to build affordable housing
 - Tax credits
 - Remove curve and gutter regulations to cut cost
 - Provide more trust to regulators to ensure safe developments
 - There needs to be a motive besides just 'tax breaks'. Builders need to see this as an investment that is beneficial for all parties
- The City should remove some of its ordinances and zoning to encourage more construction
- Credit plays a huge part in taking on a new tenant, but most people do not know how credit actually works, so we need to educate realtors/agents on how to advise tenants
- Most people don't know the different types of credit and how it affects them in their lives
- All realtors agreed there needs to be a city-endorsed program for potential tenants on financial literacy and how credit works
- Foster a mentor-to-mentor relationship with those who will be utilizing rent-subsidized housing to build their financial standing
 - A lot of people have a great income but poor credit. They need the tools to get them into a home instead of renting
- The City should change the ordinance on lot size to allow for smaller, affordable housing to be built on smaller lots. In addition to providing smaller lots, this would also allow the City to get rid of some of the blight that exists in certain areas due to small lots where housing was demolished but the lot is too small to build on by current standards.
- You can go broke doing fair housing, so the best way for the City to make this work is make it profitable for the small investors in Jonesboro.

Focus Group 2 - Arkansas United Community Coalition

(The meeting was conducted with the assistance of a translator)

- Due to the lack of a sufficient system to assist limited English-speaking families, the Latino community assist each other by way of an informal network. Latinos often assist others in purchasing a home by providing down payment assistance, referring realtors and/or landlords and attorneys
- Requested the City conduct regular meetings with a translator to present service available to documented residents

- Several questions about CDBG programs and how to qualify and apply. Attendees were giving contact information and information on how to apply for programs.
- Many Latinos do not respond to meeting notices because many work as late as 7 p.m. and are not available to meet until 8:00 p.m. Staff discussed conducting regular monthly meetings on Friday nights after 7:00 p.m.
- Language is a barrier to fair housing as it prevents many ESL residents from fully understanding their rights and legal documents (i.e. lease, contracts, etc.)

The Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing Surveys listed the following serious barriers most of which were also supported by the PCC meeting, HCV RAB and Public Housing Resident Council.

1. Poor credit histories of minority borrowers - 32% HCV, 29% PH
2. Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing- 30% HCV, 30% PH
3. Limited capacity of a local organization devoted to fair housing investigation / testing - 29% HCV, 29% PH
4. Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing- 28% HCV, 29% PH
5. Lack of adequate zoning for manufactured housing - 26% HCV, 20% PH
6. Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing- 26% HCV, 25% PH
7. Housing providers placing certain tenants in the least desirable units in a development- 26% HCV, 24% PH
8. Lack of knowledge among landlords regarding fair housing – 25% HCV, 23% PH
9. Concentration of affordable housing in certain areas – 24% HCV, 19% PH
10. Lack of adequate public transportation and/or public transport routes – 23% HCV, 21% PH
11. Real Estate agents directing clients to rentals only in certain neighborhoods – 22% HCV, 20% PH
12. Owners threatening evictions unless tenants pay additional fees & rent- 22% HCV, 20% PH
13. Limitation of density of housing – 21% HCV, 24% PH
14. Housing providers using discriminatory advertising – 18% HCV, 19% PH
15. Lack of adequate zoning for multifamily housing – 18% HCV, 20% PH
16. Concentration of group homes in certain neighborhoods – 17% HCV, 15% PH
17. Housing providers falsely denying that housing is available - 17% HCV, 14% PH
18. Owners prohibiting children from playing outside – 13% HCV, 10% PH
19. Income levels of minority and female-headed households – 12% HCV, 10% PH

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's PCC agreed with the Survey but listed three additional barriers.

Criminal Background: The committee discussed problems with Landlords who had unreasonable screening policies that deny renters who had any type of criminal record and did not take into account how long ago the record occurred. This issue was not addressed in the Fair Housing Surveys.

Information on how to find housing: The committee discussed that their families have trouble finding housing and/or information on where available housing is located. Although there is no a central location for available housing the following information was shared on where to find rental properties: Craigslist, NEA Landlord Association website, GoSection8.com and there are several Facebook groups such as Jonesboro AR housing for sale or rent, Jonesboro Housing and Apartment for rent. this was not addressed in the Fair Housing Surveys.

Overall attitudes about race and poverty among community members: There is a need to cover costs for internet (apply for jobs, online finance, attend online classes, egovernment). Overall availability (distribution of Public and Section 8 housing). Getting information to renters about process, rights, etc.

The RAB was given the Survey and PCC comments on Fair Housing barriers. The following barriers were identified as significant barriers to fair housing:

- 1) Need for Fair Housing education and enforcement
- 2) Poor credit histories
- 3) Need for better transportation
- 4) Costs associated with moving outside of segregated and/or poverty areas
- 5) Slow response time from the police department in certain areas (north area of Jonesboro) which has higher minority population as identified in Map 1 – Race/Ethnicity
- 6) Lack of sidewalks, grocery stores, restaurants and jobs in close proximity to where they are living especially in the “north” area of town,
- 7) lack of financial counselors or organizations to help improve/repair your credit.

The RAB participants agreed with the Survey that residents, housing providers, and financial institution need more fair housing training. They also agreed that there is a lack of local organizations devoted to fair housing investigation. A RAB participant shared a past experience where she was determined ineligible to rent a unit because she was a single mother with children instead of a husband and wife with children. Carol Crawford stated this was a clear case of discrimination by “familial status”. Jan Hopkins discussed the procedures the PHA has in place to help applicants or participants to file a discrimination complaint.

The RAB participants also agreed with the survey that poor credit histories cause barriers to families trying to move outside of segregated areas and poverty areas.

Another issue that prohibits many families from moving to areas outside of segregated and/or poverty areas is the cost associated with moving, especially the security deposit for a unit and deposits to turn on the utilities.

Transportation was discussed at length and it was agreed that more transportation routes and expanded hours are needed to help families get and keep jobs. Currently JETS does not run after 6:00 p.m. or on weekends. Anyone working late nights or weekends must find alternate transportation in order to keep employment.

Police response time was discussed and the following comments were made “We need more sidewalks on Belt Street and the police officers need to respond to quick emergencies” and “having issues with the police arriving in a timely manner when 911 has been called.” A RAB participant had an experience where her unit was broken into and she was afraid to go into the unit. She called 911 and was still waiting after 15 or 20 minutes and had to call again to get a police response. The RAB participant was living in the “North side” of Jonesboro. It was generally felt that the response time in the “North side” of Jonesboro was much slower than in other parts of Jonesboro. The “North side” of Jonesboro has the majority of publicly supported housing such as Public Housing, Project-Based Section 8, Other Multifamily and LIHTC locations as shown in Map 5 from HUD’s affirmatively furthering Fair Housing Data and Mapping tool.

One RAB participant noted that there is a lack of sidewalks, grocery stores and restaurants located on the “North side” of town making it difficult for families to access. Specifically sidewalks were needed on Warren Street and Belt Street (“north side” of town). This area is predominately residential and there are many minority and disabled families living in this area.

I received a comment from a RAB participant by mail regarding the lack of financial counselors in the area. She had been working with the Housing Counselor employed through JURHA HCDO. JURHA HCDO had employed a Housing Counselor for many years but the last three years has been especially difficult to obtain adequate funding to keep the counselor. HUD funding has been cut in half from the original funding received and we have not received any funding from the City’s CDBG funding for the past three to four years. As we had no other stable source of funding the Housing Counselor decided to pursue other job opportunities because of the funding situation. We no longer have adequate funding to hire an experienced Housing Counselor or to send an inexperienced candidate to training to receive the necessary certification; therefore we have discontinued the service.

The Resident council did not identify any new barriers; however they did expand on barriers discussed in the previous meetings.

The Resident Council discussed transportation as being the biggest issue, including lack of sidewalks, inconvenient bus stops for the JETS transportation system, and lack of bus schedules to accommodate employees needing transportation after 6:00 p.m. A disabled individual suffering from rickets stated that he has great difficulty walking and that the bus stop for Walmart is at the back of the store and make it

necessary to walk almost a full block to reach the entrance through a busy parking lot and up an incline (or down depending on arrival or departure from Walmart). He noted many of the bus stops require the passenger to walk a block or two to get to the connecting route and that they are rarely placed in accessible areas to the businesses. He noted that a serious lack of sidewalks and poor sidewalk upkeep makes it really hard to get to the bus stops. He stated that even in places that there are sidewalks, the sidewalks are grown up with grass and weeds, making it difficult to walk or use a wheelchair.

I received a comment from a resident that stated she works at a restaurant at the Mall of Turtle Creek. She says that she cannot use the bus to get to and from work because the bus does not run after 6:00 p.m. She stated that many of the workers at the mall and Walmart have a problem with the lack of night time transportation in Jonesboro.

Lack of police reports to support fights or violent crime was discussed. One resident said that she called the police about what looked like a serious fight with weapons and the police just circled the area. Later that evening the police were called again. The second time, turned on the lights, and that made the people fighting disappear, but as soon as the police drove off, the fighting started again. The police did not get out of the car to talk to any neighbors.

Adults come and play basketball or just hang out on the playgrounds and start fights and scare off our kids. The Housing Authority put up signs that say Residents Only, but the police won't run any of the other people off when we call. The Resident Council asked for the signs, the housing authority got the signs and told the resident council they could call the police and that the housing authority would be able to press charges for trespassing since they got the signs, but the police never even tells the people that don't live there that they need to go. This makes it not safe for public housing kids to enjoy the playgrounds.

SUMMARY OF VIEWS NOT ACCEPTED:

At one of the focus group sessions, one resident expressed concern about the AFFH rule, stating that this rule and subsequent assessment tool would allow the Federal government coming in and tell the City how to zone its land use. Staff met with the resident before the meeting and explained that this is a planning document for use by the city and the Federal government has neither the desire or resources to tell cities how they should zone their property. HUD staff were available at this focus session and tried to reassure the resident, as well, that this is not what this planning document is about.

Another resident expressed concern that the AFH would allow low income families to use Section 8 vouchers to move into middle income neighborhoods. She also expressed that as long as low-income families can use Section 8 to rent, they will not be concerned about purchasing a house.

Assessment of Past Goals, Actions and Strategies

IV.1. Indicate what fair housing goals were selected by program participant(s) in recent Analyses of Impediments, Assessments of Fair Housing, or other relevant planning documents:

IV.1.a. Discuss what progress has been made toward their achievement.

In response to the most recent AI, it was recommended that the City of Jonesboro consider taking the following actions:

1. Initiate a Fair Housing Board to hear complaints and monitor adherence to fair housing policies and regulations.
2. Increase knowledge and understanding of fair housing and affirmatively furthering fair housing through outreach and education:
3. Offer meeting space and set up educational schedule for both consumers and providers of housing to be carried out by the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission (AFHC),
 - Assist in coordinating local delivery of educational services to local renters,
 - Assist in coordinating local delivery of professional training services to landlords, program managers, other rental housing providers,
4. Prominently display posters, flyers, and fair housing educational printed materials,
5. Distribute printed materials that provide information regarding:
 - Definitions of reasonable accommodation and modification,
 - Examples of discriminatory terms and conditions in rental markets,
 - Differences between affirmatively furthering fair housing, affordable housing production and preservation, and landlord/tenant rights and responsibilities,
6. Consider updating the Jonesboro Fair Housing Ordinance to be consistent with current state and federal fair housing laws and enhance the accessibility and awareness of this resolution,
7. Create improved referral system by distributing information about fair housing including how to file a complaint,
8. Create fair housing outreach e-mail distribution list for fair housing materials that might be distributed quarterly to all those who may be interested in fair housing,
9. Request technical support from the State's Little Rock HUD office for outreach and education activities that might be targeted to racial and ethnic minority consumers of housing.
10. Establish baseline information of the actual level and types of discrimination occurring in the community through audit testing activities,
 - Request that the City track complaint data more closely and use complaint data to compare year-to-year changes in fair housing activities. While more complaints are likely to be filed if educational efforts are successful, the goal of this action is to decrease the *percentage* of complaints that are found to be without cause and increase the percentage of those that are amicably reconciled. An additional goal is the decrease of the number of persons who abandon the complaint process without resolution.
11. Coordinate renter, homebuyer and homeowner credit training with local bankers and Realtors,
 - Enhance understanding of credit, what leads to poor credit and the attributes of predatory Lending,
12. Enhance the understanding of poor real estate business practices, such as steering, red-lining, and blockbusting.
13. More broadly inform the public of recent land use changes to exclusionary zoning and land use policies,
14. Consider how the public currently perceives zoning and land use policies,

Progress has been made on three of the 13 items listed above:

#2 - Outreach and education: The City has been working with the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission to sponsor workshops in Jonesboro. These workshop are promoted on the City website, via email, telephone call, and one-one-contact. The AFHC also promotes the events on their website. A Fair Housing brochure is available and accessible to residents inquiring and/or seeking CDBG services

#3 - In addition to outreach, the City provides meeting space for the training sessions/workshops.

#11-The City continues to partner with area financial institutions and other institutions to provide financial literacy classes.

IV.1.b. Discuss how you have been successful in achieving past goals, and/or how you have fallen short of achieving those goals (including potentially harmful unintended consequences); and

The City has much work to do to meet the goals set out in the 2012 AI, as well as the 2016 AFH and will continue to partner with HUD and the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission to conduct annual training(s).

In the past, no staff person has been assigned to ensure that fair housing is a priority and carried out based on federal regulations. And while the City has experienced no 'glaring' complaints or concerns from it's citizenry, we now realize that an assigned staff person, who has the responsibility to reach the fair housing goals, is necessary if our goals are to be met.

IV.1.c. Discuss any additional policies, actions, or steps that you could take to achieve past goals, or mitigate the problems you have experienced.

 Instructions

Many of the suggestions and input offered in the public hearings and focus sessions mirror input from the 2012 AI. Confirming that these are real issues and are relevant to the community. Further, these issues will not 'go away' unless they are appropriately addressed. The public hearings and focus sessions were a great means for obtaining the infrastructure to move forward with this process. The information will be utilized in considering implementation of affirmatively furthering fair housing. Due to time constraints, many groups were not afforded the opportunity to offer support. These groups need to be contacted and given an opportunity to offer input into the process of affirmatively furthering fair housing.

The entire City must come together as a whole in an effort to move forward.

IV.1.d. Discuss how the experience of program participant(s) with past goals has influenced the selection of current goals.

 Instructions

As the City has not made noticeable progress on the past goals as outlined in the AI, we have repeated those goals here, as they are still relevant and need to be addressed. Additionally, we found that most of the goals, with few exceptions, were brought up again as we conducted our public hearings and focus group sessions, showing the relevance and importance of striving to meet these goals.

Fair Housing Analysis

Fair Housing Analysis > Demographic Summary

V.A.1. Describe demographic patterns in the jurisdiction and region, and describe trends over time (since 1990).

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

■ Revised (Click for previous text)

Jonesboro is located in the northeastern portion of Arkansas. It is one of the fastest growing cities in the state. Jonesboro's population is currently estimated at 72,000 people. However, the 2010 census data used for this assessment shows Jonesboro at a population of 58,104.

And while the population has grown, the percentage of ethnic minorities, low income, etc. remains fairly constant. Jonesboro has a White/Non-Hispanic population of 71.24 percent; or 42,097; a Black Non-Hispanic population of 11,614 or 19.65 percent; Hispanic population is 3,198 or 5.51 percent. Asian, Native American and Other populations are 2.02 percent of the population or a total of 1,195 people.

Since 1990, the minority populations in Jonesboro have been on the incline, while the white population has been declining. The trend indicates that the minority population is also consistently increasing in the CBSA (or rural areas of the region).

In 1990, the City's white population was 41,649, compared to 42,097 in 2010 an increase of 448 people or less than 1%; while the African American population increased from 3,140 (6.90%) in 1990 to 11,614 (19.65%) in 2010, an increase of 300.70%: The Hispanic population increased from 232 (.51%) in 1990 to 3,198 (5.41%) in 2010, for an increase of 1300.78%.

Individuals with Limited English Proficiency have seen a steady increase from 450 individuals (.99%) in 1990 to 2,002 individuals in 2010 (2.97%)

Within the City of Jonesboro, 17,826 individuals (28.16%) have some form of disability, ranging from hearing and visual difficulty to ambulatory difficulty and difficulty caring for themselves.

Table 1 - Demographics

	(Jonesboro, AR CDBG) Jurisdiction		(Jonesboro, AR CBSA) Region	
Race/Ethnicity	#	%	#	%
White, Non-Hispanic	42,097	71.24	98,641	181.50
Black, Non-Hispanic	11,614	19.65	14,328	11.84
Hispanic	3,198	5.41	4,820	3.98
Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	977	1.65	1,140	0.94
Native American, Non-Hispanic	165	0.28	339	0.28
Other, Non-Hispanic	53	0.09	85	0.07
National Origin	Country		Country	
#1 country of origin	Mexico	1,689 2.50	Mexico	2,117 1.75
#2 country of origin	Philippines	173 0.26	Philippines	185 0.15
#3 country of origin	China excl. Hong Kong & Taiwan	150 0.22	Canada	165 0.14
#4 country of origin	Canada	139 0.21	China excl. Hong Kong & Taiwan	164 0.14
#5 country of origin	Thailand	81 0.12	Thailand	81 0.07

#6 country of origin	Japan	75	0.11	Taiwan	79	0.07
#7 country of origin	Taiwan	74	0.11	Japan	78	0.06
#8 country of origin	Saudi Arabia	71	0.11	Germany	76	0.06
#9 country of origin	Indonesia	64	0.10	England	73	0.06
#10 country of origin	England	59	0.09	Saudi Arabia	72	0.06

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Language	Language	Language		
#1 LEP Language	Spanish	1,587 2.48	Spanish	1,877 1.55
#2 LEP Language	French	95 0.15	French	109 0.09
#3 LEP Language	Chinese	83 0.13	Chinese	85 0.07
#4 LEP Language	Japanese	52 0.08	Japanese	52 0.04
#5 LEP Language	Cambodian	38 0.06	Vietnamese	42 0.03
#6 LEP Language	Other Pacific Island Language	38 0.06	Cambodian	38 0.03
#7 LEP Language	Vietnamese	37 0.06	Other Pacific Island Language	38 0.03
#8 LEP Language	Tagalog	24 0.04	Tagalog	32 0.03
#9 LEP Language	Arabic	14 0.02	Urdu	16 0.01
#10 LEP Language	Urdu	13 0.02	Arabic	14 0.01

Disability Type

Hearing difficulty	2,338 3.69	4,756 4.21
Vision difficulty	1,768 2.79	3,340 2.96
Cognitive difficulty	4,062 6.42	8,044 7.13
Ambulatory difficulty	5,056 7.99	10,861 9.62
Self-care difficulty	1,743 2.75	3,322 2.94
Independent living difficulty	2,859 4.52	6,021 5.33

Sex

Male	28,350 47.97	59,014 48.76
Female	30,745 52.03	62,012 51.24

Age

Under 18	14,490 24.52	30,100 24.87
18-64	37,434 63.35	75,286 62.21
65+	7,171 12.13	15,640 12.92

Family Type

Families with children	6,931 47.91	14,356 45.32
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Table 2 - Demographic Trends	(Jonesboro, AR CDBG) Jurisdiction						(Jonesboro, AR CBSA) Region					
	1990		2000		2010		1990		2000		2010	
Race/Ethnicity	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
White, Non-Hispanic	41,649	91.48	47,936	85.43	42,097	71.24	86,911	92.82	95,655	88.76	98,641	81.50
Black, Non-Hispanic	3,140	6.90	5,821	10.37	11,614	19.65	5,521	5.90	8,388	7.78	14,328	11.84
Hispanic	232	0.51	1,263	2.25	3,198	5.41	497	0.53	2,100	1.95	4,820	3.98
Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	330	0.72	579	1.03	977	1.65	398	0.43	694	0.64	1,140	0.94
Native American, Non-Hispanic	134	0.29	383	0.68	165	0.28	219	0.23	753	0.70	339	0.28
National Origin												
Foreign-born	451	0.99	1,327	2.36	3,233	4.79	609	0.65	1,837	1.70	3,921	3.24
LEP												
Limited English Proficiency	450	0.99	1,225	2.18	2,002	2.97	790	0.84	1,728	1.60	2,327	1.92
Sex												
Male	21,817	47.89	26,813	47.79	28,350	47.97	45,056	48.13	52,105	48.35	59,014	48.76
Female	23,740	52.11	29,292	52.21	30,745	52.03	48,564	51.87	55,657	51.65	62,012	51.24
Age												
Under 18	10,826	23.76	13,512	24.08	14,490	24.52	23,576	25.18	27,371	25.40	30,100	24.87
18-64	29,639	65.06	36,126	64.39	37,434	63.35	57,979	61.93	67,115	62.28	75,286	62.21
65+	5,092	11.18	6,467	11.53	7,171	12.13	12,065	12.89	13,276	12.32	15,640	12.92
Family Type												
Families with children	5,814	47.10	4,576	46.81	6,931	47.91	12,374	46.92	10,155	46.37	14,356	45.32


Footnotes

Note 1: All % represent a share of the total population within the jurisdiction or region for that year, except family type, which is out of total families.

Note 2: Data Sources: Decennial Census; ACS

Note 3: Refer to the Data Documentation for details (www.hudexchange.info).

V.A.2. Describe the location of homeowners and renters in the jurisdiction and region, and describe trends over time.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous text)

According to the 2010 U.S. Census American Fact Finder, 49% of white families own their own home; and 29.1% are renters; While less than 5% of minorities own their own home, but approximately 15% rent their home.

The vast majority of rental property is located in RE/CAP areas of Jonesboro. While the national standard for housing cost burden says that not more than 30% of income should be paid in housing cost, the 2010 American Fact Finder results show a direct correlation between income and percent of income paid in housing cost. For the 26.5% of Jonesboro families living on less than \$20,000 per year, 21.1% of them pay 38.6% of their income in housing costs. While 18.2% of our families earn between \$20,000 to \$34,999 annually, 8.5% of them pay more than 30% of their income in housing costs.

Jonesboro Housing Authority's Public Housing is located just outside of the Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAP). Though physically located out of the Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAP), based on the PHA annual review for de-concentration in Public Housing, 87% (121 of 140 public housing residents) fall at or below the Extremely Low Income Level! Eleven of the remaining 19 families live at the 50% or Very Low Income Level.

Public Housing Income Statement has remained fairly constant over the past five years:

Table I Bedroom Sizes

Development	1 BR	2 BR	3 BR	4 BR	Factoring	BR Factor
Cayman Villa	9@ .85=7.65	18@1 = 15 18	@ 1.25=18.75	3@ 1.4=4.2	48.6/45	1.08
Goff Courts 1.03	6@ .85=5.1	13@1 = 13	4 @ 1.25=5	1@ 1.4=1.4	24.5/24	1.02
Marshall/	0	12@1= 12	21 @ 1.25=26.25	0	38.25/33	1.16
Scattered Sites	0	0	11 @ 1.25=13.75	0	13.75/11	1.25
Meadow Crest	0	8	0	0	8/8	1

As per Step 3 of the Final Deconcentration Rule, a development will be considered below the Established Income Range (EIR) if its mean gross household income is less than 85% of the JURHA mean, and a development will be considered above the EIR if its mean gross household income is above 115% of the JURHA mean. The 2016 JURHA mean gross household income is **\$10,328** as shown in II

Table II Income Range Determination 1,474,529/123

Average Income PHA Wide	High End of Range @ 115%	Low End of Range @ 85%
1.09		

11,361/1.10= 10,328	11,877	8,779
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Table III Development Range Determination

Development	Total Annual Income	Number of Occupied Units	Development Average Income/BR Factor	Development Income divided by BR Factor	PHA Wide	Acceptable Justification
					85% - 115% Income Range High 11,877 Average 10,328 Low 8,779	
Cayman Villa	517,155	45	11,492/1.08	10,641	In Range	*Contiguous to Goff Courts
Goff Courts	211,825	24	8,826/1.02	8,653	Below	*Contiguous to Cayman Villa
Marshall	395,273	33	11,978/1.16	10,326	In Range	Marshall
Scattered Sites	101,463	11	9,224/1.25	7,379	Below	Scattered Site
Meadow Crest	148,908	8	18,614	18,614	Above	*Contiguous to Marshall & Scattered Site
TOTALS	1,374,624	121	11,361/1.10	10,328		

Step 4 of the De-concentration Requirement is an "option to provide reasons developments are outside of the Established Income Range." In other words, it provides the opportunity to exclude entire developments or selected units from the application of the requirement to de-concentrate poverty and mix incomes if the income profile for these units or developments is consistent with furthering both the goals of de-concentration. Developments and unit types that fall into this category are not limited to, but include those developments that:

1. are subject to a consent decree agreement or a judicial decree covering the resident selection;
2. are part of a PHA program/ strategy that is specifically authorized by statute such as mixed income or mixed financed developments, a homeownership program, a strategy designed to promote income-mixing in public housing or one designed to raise the income of public housing residents;
3. are designed via size, location or other configuration to promote income deconcentration; or
4. Have income characteristics that can be explained by other circumstances.

Cayman Villa AR and Goff Courts are contiguous developments sharing playgrounds, clotheslines, and in some instances, yards. The Scattered site development is comprised of only 12 homes individual three bedroom homes, on separate lots scattered throughout the northern portion of Jonesboro. Since it is a scattered site, it is considered deconcentrated. Meadow Crest is comprised of eight units which is located on the same block as seven of the scattered site units. Woodland Courts which is exempt due to being designated elderly/disabled is the only development that would be considered in a different area. Woodland Courts is located in central Jonesboro. All other JURHA developments are located in northern Jonesboro, north of Aggie Road. All developments fall well below the published MSA median income, as all fall within the Extremely Low Income Level of for 2016. Since all developments are within a five mile radius in north Jonesboro, all developments are now considered one development within the PIC system, and all developments average incomes are within the extremely low income level, with considerations authorized in Step 4, all JURHA developments fall within the Established Income Range.

Fair Housing Analysis > General Issues


V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Segregation/Integration


V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Segregation/Integration > Analysis

 Instructions

V.B.i.1. Analysis

V.B.i.1.a. Describe and compare segregation levels in the jurisdiction and region. Identify the racial/ethnic groups that experience the highest levels of segregation.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data


 Revised (Click for previous text)

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's review of Table 3 shows Hispanics, Asians and Pacific Islanders have the highest level of segregation which is moderate segregation in both the Jonesboro, AR CDBG Jurisdiction and Jonesboro, AR CBSA Region. The Non-White/White Racial/Ethnic dissimilarity trends have improved from 1990 which was 46.56% to 38.36% in 2010 which indicates low segregation. The Black/White Racial/Ethnic dissimilarity trends also shows an improvement from 1990 which was at 52.43% to 40.20% in 2010 which

indicates moderate segregation. The Hispanic/White Racial/Ethnic dissimilarity trend shows a decline from 1990 which was at 19.05% low segregation to 42.45% in 2010 which is moderate segregation. The Asian or Pacific Islander/White Racial/Ethnic dissimilarity trend has slightly improved from 1990 which was at 45.91% to 42.58% in 2010 which is still moderate segregation.

V.B.i.1.b. Explain how these segregation levels have changed over time (since 1990).

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's analysis of Table 2 Demographic Trends and Table 3 - Racial/Ethnic Dissimilarity Trends shows:

The Hispanic population is 5.41% of the total population for Jonesboro, AR CDBG jurisdiction and has increased from 232 in 1990 to 3,198 in 2010 as shown in Table 2. The Hispanic dissimilarity trend has increased from 19.05% in 1990 to 42.45% in 2010. The Hispanic dissimilarity trends in Jonesboro, AR CBSA also shows an increase from 1990 which was 19.34% and is 37.95% in 2010.

The Non-white/White dissimilarity has improved in the Jonesboro, AR CDBG since 1990 from 46.56% moderate segregation to 38.36% in 2010 which is low segregation. However the Non-White/White dissimilarity for Jonesboro, AR CBSA has slightly increase since 1990 from 47.95% to 48.28% in 2010 which is moderate segregation.

The Black/White dissimilarity has improved in the Jonesboro, AR CDBG since 1990 from 52.43% to 40.20% in 2010 but is still considered moderately segregated. However the dissimilarity for Black/White has increased in the Jonesboro, AR CBSA jurisdiction has increased from 53.66 in 1990 to 55.61% in 2010 which is considered a high level of segregation

The Asian or Pacific Islander/White dissimilarity has also seen a slight improvement from 1990 going from 45.91% to 42.58% with moderate segregation for Jonesboro, AR CDBG. The Asian or Pacific Islander/White dissimilarity has slightly increased from 1990 going from 51.04% to 52.06% for Jonesboro, AR CBSA which also shows moderate segregation.

V.B.i.1.c. Identify areas with relatively high segregation and integration by race/ethnicity, national origin, or LEP group, and indicate the predominant groups living in each area.

V.B.i.1.c. Identify areas with relatively high segregation and integration by race/ethnicity, national origin, or LEP group, and indicate the predominant groups living in each area.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

 Revised (Click for previous text)

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's review of the Map 2 Race/Ethnicity Trends 2000 shows there is a high level of Segregation of Black, Non-Hispanic in the R/ECAP area.

In a review of Maps 1, 2, 3 and 4, the City of Jonesboro notes that in three (3) of the four (4) maps, the dot density jurisdictions are the same.

The concentration of Racial And Ethnic Minorities, Race/Ethnicity Trends and National Origin, and Limited English Proficiency are all concentrated within the same R/ECAP. This is the area known as North Jonesboro and is home mostly to low-income residents than any other area of the City. North Jonesboro is also home to a disproportionate number of African Americans and Latinos. The 1990 density map shows no R/ECAP jurisdiction. This is due to the small percentage of minorities living in Jonesboro in 1990.

V.B.i.1.d. Consider and describe the location of owner and renter occupied housing in determining whether such housing is located in segregated or integrated areas.

i Instructions

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's local data for the Housing Choice Voucher program show that census 6 and census 4 has the highest level of rental property available. Census 6 has been identified as having a high level of Segregation of Black, Non-Hispanic and is also in the R/ECAP area.

The majority of Jonesboro Housing Authority's Public Housing is located just outside of the R/ECAP area with only 12.58% of the units being in the R/ECAP. Map 5 indicates that Public Housing is located at 500 East Cherry, which is one building of one site. Public Housing is made up of six different complexes, scattered among different locations within a five mile radius all outside the R/CAP. In 70 of our 151 public housing units are located on East Alpine and East Roseclair, contiguous to Garden Manor and North Acres Apartments which are also shown on the map. Thirty-six public housing units are located on Marshall and Melrose bordering, but not within the R/ECAP northern border (Belt). Craighead Place is a Low Income Housing Tax Credit 31 unit complex located at 1435 Belt is within the R/ECAP as is eight public housing units in the MeadowCrest complex at 1011 Belt and 11 individual single family units.

V.B.i.1.e. Discuss how patterns of segregation have changed over time (since 1990).

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority review of Table 2 shows there has been a 20% decrease of the White, Non-Hispanic population, an increase of 13% in the Black, Non-Hispanic population, an increase of 5% in the Hispanic population, and an increase of 1% in the Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic population and a slight decrease of 0.01% of the Native American, Non-Hispanic population.

Comparing Map 2 Race/Ethnicity Trends shows that the black, Non-Hispanic to be segregated in census track 6.01 and 6.02 which include the R/ECAP.

V.B.i.1.f. Discuss whether there are any demographic trends, policies, or practices that could lead to higher segregation in the jurisdiction in the future.


i Instructions

City of Jonesboro notes that the R/ECAP shown in Maps 1 and 3 has historically been documented by Census data as concentrated areas of poverty and minority populations. Tables 1 and 2 show that as the population increases, more minorities inhabit the inner city, as the majority population decreases within the city and moves to more suburban areas. If this trend continues, we will see a higher level of segregation in the jurisdiction. Without policy changes and community support, this trend will remain the same.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Segregation/Integration > Additional Information

V.B.i.2. Additional Information

V.B.i.2.a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about segregation in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.

 Instructions

No additional to add at this time.

V.B.i.2.b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of segregation, including activities such as place-based investments and mobility options for protected class groups.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous text)

Revitalizing Jonesboro's older neighborhoods requires a comprehensive approach involving residents, neighborhood organizations, and the City.


Participants in the public outreach sessions expressed concerns about their relationship with the City, particularly that between code enforcement and area neighborhoods. The City should enhance its working relationship with the residents, property owners, and community organizations. This is a most important step in that community resources are identified and nurtured, which will serve as building partners for revitalization actions. Regulatory reform will be needed in order to help strengthen and stabilize the housing supply and maintain neighborhood stability.

Through its CDBG funding, the City of Jonesboro consistently invests funds in its low-income areas. The 2015 CDBG Action Plan includes \$270,000 in sidewalk improvements. Funds are provided annually for homeowner housing rehabilitation, demolition activities, first-time home buyer assistance, and public services provided to low income neighborhoods and families.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Segregation/Integration > Contributing Factors of Segregation

V.B.i.3. Contributing Factors of Segregation

Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of segregation.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous responses)

Community Opposition

Lack of private investments in specific neighborhoods

Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities

Location and type of affordable housing

Occupancy codes and restrictions

Private discrimination

V.B.i.3. Contributing Factors of Segregation - Other

 Revised (Click for previous text)

The availability, type, frequency and reliability of public transportation


V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > R/ECAPs

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > R/ECAPs > Analysis

V.B.ii.1. Analysis


V.B.ii.1.a. Identify any R/ECAPs or groupings of R/ECAP tracts within the jurisdiction.


 Instructions

 Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's and the City's review of Maps 1, 2 and 3 identifies census track 6.02 as the R/ECAP. This area is North Main street on the east, E. Allen, Belt Street and Johnson on the North, Stadium/Red Wolf Blvd. on the West and the Railroad tracks on the South.

V.B.ii.1.b. Which protected classes disproportionately reside in R/ECAPs compared to the jurisdiction and region?

 Instructions


 Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's analysis of Map 1 indicates that the Black, Non-Hispanic and Hispanic Race/Ethnicity groups disproportionately reside in the R/ECAP area when compared to their total population of City of Jonesboro.

The City's analysis of maps 1, 2, and 4, shows that African Americans and Hispanics disproportionately reside in the jurisdiction and region

Table 4 shows that 71.24 percent of Jonesboro residents are white; 19.65 percent are black; and 5.41% are Hispanic. However, when we look at the 2,925 residents living in the R/ECAP on Map 1, 1650 of the residents are black, 225 are Hispanic, and 1050 are white. So while whites are 71.24 percent of the overall population, they are only 35.8% in the R/ECAP, leaving a disproportionate number of minorities in the R/ECAP of 64.2%.

V.B.ii.1.c. Describe how R/ECAPs have changed over time (since 1990).

 Instructions

 Relevant Data


The Jonesboro Housing Authority's analysis of Map 2 - Race/Ethnicity shows both the White/Non-Hispanic and Black/Non-Hispanic populations increased significantly; however the Black/Non-Hispanics growth in the R/ECAP was significantly higher. It should also be noted that the Black, Non-Hispanic population grew rapidly from 3,140 in 1990 to 11,614 in 2010 (Table 2 - Demographic Trends).

In 1990, the City of Jonesboro had no RECAP. However, as the city becomes more diverse, the R/ECAP has formed in North Jonesboro. This R/ECAP is located in a portion of the city that has a 64.2% minority population.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > R/ECAPs > Additional Information

V.B.ii.2. Additional Information

V.B.ii.2.a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about R/ECAPs in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.

 Instructions

No additional data or information to add at this time.

V.B.ii.2.b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of R/ECAPs, including activities such as place-based investments and mobility options for protected class groups.


 Instructions


The City of Jonesboro has been investing CDBG and general funds into the R/ECAP over the past eight years. Funds are used for infrastructure, demolition of slums and blighted property, homeowner rehabilitation, public services to non-profits to serve low-income residents and families, and to improve recreational facilities. Also, the city works directly with low income residents into the area to use their voice to bring about change in their neighborhood.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > R/ECAPs > Contributing Factors of R/ECAPs

V.B.ii.3. Contributing Factors of R/ECAPs

Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of R/ECAPs.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous responses)

- Community Opposition
- Deteriorated and abandoned properties
- Lack of community revitalization strategies
- Lack of private investments in specific neighborhoods
- Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities
- Location and type of affordable housing

V.B.ii.3. Contributing Factors of R/ECAPs - Other

 Revised (Click for previous text)

The availability, type, frequency and reliability of public transportation

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity


V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Analysis


V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Analysis > Educational Opportunities

V.B.iii.1. Analysis

V.B.iii.1.a. Educational Opportunities


V.B.iii.1.a.i. Describe any disparities in access to proficient schools based on race/ethnicity, national origin, and family status.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

According to Table 1, The School Proficiency Index for Asian and white students is considerably higher than that of blacks and Hispanics. This discrepancy indicates that black and Hispanic children are less likely than whites to live in neighborhoods with access to quality schools. In each ethnic group, with the exception of Asians, access to quality schools is lower among segments of the population living below the poverty. However, access to quality schools is also low among low-income white residents. The R/ECAP in Map 9 shows that school proficiency is fairly integrated between black and white residents, and also includes, to a lesser degree, Hispanics and Asians.

V.B.iii.1.a.ii. Describe the relationship between the residency patterns of racial/ethnic, national origin, and family status groups and their proximity to proficient schools.


 Instructions

 Relevant Data

The City of Jonesboro (proper) has only one high school, Jonesboro High. There are two Junior High Schools and 7 elementary schools, all of which are Magnet schools. However, in the metropolitan area, there are an additional three school districts of grades 1-12 schools,

Regardless of where a family lives within Craighead County, all public schools allow "choice" entry into the school system. Residents of Jonesboro School District may choose into Valley View Public Schools, Brookland Public Schools, Westside Public Schools and/or Nettleton Public Schools. The deadline for choice for the 2016-2017 school year was May 1, 2016, so in order to take advantage of the opportunity to choose the school district, the superintendent's office must be contacted for deadline information. There is also a limit on how many students may choose into a district. The limit is set by the state. Transportation becomes the issue once a family chooses to attend a school district outside of the resident district.

V.B.iii.1.a.iii. Describe how school-related policies, such as school enrollment policies, affect a student's ability to attend a proficient school
Which protected class groups are least successful in accessing proficient schools?

 Instructions

Jonesboro elementary schools are magnet schools and have an open enrollment based on first-come/first-served. Any student can enroll in any of the seven magnet schools in the system. However, most minority students attend the school located within their neighborhood because of lack of transportation. So even with the open enrollment policy, there are elementary schools that are disproportionately minority schools.

The Jonesboro Public Schools have an open enrollment policy and students are allowed to attend the school of their choice. However, transportation has an affect on where many students attend school. Additionally, there is only one elementary school located in North Jonesboro, the city's lowest income area.

Jonesboro receives over \$2M per year in Title I Funds.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Analysis > Employment Opportunities

V.B.iii.1.b. Employment Opportunities

V.B.iii.1.b.i. Describe any disparities in access to jobs and labor markets by protected class groups.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

 Revised (Click for previous text)

Based on the data provided, Blacks and Hispanics have the least amount of access to jobs and the labor markets. While the R/ECAP has a disproportionately high number of these protected groups, the R/ECAP has the lowest labor market index in the jurisdiction. The same holds true for those protected by national origin as well as family status. Transportation is a major hindrance to job access; along with employment skills (.ie. job readiness, interview & resume skills, and experience/training).


V.B.iii.1.b.ii. How does a person's place of residence affect their ability to obtain a job?


 Instructions

 Relevant Data

Transportation has been suggested as one of the top barriers. Jonesboro JETS, the public transportation system ends at 6:00 p.m. Many factory jobs, most retail and restaurant jobs and all hospital jobs offer employment hours between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., however, without an adequate public transportation system, it is difficult for low income persons with no private transportation or lack of dependable transportation to meet job schedules of these possible employers. Day jobs are actually few and far between and frequently are reserved for individuals with seniority within the company. Lack of sidewalks is also a concern for those energetic and physically fit individuals that might be able to walk to and from work. Lack of business in the R/ECAP area and just outside of the R/ECAP, throughout north Jonesboro as significantly fewer businesses, therefore without adequate transportation, the farther the person lives from the employment, the less likely they are to seek employment. It also must be factored that many of the low income persons have children. They must also coordinate transportation to and from school and/or childcare into getting to work.

V.B.iii.1.b.iii. Which racial/ethnic, national origin, or family status groups are least successful in accessing employment?

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

Based on relevant data, Hispanics and Blacks are the least successful in accessing employment; Whites and Asians are more likely to access employment with Native Americans falling somewhere in the middle. Looking at the data, this has a lot to do with the proximity and location of jobs from areas of concentrated poverty and segregation.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Analysis > Transportation Opportunities

V.B.iii.1.c. Transportation Opportunities

V.B.iii.1.c.i. Describe any disparities in access to transportation based on place of residence, cost, or other transportation related factors.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

There is a direct correlation of transit trips to transportation costs. The greater and further the number of transit trips, the higher the transportation cost. Blacks have the highest index of transit trips and transportation costs, with Hispanics having the second highest. Whites have the lowest index of transit trips and transportation data. The instances of transit trips and transportation costs are the highest, by far, in the R/ECAP area of North Jonesboro.

V.B.iii.1.c.ii. Which racial/ethnic, national origin or family status groups are most affected by the lack of a reliable, affordable transportation connection between their place of residence and opportunities?

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

Blacks and Hispanics are most affected by the lack of reliable, affordable transportation. The higher cost of transportation and the number of transit trips indicate they have the greatest burden to access opportunities.

V.B.iii.1.c.iii. Describe how the jurisdiction's and region's policies, such as public transportation routes or transportation systems designed for use personal vehicles, affect the ability of protected class groups to access transportation.

i Instructions

The Jonesboro Economical Transit System (JETS) is the local public transportation. The system is limited at best due to funding. The system does not operate on weekends and stops running at 6:00 p.m. on weekdays. Leaving a big void for second shift workers and those who's shifts may include weekend schedules. Low income areas, such as the R/ECAP and others, rely heavily on public transportation and/or easy access. The City of Jonesboro, has been working with the MPO and other groups and organizations to make the City more walker and biker friendly for recreational use, as well as for those who require easier, and safer alternatives for getting to and from work, shopping, and other personal needs.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Analysis > Low Poverty Exposure Opportunities

V.B.iii.1.d. Low Poverty Exposure Opportunities

V.B.iii.1.d.i. Describe any disparities in exposure to poverty by protected class groups.

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

Based on the relevant data, Blacks have a greater rate of poverty exposure than whites by almost 2:1. Hispanics have the second highest rate of poverty exposure, followed by Native Americans. It is interesting to note, that while Asians closely follow Whites in most other indicators, they are more closely related to Blacks and Hispanics when it comes to the Poverty Index. Here again, the R/ECAP shows the highest indices of exposures to poverty.

V.B.iii.1.d.ii. What role does a person's place of residence play in their exposure to poverty?

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

A persons place of residence plays a tremendous role in their exposure to poverty. Residency goes to the heart of exposure to poverty. This becomes obvious when looking at the data. Minority populations (Blacks/Hispanics) Are at the top of every bad index and the bottom of every good index. Further, R/ECAP data shows that these protected groups are disproportionately represented within the R/ECAP. While they represent a minority of the City's population, they represent a majority percentage of the population's poorest and most under served.

V.B.iii.1.d.iii. Which racial/ethnic, national origin or family status groups are most affected by these poverty indicators?

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

Racial and Ethnic families with children are most affected by the poverty indicators. Between 60 and 80% percentage of families in the R/CAP area have children, who have a high exposure to poverty.

V.B.iii.1.d.iv. Describe how the jurisdiction's and region's policies affect the ability of protected class groups to access low poverty areas

i Instructions

The lack of affordable housing affects the ability of protected classes to access low poverty areas. Other policies of notice are: Education, transportation, and employment. Low income areas in Jonesboro are also a disadvantage for grocery stores and fresh produce.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Analysis > Environmentally Healthy Neighborhood Opportunities and Patterns in Disparities in Access to Opportunity

V.B.iii.1.e. Environmentally Healthy Neighborhood Opportunities

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

V.B.iii.1.e.i. Describe any disparities in access to environmentally healthy neighborhoods by protected class groups.

Relevant Data

According to the data shown in the Environmental Health Index, there is very little disparity in the environment for all groups. With a variation of about two percentage points between groups. Indicating that all Jonesboro neighborhoods are environmentally safe.

V.B.iii.1.e.ii. Which racial/ethnic, national origin or family status groups have the least access to environmentally healthy neighborhoods?

Relevant Data

Asians have the least access to environmentally healthy neighborhoods. (I believe this is due to the fact that many Asian student are concentrated in the area of Arkansas State University. However, as stated, they still reside in environmentally safe neighborhoods.

V.B.iii.1.f. Patterns in Disparities in Access to Opportunity

V.B.iii.1.f.i. Identify and discuss any overarching patterns of access to opportunity and exposure to adverse community factors based on race/ethnicity, national origin or familial status. Identify areas that experience an aggregate of poor access to opportunity and high exposure to adverse factors. Include how these patterns compare to patterns of segregation and R/ECAPs.

Instructions

Based on supporting data, all Jonesboro residents have access to good environmental health. Residents are in no danger of environmental concerns based on air pollutants.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Additional Information


V.B.iii.2. Additional Information

V.B.iii.2.a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about disparities in access to opportunity in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.

Instructions

No additional relevant information to add at this time.

V.B.iii.2.b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of disparities in access to opportunity, including any activities aimed at improving access to opportunities for areas that may lack such access, or in promoting access to opportunity (e.g., proficient schools, employment opportunities, and transportation).


 Instructions

No additional relevant information to add at this time.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Contributing Factors of Disparities in Access to Opportunity

V.B.iii.3. Contributing Factors of Disparities in Access to Opportunity

Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of disparities in access to opportunity.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous responses)

The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation
Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities
Location and type of affordable housing
Private discrimination

V.B.iii.3. Contributing Factors of Disparities in Access to Opportunity - Other

 Revised (Click for previous text)


Community Opposition
Location and type of affordable housing


V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disproportionate Housing Needs

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disproportionate Housing Needs > Analysis

V.B.iv.1. Analysis

V.B.iv.1.a. Which groups (by race/ethnicity and family status) experience higher rates of housing cost burden, overcrowding, or substandard housing when compared to other groups? Which groups also experience higher rates of severe housing burdens when compared to other groups?

 Instructions


 Relevant Data


Hispanics (52.58% and Asians (51.52%) experience the highest rates of housing cost burden, overcrowding, or substandard housing. Blacks are third and 48.04%. While 26.78% of whites experience a housing cost burden.

Asians experience the highest rate of severe cost burden (35.02%); Hispanics 33.51%; and Blacks 31.98%. White experience severe cost burden at a rate of 14.46%.

Based on comments from public hearings, focus groups, and input, this disparity is primarily due to the language barrier.

V.B.iv.1.b. Which areas in the jurisdiction and region experience the greatest housing burdens? Which of these areas align with segregated areas, integrated areas, or R/ECAPs and what are the predominant race/ethnicity or national origin groups in such areas?

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

North Jonesboro experiences the highest percent of families experience a housing cost burden. This is the area of the R/ECAP and is disproportionately inhabited by ethnic and racial minorities (Blacks, Hispanics and Asians),

V.B.iv.1.c. Compare the needs of families with children for housing units with two, and three or more bedrooms with the available existing housing stock in each category of publicly supported housing.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

The HCV programs data does not track families with children. The Public Housing programs data does not track families with children. Based on public housing staff manual review of Jonesboro Public Housing census, Public Housing families are comprised of 72.54% or 107 families with children.

JURHA manages one LIHTC thirty one unit property which houses 27 families with children, the remaining four families are disabled.

JURHA manages a seventy unit multifamily elderly development. There are no families with children in Jonesboro Sunset Gardens, the elderly development managed by JURHA.

V.B.iv.1.d. Describe the differences in rates of renter and owner occupied housing by race/ethnicity in the jurisdiction and region.

 Instructions

Jonesboro has a home ownership rate at almost 56 percent. This is below the national average and the goals established for cities by HUD based on its sustainable communities initiatives. Of even greater concern, were the home ownership rates among African Americans and Hispanics, at 18% and 32%, drastically lower than the city, state and national averages. Home ownership rates are highest in areas of the city with newer homes, despite the higher median housing values in those areas.

There is a direct correlation between the housing cost burden of those who rent and those who own their own home. In analyzing table 9 and Map 7, we see the R/ECAP shows a large percentage of racial and ethnic minorities, with a large percentage of homes in this area being rental property.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disproportionate Housing Needs > Additional Information

V.B.iv.2. Additional Information

V.B.iv.2.a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about disproportionate housing needs in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.

 Instructions

No additional data or relevant information to provide at this time.

V.B.iv.2.b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of disproportionate housing needs. For PHAs, such information may include a PHA's overriding housing needs analysis.

 Instructions


No additional relevant information to add at this time,

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disproportionate Housing Needs > Contributing Factors of Disproportionate Housing Needs

V.B.iv.3. Contributing Factors of Disproportionate Housing Needs

Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of disparities in access to opportunity.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous responses)

The availability of affordable units in a range of sizes

V.B.iv.3. Contributing Factors of Disproportionate Housing Needs - Other

 Revised (Click for previous text)

Community Opposition

Location and type of affordable housing

Private discrimination

Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Fair Housing Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Analysis

Fair Housing Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Analysis > Analysis

Fair Housing Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Analysis > Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Demographics

V.C.1. Analysis

V.C.1.a. Publicly Supported Housing Demographics

V.C.1.a.i. Are certain racial/ethnic groups more likely to be residing in one category of publicly supported housing than other categories (public housing, project-based Section 8, Other HUD Multifamily Assisted developments, and Housing Choice Voucher (HCV))?

 Instructions

i Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority Housing Choice Voucher family characteristics report shows the program is composition of 64.76% of Black, Non-Hispanic, 35% White, Non-Hispanic, and 0.38 % for all other races. Hispanic ethnicity makes up 1.3% of the program participants.

Jonesboro Public Housing indicates composition of 70% Black, Non-Hispanic, 30% White, Non-Hispanic. Hispanic ethnicity makes up .06% of all program participants.

Jonesboro Sunset Gardens, a 202 Section 8 Project Based complex managed by Jonesboro Housing Authority has family characteristics of 12% Black, Non-Hispanic, 88% White, Non-Hispanic. Hispanic ethnicity makes up .01% of the participants.

Craighead Place is a low income housing tax credit property that is managed by Jonesboro Housing Authority. The composition of the families is 80% Black, Non-Hispanic and 20% White, Non-Hispanic.

V.C.1.a.ii. Compare the demographics, in terms of protected class, of residents of each category of publicly supported housing (public housing, project-based Section 8, Other HUD Multifamily Assisted developments, and HCV) to the population in general, and persons who meet the income eligibility requirements for the relevant category of publicly supported housing. Include in the comparison, a description of whether there is a higher or lower proportion of groups based on protected class.

i Instructions

i Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher Family Characteristics and HAP by CFP Size report August 3, 2016 shows that the Black, Non-Hispanic population is 64.76% compared to 19.65% for the City of Jonesboro, AR CDBG population (Table 1 - Demographic Trends). The HCV program Elderly population is 15.25% compared to the City of Jonesboro 65+ population of 12.13% from Table 2 - Demographic Trends. The HCV program has a Disabled person in 57.74% of the households assisted. The City of Jonesboro shows 30% of the population as disabled in Table 1 Demographics. The HCV families are comprised of 73% with children and the City of Jonesboro has 47.91% Families with Children of the population Table 2 - Demographic Trends. The Housing Choice Voucher program is 91% female head of households and 10% male head of households. The Jonesboro, AR CDBG population is 47.97% Male and 52.03% Female. The Housing Authority has no data is available on National Origin as it is not tracked by our software.

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's Housing Public Housing Characteristics and report 9/22/16 indicates that the Black, Non-Hispanic population is 70% compared to 19.65% for the City of Jonesboro, AR CDBG population (Table 1 - Demographic Trends). The JURHA Elderly 202 Project Based Housing is 88% which is slightly less than the 71.24% white population for the City of Jonesboro. The thirty-one unity Low Income Housing Tax Credit property managed by JURHA has a Black population at 80% compared to the 19.65% for the City of Jonesboro, AR CDBG population (Table 1 - Demographic Trends).

The Public Housing Elderly population is 6.34% compared to the City of Jonesboro 65+ population of 12.13% from Table 2 - Demographic Trends. The Public Housing program has a Disabled person in 35.92% of the households assisted. The City of Jonesboro shows 30% of the population as disabled in Table 1 Demographics. The Public Housing families are comprised of 72.54% with children and the City

of Jonesboro has 47.91% Families with Children of the population Table 2 - Demographic Trends. The public housing program is 79% female head of households and 21% male head of households. The Jonesboro, AR CDBG population is 47.97% Male and 52.03% Female. The Housing Authority has no data is available on National Origin as it is not tracked by our software.


In summary using local data from the Jonesboro Housing Authority the Housing Choice Voucher program and Jonesboro Public Housing Program, with the exception of the 70 unit elderly multifamily complex, has a higher proportion of protected class groups (Race – Black, Non-Hispanic, Disability, Sex, Familiar Status) than Jonesboro, AR CDBG jurisdiction.

Fair Housing Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Analysis > Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy and Disparities in Access to Opportunity

V.C.1.b. Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

V.C.1.b.i. Describe patterns in the geographic location of publicly supported housing by program category (public housing, project-based Section 8, Other HUD Multifamily Assisted developments, HCV, and LIHTC) in relation to previously discussed segregated areas and R/ECAPs.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

 Revised (Click for previous text)

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's analysis of Map 6 - Housing Choice Voucher and Race/Ethnicity shows the highest percentage of Housing Choice Vouchers are located in outside the R/ECAP area in census 6.01 > 17.74%. The R/ECAP area is in census 6.02 which is 11.17% - 17.74%. Our housing software shows census track 6 with a total of 379 which is comprised of census 6.01 and 6.02. These two areas are typically referred to the "north side" of Jonesboro and considered less desirable but also has more affordable rents which ultimately results in many Voucher Holders leasing in these areas. As the voucher program is comprised of 64.76% Black, Non-Hispanic population this also results in segregation of this area.

The majority of public housing is located outside the R/ECAP, however all are located in the "north side" of Jonesboro described above. Nineteen (12.58%) of the 151 public housing units are located within the R/ECAP. Thirty six of the 132 units outside of the R/ECAP are located within one block of the R/ECAP on streets that intersect with the northern border (Belt Street) of the R/ECAP area. Since Jonesboro Public Housing is comprised of 70% Black and the LIHTC property, located inside the R/ECAP, managed by JURHA is 80% Black, this continues the segregation of this area.

V.C.1.b.ii. Describe patterns in the geographic location for publicly supported housing that primarily serves families with children, elderly persons, or persons with disabilities in relation to previously discussed segregated areas or R/ECAPs?

📌 Instructions

📌 Relevant Data

📄 Revised (Click for previous text)

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's Housing Choice voucher program is comprised of 57.74% of families who have a person with disability, 15.25% of families are elderly households, and 73% of the households have children in the household.

The Jonesboro Housing Authority has issued 154 voucher from January 1, 2016 through July 1, 2016 with 99 families finding housing and 55 families vouchers expired. Families allow the voucher to expire for many reasons but lack of affordable housing is almost at least part of the reason if not the primary reason for a voucher expiring. Affordable housing was found 64.29% of the time but in many cases the search took up to 120-150 days - 24.24% of the families finding affordable housing with 30 days, 36.36% of the families finding affordable housing in 30 - 60 days, 18.18% of the families take 60-90 days to find housing, 11.11% of families take 90-120 to find affordable housing, 10.10% of families find affordable housing 120-150 days. Listed below is an analysis of HCV families by census track . The largest concentration of HCV holders are in census 4.00, 6.10 and followed by 6.20 with is the R/ECAP area. Although census track 4.00 is not listed as a R/ECAP area it is fast becoming an area of contraction among low-income families Census Tracks 1.00 - 8.00 are within the City of Jonesboro and Census Tracks 9.00 - 12:00 census are outside the City of Jonesboro but within Craighead County.

The lack of affordable housing, concentration of affordable housing in certain areas, and limitation of density of housing does limit or deny access to opportunity and can promote segregation.


Census tracks #	in census track	%
1.00	110	8.42%
2.00	87	6.66%
3.00	69	5.28%
4.00	338	25.86%
5.00	114	8.72%
6.10	224	17.14%
6.20	174	13.31%
7.00	92	7.04%
8.00	38	2.91%
9.00	11	0.84%
10.00	4	0.31%
11.00	17	1.30%
12.00	29	2.22%

Public Housing maintains 19 units or 12.58% of the public housing stock inside the borders of the R/ECAP Area. Of the 19 public housing units within the R/ECAP, 95% of them are families with children. Thirty four of the 134 units outside of the R/ECAP are located within one block of the R/ECAP on streets that intersect with the northern border (Belt Street) of the R/ECAP area. 100% of the units bordering the R/ECAP are comprised of families with children.

Jonesboro Housing Authority also manages a LIHTC property of 31 units that falls within the R/ECAP area. Of the 31 LIHTC units managed by JURHA within the R/ECAP, 12.9% are elderly and 22.6% are disabled.

V.C.1.b.iii. How does the demographic composition of occupants of publicly supported housing in R/ECAPS compare to the demographic composition of occupants of publicly supported housing outside of R/ECAPS?

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

 Revised (Click for previous text)

The Jonesboro Housing Authorities local data indicates that 13.31% of voucher holders live in census 6.02 the R/ECAP area. Census track 4.00 has 25.86 which is has been identified as a racially concentrated area of poverty. This makes 60.83% of voucher holders live outside of the R/ECAP area. This is also supported by Table 7 - R/ECAP and Non-R/ECAP demographics by Publicly Supported Housing Program Category which only has 188 families in the R/ECAP area.

Table 7 also shows Project-Based Section 8 a total of 312 unit with 99 units located in the R/ECAP area. Other HUD Multifamily unit properties have a total of 95 units with 19 units located in the R/ECAP area.

Public Housing has a total of 151 units with 19 of it scattered site units being in the R/ECAP area.

V.C.1.b.iv.(A). Do any developments of public housing, properties converted under the RAD, and LIHTC developments have a significantly different demographic composition, in terms of protected class, than other developments of the same category? Describe how these developments differ.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority has not converted any public housing development under RAD.

V.C.1.b.iv.(B) Provide additional relevant information, if any, about occupancy, by protected class, in other types of publicly supported housing.

 Instructions

Relevant Data

The Jonesboro Housing Authority has a high percentage of families with a disabled persons which makes finding affordable housing difficult. Transportation and the need to expand affordable housing outside of the R/ECAP area was identified in the RAB meeting as barriers to finding housing.

V.C.1.b.v. Compare the demographics of occupants of developments, for each category of publicly supported housing (public housing, project-based Section 8, Other HUD Multifamily Assisted developments, properties converted under RAD, and LIHTC) to the demographic composition of the areas in which they are located. Describe whether developments that are primarily occupied by one race/ethnicity are located in areas occupied largely by the same race/ethnicity. Describe any differences for housing that primarily serves families with children, elderly persons, or persons with disabilities.

Instructions

Relevant Data

Revised (Click for previous text)

Jonesboro Public Housing indicates composition of 70% Black, Non-Hispanic, 30% White, Non-Hispanic. Hispanic ethnicity makes up .06% of all program participants. Only 12.58% of Jonesboro Public Housing's 151 unit inventory is in the R/ECAP, however all except 24 elderly units are located in Jonesboro's "north side" within 1 block to less than 2 miles from the R/ECAP area. The 24 elderly public housing units are located approximately two miles from the R/ECAP area, but outside of the "north side" area and is 55% white and 45% black. Table 8 indicates the census tract race/ethnicity is 67.67% white, 22.86 % black, 6.56% Hispanic & .25% Asian. As indicated in other sections of this report, Public Housing is NOT located in one location. All units are scattered through north Jonesboro, with the exception of the 24 elderly units. The minority population is higher for Jonesboro Public Housing than when for the census tract,

Jonesboro Sunset Gardens, a 202 Section 8 Project Based complex managed by Jonesboro Housing Authority has family characteristics of 12% Black, Non-Hispanic, 88% White, Non Hispanic. Hispanic ethnicity makes up .01% of the participants. Jonesboro Sunset Gardens is located in a very diverse area, approximately 4 miles southwest from the R/ECAP area. Jonesboro Sunset Gardens has 88% white population compared to the census tract of 67.12% white population. Jonesboro Sunset Gardens has less of a minority population than the census tract in which it is located.

Garden Manor Estates and North Acres Apartments are two adjoining (shared parking, amenities and fencing) project-based section 8 properties. Per Table 8 they are comprised of 84% 89% black, and 16%/11% white, respectively. Garden Manor Estates and North Acres Apartments are located approximately 1 mile from the northeast border of the R/ECAP and less than 1 block from 71 of the Jonesboro Public Housing units. The census tract for these two adjoining developments has a race/ethnicity population of 62.18% white, 28.49% black, 5.19% Hispanic and .92% Asian per Table 8. Therefore these developments have a significantly higher minority population than the areas in which they are located.

Walker Courts is located within the R/ECAP area on Calion Street. According to Table 8, the population of Walker Courts is 18% white and 81% black with 1% unspecified Hispanic. Walker Courts is a project Based Section 8 property. Per Table 8, Walker Courts is located in a census Tract with race/ethnicity of 42.23% white, 38.41% black, 10.98% Hispanic, & 5.92% Asian. Based on the comparison with data from Table 8, Walker Courts also has a significantly higher minority population than the area in which it is located.

Aspen Gardens is located approximately two miles from the R/ECAP area, but outside of the "north side" area and per Table 8 is 82% white and 13% Black and offers project-based section 8 assistance. This complex is located between two of Jonesboro Public Housing's elderly buildings. Per Table 8, Aspen Gardens is located in a census tract which is 57.57% white, 22.86% black, 6.56% Hispanic & .25% Asian, yet Aspen Gardens, an elderly project based development is populated by 82% white, only 13% black and 5% Hispanic. Aspen Gardens, an elderly development, has fewer minorities than the area in which it is located.

Benedictine Manor I and Benedictine Manor II are two adjoining other HUD multifamily assisted housing complexes that share parking and amenities. They are located on Bridge Street approximately 1 mile from the R/ECAP's southern border. Per Table 8, Benedictine Manor I is comprised of 75% white, 20% Black and 5% Hispanic. Benedictine Manor II is comprised of 86%. Both Benedictine Manor developments are located in a census tract with race/ethnicity of 67.67% white, 22.86 Black, 6.56% Hispanic and .25% Asian. Both Benedictine Manor developments are elderly properties with a minority population that is less than the area in which they are located. Wesley at Jonesboro lies in the same census tract as Benedictine Manor, yet has a 100% white population.

Craighead Place is a low income housing tax credit property that is managed by Jonesboro Housing Authority. The composition of the families is 80% Black, Non-Hispanic and 20% White, Non-Hispanic. Craighead Place is located on the northern border of the R/ECAP. Craighead Place is located in a census tract with 62.18% white and 28.49% black population per Table 8, therefore Craighead Place actually has a significantly higher minority population.

As the site manager, Jonesboro Housing Authority has demographic reports for Craighead Place. Three other LIHTC properties were called to request demographics, all responded that they do not keep demographic reports for the properties.

Per Table 1, demographics for Jonesboro CDBG or as follows:


Race/Ethnicity	#	%	#
White, Non-Hispanic	42,097	71.24%	98,641
Black, Non-Hispanic	11,614	19.65%	14,328
Hispanic	3,198	5.41%	4,820
Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	977	1.65%	1,140
Native American, Non-Hispanic	165	0.28%	339
Other, Non-Hispanic	53	0.09%	85


Review of the data Jonesboro Housing Authority collected and reviewed from Table 8, two conclusions may be drawn. The elderly developments of publicly supported housing have a slightly lower minority population than the City as a whole and are more closely primarily occupied by the same race/ethnicity as Jonesboro CDBG area. The mixed or family developments have a higher a significantly higher minority concentration than the Jonesboro CDBG.

The elderly developments are all located farther outside to the south of the R/ECAP area and none of the elderly developments are located in what is termed as Jonesboro's less desirable "north side". The family development are either inside the R/ECAP or less than 1 mile from the R/ECAP and all are located in Jonesboro's "north side".

V.C.1.c. Disparities in Access to Opportunity

V.C.1.c.i. Describe any disparities in access to opportunity for residents of publicly supported housing, including within different program categories (public housing, project-based Section 8, Other HUD Multifamily Assisted Developments, HCV, and LIHTC) and between types (housing primarily serving families with children, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities) of publicly supported housing.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

 Revised (Click for previous text)

The Jonesboro Housing Authority has identified Transportation and credit counseling as a disparity in opportunity for the Housing choice voucher holders. Jonesboro is approximately 80 square miles which makes it difficult for families without adequate transportation to find housing in some of the more preferred neighborhoods. Currently JETS has limited routes and scheduled which can result in missed opportunities for employment. 23% of the HCV holders who responded to our Fair Housing Survey sited transportation as a serious barrier.

Also 32% of the HCV holders who responded to the Fair Housing Survey sited poor credit histories as a serious barrier. Recently the Jonesboro Housing Authority has had to suspend their Housing Counseling program due to lack of HUD and Local (CDBG) funding. We have had several years of under funding for this program and have pursued outside funding but due to the instability of the funding we can not keep a certified housing counselor.

26% of Housing Choice Voucher and 20% of Public Housing Residents indicated that lack of zoning for manufactured homes were a serious barrier to fair housing. We did not include this as a contributing factor because the city of Jonesboro has no zoning restrictions for manufactured homes.

Fair Housing Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Analysis > Additional Information

V.C.2. Additional Information

V.C.2.a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about publicly supported housing in the jurisdiction and region, particularly information about groups with other protected characteristics and about housing not captured in the HUD-provided data.

 Instructions

The Jonesboro Housing Authority used information from surveys sent to all participants of the Housing Choice Voucher Program, Public Housing Program, Section 202 programs and the LIHTC development managed by JURHA.

V.C.2.b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of publicly supported housing. Information may include relevant programs, actions, or activities, such as tenant self-sufficiency, place-based investments, or mobility programs.

 Instructions


 Revised (Click for previous text)


The Jonesboro Housing Authority met with the JURHA Program coordinating Committee which is comprised of local agencies to discuss barriers or factors contributing to fair housing for protected classes.

Fair Housing Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Analysis > Contributing Factors of Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

V.C.3. Contributing Factors of Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of fair housing issues related to publicly supported housing, including Segregation, R/ECAPs, Disparities in Access to Opportunity, and Disproportionate Housing Needs. For each contributing factor that is significant, note which fair housing issue(s) the selected contributing factor relates to.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous responses)

Community opposition

Lack of private investment in specific neighborhoods

Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities

V.C.3. Contributing Factors of Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy - Other

 Revised (Click for previous text)

- *Lack of knowledge of fair housing among residents, landlords, real estate agents, and bankers/lenders as well as the lack of agencies and/or organizations devoted*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *Private discrimination*

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Analysis

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Analysis > Population Profile

V.D.1. Population Profile

V.D.1.a. How are persons with disabilities geographically dispersed or concentrated in the jurisdiction and region, including R/ECAPs and other segregated areas identified in previous sections?

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

According to Map 16, Jonesboro has no pattern of segregating individuals with disabilities. While there are a few residents with disability living in our R/ECAP area, there are residents with disabilities living across the city.

V.D.1.b. Describe whether these geographic patterns vary for persons with each type of disability or for persons with disabilities in different age ranges.

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

The geographic patterns are the same for individuals with disabilities across the board. There are no patterns of segregation based on income, age or disability type.

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Analysis > Housing Accessibility

V.D.2. Housing Accessibility

V.D.2.a. Describe whether the jurisdiction and region have sufficient affordable, accessible housing in a range of unit sizes.


 Instructions

In properties owned and managed by Jonesboro Housing Authority, we usually seem to have adequate accessible units, Jonesboro Public housing offers 7% of it's stock with accessible features. One, two and three bedroom units are available. Jonesboro Sunset Gardens offers 11.5% of it's units with accessible features. The LIHTC managed by Jonesboro Housing Authority offers 12.9% of it's units with accessible features.

One of the comments at the public hearing was the need for landlords to understand and provide reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities.


V.D.2.b. Describe the areas where affordable accessible housing units are located. Do they align with R/ECAPs or other areas that are segregated?


 Instructions

 Relevant Data

Again, based on the data provided, there are no specific areas with a disproportionate number of affordable accessible housing units.

V.D.2.c. To what extent are persons with different disabilities able to access and live in the different categories of publicly supported housing?

 Instructions

 Relevant Data

Refer to 2a above.

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Analysis > Integration of Persons with Disabilities Living in Institutions and Other Segregated Settings

V.D.3. Integration of Persons with Disabilities Living in Institutions and Other Segregated Settings

V.D.3.a. To what extent do persons with disabilities in or from the jurisdiction or region reside in segregated or integrated settings?

The data reflects that there are no segregated settings for persons with disabilities. There is no additional local data available at this time.

V.D.3.b. Describe the range of options for persons with disabilities to access affordable housing and supportive services.

 Revised (Click for previous text)

Jonesboro has a limited number of group homes and public/private institutions for persons with disabilities. In the community, many residents with disabilities cannot find the services needed to thrive outside of these group homes and public/private institutions.

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Analysis > Disparities in Access to Opportunity

V.D.4. Disparities in Access to Opportunity

V.D.4.a. To what extent are persons with disabilities able to access the following?

Identify major barriers faced concerning:

- i. Government services and facilities
- ii. Public infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian signals)
- iii. Transportation
- iv. Proficient schools and educational programs
- v. Jobs

Revised (Click for previous text)

- i. Government services and facilities are handicapped accessible
- ii. Public infrastructure has areas that are not easily accessible for some disabilities (particularly wheel chairs). The City is working to build more sidewalks and access
- iii. The public transportation system provides door-to-door pick up and drop off to individuals with disabilities for a small limited fee.
- iv. Schools are accessible for the mobility impaired. Also, majority of the schools provide limited programs to those who are mentally impaired within the jurisdiction. Other difficulties are addressed on a case-by-case basis
- v. No local data available.

V.D.4.b. Describe the processes that exist in the jurisdiction and region for persons with disabilities to request and obtain reasonable accommodations and accessibility modifications to address the barriers discussed above.

This is an area of fair housing that will be addressed. There is currently no formal process in place for requesting and obtaining reasonable accommodations and accessibility modifications.

The Jonesboro Housing Authority's HCV and Public Housing follow federal regulations stipulating that requests for accommodations will be considered reasonable if they do not create an "undue financial and administrative burden" for the PHA, or result in a "fundamental alteration" in the nature of the program or service offered. A fundamental alteration is a modification that alters the essential nature of a provider's operations.

A reasonable accommodation is an adjustment made to a rule, policy, practice, or service that allows a person with a disability to have equal access to the HCV program. For example, reasonable accommodations may include making home visits, extending the voucher term, or approving an exception payment standard in order for a participant to lease an accessible dwelling unit.

If an applicant or participant indicates that an exception, change, or adjustment to a rule, policy, practice, or service is needed because of a disability, HUD requires that the PHA treat the information as a request for a reasonable accommodation, even if no formal request is made [Joint Statement of the Departments of HUD and Justice: Reasonable Accommodations under the Fair Housing Act].

The family must explain what type of accommodation is needed to provide the person with the disability full access to the PHA's programs and services. If the need for the accommodation is not readily apparent or known to the PHA, the family must explain the relationship between the requested accommodation and the disability. There must be an identifiable connection, or nexus, between the requested accommodation and the individual's disability. Before providing an accommodation, the PHA must determine that the person meets the definition of a person with a disability, and that the accommodation will enhance the family's access to the PHA's programs and services.

The PHA must comply with a variety of regulations pertaining to physical accessibility, including the following:

- Notice PIH 2010-26
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- The Architectural Barriers Act of 1968
- The Fair Housing Act of 1988

In the HCV program In general, owners must permit the family to make reasonable modifications to the unit. However, the owner is not required to pay for the modification and may require that the unit be restored to its original state at the family's expense when the family moves.

When an accessible unit becomes vacant in public housing, before offering such units to a non-disabled applicant the PHA must offer such units:

- First, to a current resident of another unit of the same development, or other public housing development under the PHA's control, who has a disability that requires the special features of the vacant unit and is occupying a unit not having such features, or if no such occupant exists, then
- Second, to an eligible qualified applicant on the waiting list having a disability that requires the special features of the vacant unit.

When offering an accessible unit to an applicant not having a disability requiring the accessibility features of the unit, the PHA may require the applicant to agree (and may incorporate this agreement in the lease) to move to a non-accessible unit when available.

Public Housing Policy

Families requiring an accessible unit may be over-housed in such a unit if there are no resident or applicant families of the appropriate size who also require the accessible features of the unit.

When there are no resident or applicant families requiring the accessible features of the unit, including families who would be over-housed, the PHA will offer the unit to a non-disabled applicant.

When offering an accessible unit to a non-disabled applicant, the PHA will require the applicant to agree to move to an available non-accessible unit within 30 days when either a current resident or an applicant needs the features of the unit and there is another unit available for the non-disabled family. This requirement will be a provision of the lease agreement.

Federal regulations stipulate that requests for accommodations will be considered reasonable if they do not create an "undue financial and administrative burden" for the PHA, or result in a "fundamental alteration" in the nature of the program or service offered. A fundamental alteration is a modification that alters the essential nature of a provider's operations.

Types of Reasonable Accommodations

When it is reasonable (see definition above and Section 2-II.E), the Public Housing shall accommodate the needs of a person with disabilities. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Permitting applications and reexaminations to be completed by mail
- Providing "large-print" forms
- Conducting home visits
- Permitting a higher utility allowance for the unit if a person with disabilities requires the use of specialized equipment related to the disability
- Modifying or altering a unit or physical system if such a modification or alteration is necessary to provide equal access to a person with a disability
- Installing a ramp into a dwelling or building
- Installing grab bars in a bathroom
- Installing visual fire alarms for hearing impaired persons
- Allowing a PHA-approved live-in aide to reside in the unit if that person is determined to be essential to the care of a person with disabilities, is not obligated for the support of the person with disabilities, and would not be otherwise living in the unit.
- Providing a designated handicapped-accessible parking space
- Allowing an assistance animal
- Permitting an authorized designee or advocate to participate in the application or certification process and any other meetings with PHA staff
- Displaying posters and other housing information in locations throughout the PHA's office in such a manner as to be easily readable from a wheelchair

V.D.4.c. Describe any difficulties in achieving homeownership experienced by persons with disabilities and by persons with different types of disabilities.


No knowledge or data available at this time.

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Analysis > Disproportionate Housing Needs

V.D.5. Disproportionate Housing Needs

V.D.5.a. Describe any disproportionate housing needs experienced by persons with disabilities and by persons with certain types of disabilities.

 Instructions


 Relevant Data

There is no local supporting data of disproportionate housing needs by persons with disabilities.

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Additional Information

V.D.6. Additional Information

V.D.6.a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about disability and access issues in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.

 Instructions

No additional relevant data is available at this time.

V.D.6.b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of disability and access issues.


 Instructions


No additional information to add at this time.

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Disability and Access Issues Contributing Factors

V.D.7. Disability and Access Issues Contributing Factors

Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of disability and access issues and the fair housing issues, which are Segregation, R/ECAPs, Disparities in Access to Opportunity, and Disproportionate Housing Needs. For each contributing factor, note which fair housing issue(s) the selected contributing factor relates to.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous responses)

Access to transportation for persons with disabilities

Inaccessible sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, or other infrastructure

Lack of assistance for transitioning from institutional settings to integrated housing

V.D.7. Disability and Access Issues Contributing Factors - Other

Revised (Click for previous text)

- *Community opposition*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *Private discrimination*

Fair Housing Analysis > Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Analysis

Fair Housing Analysis > Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Analysis > Analysis

V.E.1. List and summarize any of the following that have not been resolved: a charge or letter of finding from HUD concerning a violation of a civil rights-related law, a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a violation of a state or local fair housing law, a letter of findings issued by or lawsuit filed or joined by the Department of Justice alleging a pattern or practice or systemic violation of a fair housing or civil rights law, or a claim under the False Claims Act related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, or civil rights generally, including an alleged failure to affirmatively further fair housing.

 Instructions

The Jonesboro Housing Authority has no outstanding HUD violations.

The City of Jonesboro has no outstanding HUD violations

V.E.2. Describe any state or local fair housing laws. What characteristics are protected under each law?

 Instructions

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), as amended, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing-related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents of legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18), and handicap (disability).

The Arkansas Fair Housing Act (http://www.fairhousing.arkansas.gov/images/PDFs/Arkansas_Fair_Housing_Act_16-123-201_et_seq.pdf) is substantially equivalent to the Federal Fair Housing Act and also prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing-related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents of legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18), and handicap (disability).


Arkansas Civil Rights Act of 1993 is the state mechanism that provides an individual a means to redress the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Arkansas Constitution. It prohibits discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, gender and disability.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

In 1990, the City of Jonesboro passed an Ordinance (ORD-80:1927) Approving and Providing for the Establishment of Fair Housing Rights to all Citizens of Arkansas.

In 2011, the city passed a resolution (RES-11:091) to Ensure Furtherance of Fair Housing Practices in Jonesboro, Arkansas

V.E.3. Identify any local and regional agencies and organizations that provide fair housing information, outreach, and enforcement, including their capacity and the resources available to them.

 Instructions

Legal Aid of Arkansas provides limited resources. Legal Aid workgroups have created a set of guidelines call Case Acceptance Priorities to help decide which cases to accept based on the organization's priorities. Legal Aid's priorities consist of four core areas:

1. Access to Safe and Affordable Housing;
2. Protection from Domestic Violence;
3. Economic Justice; and
4. Consumer Rights

These core areas reflect Legal Aid's strategic focus to support families; preserve homes; maintain economic stability; ensure safety, stability and health; and to identify and address the needs of vulnerable populations.

The Arkansas Fair Housing Commission has a two-fold mission to enforce state and federal fair housing/fair lending laws and to educate the public on fair housing laws, rules and regulations. To accomplish that mission, the Commission:

- Receives, investigates, conciliates and/or resolves complaints alleging violations of the Arkansas Fair Housing Act which prohibits discrimination on the basis of *race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status* (including children under the age of 18 living with parents of legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under the age of 18) and disability;
- Cooperates with and provides technical assistance to federal, state, local and other public or private entities that are formulating or operating programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices; and
- Provides education and outreach services to prevent discriminatory housing practices.

Fair Housing Analysis > Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Analysis > Additional Information

V.E.4. Additional Information

V.E.4.a. Provide additional relevant information, if any, about fair housing enforcement, outreach capacity, and resources in the jurisdiction and region.

The Jonesboro Housing Authority RAB meeting, Resident Council and PCC meeting identified a lack of knowledge of fair housing among the following groups: Real Estate Agents, Residents, Bankers/Lenders, and Landlords. Legal aid of Arkansas has also recognized the need for Fair Housing testing and enforcement and are looking into applying for a grant that would allow them to assist locally with fair housing complaints.

The City partners with the Fair Housing Commission to provide outreach and education. This partnership with the Commission will continue as well as new partnerships that have developed as a result of the public hearings. The City will partner with area realtors and banks to provide homebuyers classes and financial literacy.

V.E.4.b. The program participant may also include information relevant to programs, actions, or activities to promote fair housing outcomes and capacity.


The Jonesboro Housing Authority conducts an oral briefing for each new voucher holder and public housing applicant coming off the waiting list and coming into the agency through portability. The Briefing also contains a statement that the family can request the PHA's help if they wish to file a housing discrimination complaint and give each new voucher holders a copy of the following HUD brochures: "Are you a victim of Housing Discrimination HUD 903.1 and Fair Housing Equal Opportunity to All HUD 1686-1-FHEO.

Fair Housing Analysis > Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Analysis > Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Contributing Factors

V.E.5. Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Contributing Factors

Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of fair housing enforcement, outreach capacity, and resources and the fair housing issues, which are Segregation, RECAPs, Disparities in Access to Opportunity, and Disproportionate Housing Needs. For each significant contributing factor, note which fair housing issue(s) the selected contributing factor impacts.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous responses)

Lack of local private fair housing outreach and enforcement


V.E.5. Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Contributing Factors - Other

 Revised (Click for previous text)

Community Opposition

Fair Housing Goals and Priorities > Prioritization of Contributing Factors

VI.1. For each fair housing issue, prioritize the identified contributing factors. Justify the prioritization of the contributing factors that will be addressed by the goals set below in Question 2. Give the highest priority to those factors that limit or deny fair housing choice or access to opportunity, or negatively impact fair housing or civil rights compliance.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for previous text)

A note about prioritization: *In the following section, we prioritize contributing factors based on how substantially they impact fair housing issues in Jonesboro and our ability to address the contributing factor. Generally speaking, contributing factors that impact multiple fair housing issues (Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach) are given higher priority than those that may only impact one or two fair housing issues. In addition, we have considered our ability to affect change in our prioritization. We focus our initial attention and highest priority on the factors within our control, acknowledging that we should not ignore factors outside our immediate control but that we may need additional time and resources to develop partnerships and strategies to affect change over those factors. Our prioritization strategy helps us focus our actions to address factors that are root causes of multiple issues in the community. Justification for each contributing factor is provided in the framework below.*

Contributing Factors of Segregation/Integration-Contributing Factors of Segregation:

Contributing Factor Identified: Community Opposition

Prioritization: High

Justification: Community Opposition is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it contributes to all seven (7) fair housing issues: Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach. We know it is a contributing factor because Jonesboro residents who attend public meetings voice their opinions in opposition to multi-family and affordable housing projects in their neighborhoods. The City Council generally votes with the opposing views as they are generally the majority in the room. Residents have verbally expressed the view that this type of housing should be in low-income areas. (i.e. North Jonesboro). As long as this community opposition to multifamily and affordable housing exists, this contributing factor will become worse and continue to segregation that affects minorities, people of color, people with disabilities, certain familial status, and people of certain specific national origins (i.e. Hispanic). Because racial and ethnic minorities in Jonesboro tend to be lower-income than non-Hispanic whites, they are disproportionately harmed by the lack of development of affordable housing that is a result of community opposition.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities

Prioritization: High

Justification: While the City of Jonesboro effectively uses its CDBG entitlement funds to improve the quality of life in low-income neighborhoods, more funds must be leveraged if significant changes are to occur. This is a contributing factor because it limits fair housing choice and the access to opportunity. This is listed as a high priority because lack of public investment in certain neighborhoods leads to a diminished quality of life, which leads to segregation, R/ECAPS, and disparities in opportunities. These neighborhoods are primarily inhabited by ethnic minorities, primarily African Americans and Hispanic. The results of a lack of public investment in these neighborhoods contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, and Disability and Access. Minorities, the elderly, and those with disabilities are affected because the lack of public investment means fewer amenities (i.e. housing, entertainment, shopping, etc.) and a lack of economic development in their neighborhoods to address these amenities. This issues will worsen without significant planning, investment and leveraging of resources.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of private investment in specific neighborhoods

Prioritization: Medium

Justification: This is listed as a medium priority because while there is a substantial need for private support and investment in the areas of economic development, housing, and commercial development in specific low income neighborhoods, this factor requires private investors and economic developers to be attracted to specific low-income neighborhoods. The degree of private development will depend on the degree of public investment such as infrastructure and other amenities. This Contributing Factor contributes to Access to Opportunity and Disproportionate Housing Needs, because Hispanic, African American, elderly, and citizens with disabilities inhabit these areas disproportionately, and suffer from a lack of amenities and development because of insufficient sources of private investment.

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing

Prioritization: High

Justification: Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just a two neighborhoods (North Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representations of minority and other protected class residents. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like good schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods throughout the city will cause the continued decline in segregated areas and within our R/ECAP.

Contributing Factor Identified: Occupancy codes and restrictions

Prioritization: Medium

Justification: Occupancy Codes and restrictions is listed as Low priority. We realize the magnitude of this factor, but recognize the issue is something the state must address; and is indirectly an issue the city government will have to rectify over a period of time. The City Council (by a split vote) recently approved a property maintenance code that required landlords and homeowners to maintain their property at international standards. The code also allowed for property owners to be fined should Code Enforcement determine the property was not maintained at international standards. Landlords lead an effort to repeal the code and were successful in gathering enough signatures to call for a public vote and were successful in repealing the city ordinance. This Contributing Factor affects Disproportionate Housing Needs and Fair Housing Enforcement. This is a contributing factor because by-and-large substandard rental property is inhabited by ethnic minorities (i.e. Blacks and Hispanics). We know this factor contributes to fair housing because it denies certain protected classes the right to safe, decent affordable housing. With the appeal of the local property maintenance code and the lack of state of Arkansas landlord/tenant laws, this problem will become worse.

Contributing Factor Identified: Private discrimination

Prioritization: Low

Justification: Private discrimination is currently monitored and/or reviewed by other organizations in the region (i.e. Legal, Fair Housing Commission, HUD and the NAACP), it is, therefore, viewed as a low priority. Private Discrimination goes straight to the heart of all fair housing issues. Many resident express their beliefs and dismay when applying for housing, and may believe they are facing and combating one-on-one racial, ethnic, familial type, disability and social economic discrimination. If the City is to establish local regulations and a local process, we must begin to collect data and statistics, and establishes a review/hearing process that provides an opportunity for those who believe they have been discriminated against an opportunity to express their position, while allowing for those accused to refute the allegation. Private Discrimination touches on all 7 fair housing issues and affects all protected classes. The issue will improve once a formal process is in place where residents can be heard.

Contributing Factor Identified: Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Prioritization: High

Justification: There are absentee property owners whose property has been abandoned and/or deteriorated. Since this impacts multiple fair housing issues (R/ECAPS, Segregation, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs), we place this as high priority." CDBG funds are used as effectively as possible to fight blight when dealing with local property owners who qualify for assistance. However, absentee property owners present a challenge when cleaning up slums and blight.

Contributing Factor Identified: The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation

Prioritization: High

Justification: The limited availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation is considered a high priority because it contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Publicly supported housing and Disability and access. The City should look into developing one or several public transportation plans that will address the limitations of the public transit and other modes, such as sidewalks, multi-purpose trails and bicycle lanes. The lack of a centralized plan or other transportation plans continues to encourage segregation, other emerging R/ECAPS, limited access to opportunities for those who have no other means of transportation within their neighborhoods. In addition, the lack of transportation goes directly to the quality of life of our residents because it limits access to jobs, shopping, medical care, and other services. Without development of the public transportation within this jurisdiction to address this factor, racial/ethnic minorities, elderly, families and individuals with disabilities will continue to remain with limited public transportation. In the next five years, the City must find partners to help leverage the existing funds with other sources to address these gaps in the City's public transportation system.

Contributing Factors of R/ECAPS

Contributing Factor Identified: Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Prioritization: High

Justification: There are absentee property owners whose property has been abandoned and/or deteriorated. Since this impacts multiple fair housing issues (R/ECAPS, Segregation, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs), we place this as high priority." CDBG funds are used as effectively as possible to fight blight when dealing with local property owners who qualify for assistance. However, absentee property owners present a challenge when cleaning up slums and blight.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of community revitalization strategies

Prioritization: High

Justification: The lack of a community revitalization strategy is a high priority because it contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, and Disability and Access. An approved revitalization strategy would ensure city leaders, staff and residents are informed, aware, and on the same page when it comes to the city's future and would help create economic opportunity in disadvantaged neighborhoods with disproportionately high representation of protected classes. A revitalization strategy would also provide opportunities for residents to offer input and ideas about how their city develops. This is a contributing factor because the lack of a well-thought out plan with buy-in from City Leaders and residents denies minorities, persons with disabilities, those protected under familiar status, and the elderly the opportunity to voice their opinions and provide input as to how their neighborhoods should develop. The lack of a plan also encourages Segregation and R/ECAPS when residents in specific neighborhoods have no choice of where they live and there is no plan in place to increase access to opportunity, address housing needs and improve access for people with disabilities. Without the development of a well-thought revitalization strategy to address this and other contributing factors, racial/ethnic minorities, people with disabilities and the elderly will be forced to remain in their circumstances, which will only get worse each year. Given that R/ECAPS and other distressed areas in Jonesboro are predominantly inhabited by low-income protected class groups, particularly non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics, the lack of community revitalization strategies is likely to contribute to the continued decline of those areas, discourage future private investment, and limit fair housing choices for members of protected classes. Moving forward, it will be crucial for City leaders, stakeholders and residents to become partners to ensure a well-written, intuitive plan that has the benefit of all citizens in mind.

Contributing Factor Identified: Community Opposition

Prioritization: High

Justification: Community Opposition is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it contributes to all seven (7) fair housing issues: Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach. We know it is a contributing factor because Jonesboro residents who attend public meetings voice their opinions in opposition to multi-family and affordable housing projects in their neighborhoods. The City Council generally votes with the opposing views as they are generally the majority in the room. Residents have verbally expressed the view that this type of housing should be in low-income areas. (i.e. North Jonesboro). As long as this community opposition to multifamily and affordable housing exists, this contributing factor will become worse and continue to segregate that affects minorities, people of color, people with disabilities, certain familial status, and people of certain specific national origins (i.e. Hispanic). Because racial and ethnic minorities in Jonesboro tend to be lower-income than non-Hispanic whites, they are disproportionately harmed by the lack of development of affordable housing that is a result of community opposition.

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing

Prioritization: High

Justification: This is a high priority because much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just a few neighborhoods (primarily North Jonesboro and Fairview), which also have high representations of minority and other protected class residents. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like transitional housing, good schools and proximity to jobs. The lack of affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods throughout the city will cause the continued increase in segregated areas and in our R/ECAP.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities

Prioritization: High

Justification: While the City of Jonesboro effectively uses its CDBG entitlement funds to improve the quality of life in low-income neighborhoods, more funds must be leveraged if significant changes are to occur. This is a contributing factor because it limits fair housing choice and the access to opportunity. This is listed as a high priority because lack of public investment in certain neighborhoods leads to a diminished quality of life, which leads to segregation, R/ECAPs, and disparities in opportunities. These neighborhoods are primarily inhabited by ethnic minorities, primarily African Americans and Hispanic. The results of a lack of public investment in these neighborhoods contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, and Disability and Access. Minorities, the elderly, and those with disabilities are affected because the lack of public investment means fewer amenities (i.e. housing, entertainment, shopping, etc.) and a lack of economic development in their neighborhoods to address these amenities. This issues will worsen without significant planning, investment and leveraging of resources.

Contributing Factor Identified: Private discrimination

Prioritization: Low

Justification: Private discrimination is currently monitored and/or reviewed by other organizations in the region (i.e. Legal, Fair Housing Commission, HUD and the NAACP), it is, therefore, viewed as a low priority. Private Discrimination goes straight to the heart of all fair housing issues. Many resident express their beliefs and dismay when applying for housing, and may believe they are facing and combating one-on-one racial, ethnic, familial type, disability and social economic discrimination. If the City is to establish local regulations and a local process, we must begin to collect data and statistics, and establishes a review/hearing process that provides an opportunity for those who believe thy have been discriminated against an opportunity to express their position, while allowing for those accused to refute the allegation. Private Discrimination touches on all 7 fair housing issues and affects all protected classes. The issue will improve once a formal process is in place where residents can be heard.

Contributing Factor Identified: The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation

Prioritization: High

Justification: The limited availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation is considered a high priority because it contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Publicly supported housing and Disability and access. The City should look into developing one or several public transportation plans that will address the limitations of the public transit and other modes, such as sidewalks, multi-purpose trails and bicycle lanes. The lack of a centralized plan or other transportation plans continues to encourages segregation, other emerging R/ECAPS, limited access to opportunities for those who have no other means of transportation within their neighborhoods. In addition, the lack of transportation goes directly to the quality of life of our residents because it limits access to jobs, shopping, medical care, and other services. Without development of the public transportation within this jurisdiction to address this factor, racial/ethnic minorities, elderly, families and individuals with disabilities will continue to remain with limited public transportation. In the next five years, the City must find partners to help leverage the existing funds with other sources to address these gaps in the City's public transportation system.

Contributing Factors of Disparities in Access to Opportunity

Contributing Factor Identified: The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation

Prioritization: High

Justification: The limited availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation is considered a high priority because it contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Publicly supported housing and Disability and access. The City should look into developing one or several public transportation plans that will address the limitations of the public transit and other modes, such as sidewalks, multi-purpose trails and bicycle lanes. The lack of a centralized plan or other transportation plans continues to encourages segregation, other emerging R/ECAPS, limited access to opportunities for those who have no other means of transportation within their neighborhoods. In addition, the lack of transportation goes directly to the quality of life of our residents because it limits access to jobs, shopping, medical care,

and other services. Without development of the public transportation within this jurisdiction to address this factor, racial/ethnic minorities, elderly, families and individuals with disabilities will continue to remain with limited public transportation. In the next five years, the City must find partners to help leverage the existing funds with other sources to address these gaps in the City's public transportation system.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities

Prioritization: High

Justification: While the City of Jonesboro effectively uses its CDBG entitlement funds to improve the quality of life in low-income neighborhoods, more funds must be leveraged if significant changes are to occur. This is a contributing factor because it limits fair housing choice and the access to opportunity. This is listed as a high priority because lack of public investment in certain neighborhoods leads to a diminished quality of life, which leads to segregation, R/ECAPs, and disparities in opportunities. These neighborhoods are primarily inhabited by ethnic minorities, primarily African Americans and Hispanic. The results of a lack of public investment in these neighborhoods contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, and Disability and Access. Minorities, the elderly, and those with disabilities are affected because the lack of public investment means fewer amenities (i.e. housing, entertainment, shopping, etc.) and a lack of economic development in their neighborhoods to address these amenities. This issues will worsen without significant planning, investment and leveraging of resources.

Contributing Factor Identified: Community Opposition

Prioritization: High

Justification: Community Opposition is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it contributes to all seven (7) fair housing issues: Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach. We know it is a contributing factor because Jonesboro residents who attend public meetings voice their opinions in opposition to multi-family and affordable housing projects in their neighborhoods. The City Council generally votes with the opposing views as they are generally the majority in the room. Residents have verbally expressed the view that this type of housing should be in low-income areas. (i.e. North Jonesboro). As long as this community opposition to multifamily and affordable housing exists, this contributing factor will become worse and continue to segregation that affects minorities, people of color, people with disabilities, certain familial status, and people of certain specific national origins (i.e. Hispanic). Because racial and ethnic minorities in Jonesboro tend to be lower-income than non-Hispanic whites, they are disproportionately harmed by the lack of development of affordable housing that is a result of community opposition.

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing

Prioritization: High

Justification: Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just a two neighborhoods (North Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representations of minority and other protected class residents. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like good schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods throughout the city will cause the continued decline in segregated areas and within our R/ECAP.

Contributing Factor Identified: Private discrimination

Prioritization: Low

Justification: Private discrimination is currently monitored and/or reviewed by other organizations in the region (i.e. Legal, Fair Housing Commission, HUD and the NAACP), it is, therefore, viewed as a low priority. Private Discrimination goes straight to the heart of all fair housing issues. Many resident express their beliefs and dismay when applying for housing, and may believe they are facing and combating one-on-one racial, ethnic, familial type, disability and social economic discrimination. If the City is to establish local regulations and a local process, we must begin to collect data and statistics, and establishes a review/hearing process that provides an opportunity for those who believe they have been discriminated against an opportunity to express their position, while allowing for those accused to refute the allegation. Private Discrimination touches on all 7 fair housing issues and affects all protected classes. The issue will improve once a formal process is in place where residents can be heard.

Contributing Factor Identified: Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Prioritization: High

Justification: There are absentee property owners whose property has been abandoned and/or deteriorated. Since this impacts multiple fair housing issues (R/ECAPS, Segregation, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs), we place this as high priority." CDBG funds are used as effectively as possible to fight blight when dealing with local property owners who qualify for assistance. However, absentee property owners present a challenge when cleaning up slums and blight.

Contributing Factor Identified: The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation

Prioritization: High

Justification: The limited availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation is considered a high priority because it contributes to Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Publicly supported housing and Disability and access. The City should look into developing one or several public transportation plans that will address the limitations of the public transit and other modes, such as sidewalks, multi-purpose trails and bicycle lanes. The lack of a centralized plan or other transportation plans continues to encourage segregation, other emerging R/ECAPS, limited access to opportunities for those who have no other means of transportation within their neighborhoods. In addition, the lack of transportation goes directly to the quality of life of our residents because it limits access to jobs, shopping, medical care, and other services. Without development of the public transportation within this jurisdiction to address this factor, racial/ethnic minorities, elderly, families and individuals with disabilities will continue to remain with limited public transportation. In the next five years, the City must find partners to help leverage the existing funds with other sources to address these gaps in the City's public transportation system.

Contributing Factors of Disproportionate Housing Needs

Contributing Factor Identified: The availability of affordable units in a range of sizes

Prioritization: High

Justification: While Jonesboro has made great strides in the scope of its affordable housing stock for moderate income families, there is still a grave disparity between affordable units for those living in poverty. Therefore, this factor as listed as a high priority—it denies access to opportunity, fair housing choice, and civil rights. It also contributes to all seven of the fair housing issues. Segregating residents by income (which is generally minorities, elderly, disabled, and others based on their familial status), increases the size and scope of our R/ECAP, denies access to opportunity by confining these low income residents to a specific area with limited opportunity, where they have a shortage of 'affordable' housing, publicly supported housing, and limited access for those who are disabled. Without a knowledge of fair housing laws and their rights under the law, residents will continue to be disenfranchised and this situation will get worse.

Contributing Factor Identified: Community Opposition

Prioritization: High

Justification: Community Opposition is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it contributes to all seven (7) fair housing issues: Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach. We know it is a contributing factor because Jonesboro residents who attend public meetings voice their opinions in opposition to multi-family and affordable housing projects in their neighborhoods. The City Council generally votes with the opposing views as they are generally the majority in the room. Residents have verbally expressed the view that this type of housing should be in low-income areas. (i.e. North Jonesboro). As long as this community opposition to multifamily and affordable housing exists, this contributing factor will become worse and continue to segregation that affects minorities, people of color, people with disabilities, certain familial status, and people of certain specific national origins (i.e. Hispanic). Because racial and ethnic minorities in Jonesboro tend to be lower-income than non-Hispanic whites, they are disproportionately harmed by the lack of development of affordable housing that is a result of community opposition.

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing

Prioritization: High

Justification: Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just a two neighborhoods (North Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representations of minority and other protected class residents. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like good schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods throughout the city will cause the continued decline in segregated areas and within our R/ECAP.

Contributing Factor Identified: Private discrimination

Prioritization: Low

Justification: Private discrimination is currently monitored and/or reviewed by other organizations in the region (i.e. Legal, Fair Housing Commission, HUD and the NAACP), it is, therefore, viewed as a low priority. Private Discrimination goes straight to the heart of all fair housing issues. Many residents express their beliefs and dismay when applying for housing, and may believe they are facing and combating one-on-one racial, ethnic, familial type, disability and social economic discrimination. If the City is to establish local regulations and a local process, we must begin to collect data and statistics, and establish a review/hearing process that provides an opportunity for those who believe they have been discriminated against an opportunity to express their position, while allowing for those accused to refute the allegation. Private Discrimination touches on all 7 fair housing issues and affects all protected classes. The issue will improve once a formal process is in place where residents can be heard.

Contributing Factor Identified: Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Prioritization: High

Justification: There are absentee property owners whose property has been abandoned and/or deteriorated. Since this impacts multiple fair housing issues (R/ECAPS, Segregation, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs), we place this as high priority." CDBG funds are used as effectively as possible to fight blight when dealing with local property owners who qualify for assistance. However, absentee property owners present a challenge when cleaning up slums and blight.

Contributing Factors of Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of private investment in specific neighborhoods

Prioritization: Medium

Justification: The Lack of private investment in specific neighborhoods was given a medium rating because the disparities in private investments generally affect the elderly, disabled and families with children to a greater degree than other population and the lack of private investment are also found throughout the city and in many majority white, high opportunity neighborhoods who also have a lack of local grocery stores, banking and restaurants. Housing Choice Voucher Resident Advisory Board specifically identified "North Jonesboro", which includes the R/ECAP area, as needing more private investments such as local grocery stores, banking and restaurants. However we have listed this a contributing factor of publicly supported housing location and occupancy as we recognize that lack of private investment may limit or deny access to opportunity and can affect disabled, elderly families and families with children to a greater degree than other types of families.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities- Transportation

Prioritization: High

Justification: This was given a high rating because the lack of transportation limit or deny fair housing choice, limit or deny access to opportunity, and limit or deny access to opportunity. The Housing Choice Voucher Resident Advisory Board and Public Housing Resident Council specifically identified transportation as a serious barrier. Transportation was discussed at length and it was agreed that more transportation routes and expanded hours are needed to help families get and keep jobs.

Although a lack of transportation opportunities are city wide affecting not only the R/ECAP areas but other majority white, high opportunity neighborhoods it is recognized that there is a much greater need for transportation opportunities in the R/ECAP area and near Publicly Supported housing. The lack of transportation may have disproportionate impact on low income and disability populations who are more likely to rely on public transportation. Improving transportation could help residents of R/ECAP and publicly supported housing access areas of high opportunity either for housing, jobs, or schools.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities- Police response times

Prioritization: Low

Justification: The Housing Choice Voucher Resident Advisory Board and Public Housing Resident Council both indicated a need for a better police response time as well as the need to help enforce trespassing on private property (Public Housing) in the "North Jonesboro". Jonesboro Police Department hired an additional seven new officers to the department in early 2016 but the agency still has eight more

positions to fill. Jonesboro Police Chief Rick Elliott says the department will begin testing for its newest round of hires early next month. He says he hopes another academy will provide enough officers to make up for the manpower shortage.

This was given a low rating because the disparities in police response time are city wide and affect everyone including many majority white, high opportunity neighborhoods and the city of Jonesboro is taking steps to add additional officers which should help improve response times.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of knowledge of Fair Housing among residents, landlords, real estate agents, and bankers/lenders as well as the lack of agencies and/or organizations devoted to Fair Housing enforcement.

Prioritization: High

Justification: This was given a High priority because the lack of fair housing knowledge and the lack of resources available limit or deny fair housing choice and can negatively impact fair housing or civil rights compliance for residents of publicly supported housing. Lack of knowledge of Fair Housing among residents, landlords, real estate agents, bankers/lenders and lack of agencies devoted to Fair Housing enforcement were among the top concerns from all stakeholders, HCV residents, PH residents, Landlord, and Program Coordinating Committee, which responded to JURHA's survey. Lack of fair housing knowledge stood out as a serious barrier to fair housing among Voucher Holders and Public Housing residents. The HCV program is comprised of 65% minorities, 15% elderly, and 58% have a disabled household member. Public Housing is made up of 70% Black, Non-Hispanic families and 35.92% of the families have a disabled member with 12.58% of the Public Housing population living within the R/ECAP Area. A valuable community resource to combat Fair Housing was lost when the Jonesboro Housing Authority HCDO was forced to terminate Housing Counseling Services. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development approved the Jonesboro Housing Authority HCDO as a counseling agency in December 2007. We provided the following services until July 2015 when we lost our Housing Counselor due to lack of sufficient funding to administer the Housing Counseling Program. The Jonesboro Housing Authority was the only HUD approved Housing Counseling agency in a three county area (Craighead, Poinsett, and Greene County).

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing

Prioritization: High

Justification: Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just a two neighborhoods (North Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representation of minority and other protected class residents. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like good schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods throughout the city will cause the continued decline in segregated areas and within our R/ECAP.

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing.

Prioritization: Medium

Justification: The Jonesboro Housing Authority has issued 154 vouchers from January 1, 2016 through July 1, 2016 with 99 families finding housing and 55 families vouchers expired. Families allow vouchers to expire for many reasons but the lack of affordable housing is almost always at least part of the reason if not the primary reason for a voucher expiring. The lack of affordable housing especially in high opportunity areas limit or deny access to opportunity and can promote segregation. This was rated as medium because the PHA has increased their VPS to 100% of the FMR October 2016 which has given more opportunity for families to find housing opportunities outside of the R/ECAP and in areas that were previously not affordable.

Contributing Factor Identified: Community Opposition

Prioritization: High

Justification: See justification in Segregation/Integration

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing

Prioritization: High

Justification: See justification in Segregation/Integration

Contributing Factor Identified: Private discrimination

Prioritization: Low

Justification: See justification in Segregation/Integration

Contributing Factor Identified: The availability of affordable units in a range of sizes

Prioritization: High

Justification: See justification in Disproportionate Housing Needs

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of local private fair housing outreach and enforcement

Prioritization: High

Justification: See justification in Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources

Disability and Access Issues Contributing Factors

Contributing Factor Identified: Access to transportation for persons with disabilities

Prioritization: High

Justification: The City has a small public transit system that serves approximately half of the city's population. Jonesboro Economical Transportation System (JET) has a para-transit program that runs adjacent to the fixed routes within 3/4 mile radius of its five routes. This contributing factor is listed as a high priority because there is limited access to transportation for persons with disabilities which limits and denies access to opportunity, negatively impacts fair housing and civil rights compliance. It also contributes to five of the seven fair housing issues: segregation, R/ECAPS, access to opportunity, disproportionate housing needs, and disability and access. These issues are effected because, in general, persons with disabilities who require public transportation are minority, elderly, and live in lower income (segregated) neighborhoods. The para-transit program is an on-call service and for a small fee, the jet will pickup disabled individuals at their door and return them upon their desire to return home. This small transit system is not adequate in providing these services to all residents, therefore we can ascertain that some of the individuals with disabilities do not have access to public transit system. In addition to the lack of access to our public transit, the City has limited resources of personnel and funding to adequately operate JET System throughout the city limits and its metropolitan area. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), concerned citizens, and the JET System are partnering to move this issue forward. We are hopeful this issue is on the verge of becoming better as the issue is now at the forefront of the City.

Contributing Factor Identified: Inaccessible sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, or other infrastructure

Prioritization: High

Justification: The City has worked on updating the 2008 existing sidewalk and infrastructure inventory list since January 2016. We have only surveyed and GPS 18.3 miles of the approximately 114 linear miles throughout the city. This is listed as a high priority because in our rough estimation of the inaccessible sidewalks and other infrastructure for pedestrian use, it was noted only 35-40% of the sidewalks and other infrastructure was ADA compliant. Furthermore, many of our intersections have pedestrian crossings and curb cuts but nothing further such as sidewalks, bike paths or multi-purpose trails. This factor only contributes to limiting or denying access to opportunity; however, it contributes to five of the seven fair housing issues: Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, and Disability and Access. It contributes to these fair housing issues by isolating minorities, the disabled, and the elderly to specific neighborhood with limited access. Pedestrian crosswalks without sidewalks are considered incomplete and will be addressed in later years. The funding for sidewalks and other infrastructure is extremely limited unless additional funding streams remain untapped. The issue is improving as residents and other stakeholders are forming partnerships to create a more livable city in our R/ECAP and other portions of the city disproportionately inhabited by minorities, elderly, and those with disabilities.

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of assistance for transitioning from institutional settings to integrated housing

Prioritization: Medium

Justification: This Contributing Factor is given a medium priority because even though the City has a local institution that participates in transitioning 15-20 individuals annually to the community, the issues arise when looking for permanent housing for those individuals in certain areas of the city. There have been refusals to rent from some landlords or opposition from certain neighborhoods or subdivisions within the city limits. This factor limits access to opportunity and negatively impacts fair housing and civil rights compliance.

By denying housing choice to certain individuals, this factor encompasses five of the seven fair housing issues: segregation, R/ECAPS, access to opportunity, disproportionate housing needs, and disability access. It contributes to these fair housing issues by isolating minorities, the disabled, and the elderly to specific neighborhood with limited access.

Affected classes include minorities, elderly and those with disabilities. This issue will only get worse with time if more transitional housing is not designated in various areas of our city for disabled individuals leaving institutional settings.

Contributing Factor Identified: Community Opposition

Prioritization: High

Justification: Community Opposition is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it contributes to all seven (7) fair housing issues: Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach. We know it is a contributing factor because Jonesboro residents who attend public meetings voice their opinions in opposition to multi-family and affordable housing projects in their neighborhoods. The City Council generally votes with the opposing views as they are generally the majority in the room. Residents have verbally expressed the view that this type of housing should be in low-income areas. (i.e. North Jonesboro). As long as this community opposition to multifamily and affordable housing exists, this contributing factor will become worse and continue to segregation that affects minorities, people of color, people with disabilities, certain familial status, and people of certain specific national origins (i.e. Hispanic). Because racial and ethnic minorities in Jonesboro tend to be lower-income than non-Hispanic whites, they are disproportionately harmed by the lack of development of affordable housing that is a result of community opposition.

Contributing Factor Identified: Location and type of affordable housing

Prioritization: High

Justification: Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just a two neighborhoods (North Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representations of minority and other protected class residents. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like good schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods throughout the city will cause the continued decline in segregated areas and within our R/ECAP.

Contributing Factor Identified: Private discrimination

Prioritization: Low

Justification: Private discrimination is currently monitored and/or reviewed by other organizations in the region (i.e. Legal, Fair Housing Commission, HUD and the NAACP), it is, therefore, viewed as a low priority. Private Discrimination goes straight to the heart of all fair housing issues. Many resident express their beliefs and dismay when applying for housing, and may believe they are facing and combating one-on-one racial, ethnic, familial type, disability and social economic discrimination. If the City is to establish local regulations and a local process, we must begin to collect data and statistics, and establishes a review/hearing process that provides an opportunity for those who believe they have been discriminated against an opportunity to express their position, while allowing for those accused to refute the allegation. Private Discrimination touches on all 7 fair housing issues and affects all protected classes. The issue will improve once a formal process is in place where residents can be heard.

Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Contributing Factors

Contributing Factor Identified: Lack of local private fair housing outreach and enforcement

Prioritization: High

Justification: Lack of local private fair housing outreach and enforcement is listed as a high priority because in addition to negatively impacting fair housing and civil rights compliance, it contributes to all seven fair housing issues: segregation, R/CAPs, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate housing needs, publicly supported housing, disability and access, and of course, fair housing enforcement/outreach. A local private effort will strengthen the local fair housing initiative, ensure that all seven of the protected classes are informed about their rights to fair housing and an understanding about the enforcement process. Outreach and education will empower protected classes and provide a avenue to have concerns heard with a reasonable expectation of a fair decision. The city or sponsoring entity must develop partnerships with organizations such as Legal Aid, realtors, landlords, developers, etc., will provide expertise not available via one particular organizations. Until there is a local private housing outreach and enforcement arm, this contributing factor will get worse.

Contributing Factor Identified: Community Opposition

Prioritization: High

Justification: Community Opposition is listed as a high priority contributing factor because it contributes to all seven (7) fair housing issues: Segregation, R/ECAPS, Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and access and Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach. We know it is a contributing factor because Jonesboro residents who attend public meetings voice their opinions in opposition to multi-family and affordable housing projects in their neighborhoods. The City Council generally votes with the opposing views as they are generally the majority in the room. Residents have verbally expressed the view that this type of housing should be in low-income areas. (i.e. North Jonesboro). As long as this community opposition to multifamily and affordable housing exists, this contributing factor will become worse and continue to segregation that affects minorities, people of color, people with disabilities, certain familial status, and people of certain specific national origins (i.e. Hispanic). Because racial and ethnic minorities in Jonesboro tend to be lower-income than non-Hispanic whites, they are disproportionately harmed by the lack of development of affordable housing that is a result of community opposition.

Contributing Factor Identified: Private discrimination

Prioritization: Low

Justification: Private discrimination is currently monitored and/or reviewed by other organizations in the region (i.e. Legal, Fair Housing Commission, HUD and the NAACP), it is, therefore, viewed as a low priority. Private Discrimination goes straight to the heart of all fair housing issues. Many resident express their beliefs and dismay when applying for housing, and may believe they are facing and combating one-on-one racial, ethnic, familial type, disability and social economic discrimination. If the City is to establish local regulations and a local process, we must begin to collect data and statistics, and establishes a review/hearing process that provides an opportunity for those who believe thy have been discriminated against an opportunity to express their position, while allowing for those accused to refute the allegation. Private Discrimination touches on all 7 fair housing issues and affects all protected classes. The issue will improve once a formal process is in place where residents can be heard.

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Segregation/Integration > Contributing Factors of Segregation

- Community Opposition
- Lack of private investments in specific neighborhoods
- Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities
- Location and type of affordable housing
- Occupancy codes and restrictions
- Private discrimination
- The availability, type, frequency and reliability of public transportation

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > R/ECAPS > Contributing Factors of R/ECAPS

- Community Opposition
- Deteriorated and abandoned properties
- Lack of community revitalization strategies
- Lack of private investments in specific neighborhoods
- Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities
- Location and type of affordable housing
- The availability, type, frequency and reliability of public transportation*

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disparities in Access to Opportunity > Contributing Factors of Disparities in Access to Opportunity

- The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation

Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities

Location and type of affordable housing

Private discrimination

Community Opposition

Location and type of affordable housing

V. Fair Housing Analysis > B. General Issues > Disproportionate Housing Needs > Contributing Factors of Disproportionate Housing Needs

The availability of affordable units in a range of sizes

Community Opposition

Location and type of affordable housing

Private discrimination

Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Fair Housing Analysis > Publicly Supported Housing Analysis > Contributing Factors of Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

Community opposition

Lack of private investment in specific neighborhoods

Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities

- *Lack of knowledge of fair housing among residents, landlords, real estate agents, and bankers/lenders as well as the lack of agencies and/or organizations devoted*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *Private discrimination*

Fair Housing Analysis > Disability and Access Analysis > Disability and Access Issues Contributing Factors

Access to transportation for persons with disabilities

Inaccessible sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, or other infrastructure

Lack of assistance for transitioning from institutional settings to integrated housing

- *Community opposition*
- *Location and type of affordable housing*
- *Private discrimination*

Fair Housing Analysis > Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Analysis > Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Contributing Factors

Lack of local private fair housing outreach and enforcement


Community Opposition


Private Discrimination

Fair Housing Goals and Priorities > Fair Housing Goals

VI.2. For each fair housing issue with significant contributing factors identified in Question 1, set one or more goals. Explain how each goal is designed to overcome the identified contributing factor and related fair housing issue(s). For goals designed to overcome more than one fair

housing issue, explain how the goal will overcome each issue and the related contributing factors. For each goal, identify metrics and milestones for determining what fair housing results will be achieved, and indicate the timeframe for achievement.

 Instructions

 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

Determine the need to expand public transportation (JET) which may include operating after 6:00 p.m. and/or introduce weekend routes around Publicly Supported Housing and in R/ECAP.

Contributing Factors

Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities - Transportation.

Disability and Access

The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation

Fair Housing Issues

Disparities in Access to Opportunity

Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

Disability and Access Issues

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

Request that a staff member from the Jonesboro Housing Authority be added to the City of Jonesboro's Transportation Committee to promote additional routes and expanded hours to meet the needs for elderly, minority and disabled families in Publicly assisted housing within 12 months of approval of the AFFH.

October - December 2017: City will host a series of public hearing in the R/ECAP to discuss the transportation needs (See Diversity and expand affordable means of transportation and affordable housing)

March 2018: Establish partnership and/or committees to review feasibility and possible implementation of recommendations

June: 2018: Team proceed with those recommendations that were determined feasible.

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro, AR

Jonesboro Urban Renewal Housing Authority, AR

Discussion

The Jonesboro Housing Authority is unfamiliar with the challenges facing the city in providing transportation for more routes and extending hours to weekends. The PHA is requesting a representative from the Housing Authority be added to the committee to promote the needs of Publicly Assisted Housing residents who rely on JET for transportation. The limited schedule impacts their ability to access opportunity including jobs in the service industries, third-shift jobs, and other community amenities. Many residents who are impacted include the elderly, disabled and minorities.

📄 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

Establish a Citizens Fair Housing Board to educate residents (with a focus on protected classes) on how to effectively utilize fair housing laws; and to reduce community opposition to the development of affordable housing in high opportunity areas in Jonesboro

Contributing Factors

Segregation/Integration-Contributing Factors of Segregation:

- Community Opposition
- Lack of public investment in specific neighborhoods, including services and amenities
- Lack of private investment in specific neighborhoods
- Location and type of affordable housing
- Occupancy codes and restrictions
- Private Discrimination
- The lack of affordable housing for low-income families due to the Fair Market Rent which limits the PGA's Voucher Payment Standards

Fair Housing Issues

- Segregation
- R/ECAPS
- Access to Opportunity
- Disproportionate Housing Needs
- Publicly Supported Housing
- Disability Access
- Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

June 2017 - Form partnership with HUD and the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission to provide training for the Citizens Fair Housing Board (CFHB)

September 2017, Establish CFHB and begin training

February 2018 - A 25% increase in fair housing related issues at CDBG public hearings

June 2018 - A 50% decrease in successful opposition to affordable housing

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro, AR

Discussion

📄 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

By 2019, develop a community revitalization strategy to reverse the trend of segregation in the R/ECAP by addressing the contributing factors in each fair housing issue.

Contributing Factors

R/ECAPs

Deteriorated and abandoned properties

Lack of community revitalization strategies

Location and type of affordable housing

Fair Housing Issues

Segregation

R/ECAPs

Access to Opportunity

Disproportionate Housing Needs

Disability and Access

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

- October 2017: Mayor appoints a team of residents to participate in the development of a five-year revitalization strategy; At least 51% of residents will be from R/ECAP and other at-risk neighborhoods. Process to be facilitated by staff
- October 2017-December 2017: Planning for upcoming hearings (marketing, invitations, press releases, hire a consultant
- January 2018 - September 2018: Ongoing community meetings and public hearings to gather plan strategies, input and ideas from all segments of the community; with special emphasis in low-income areas
- October 2018: Compilation of data and strategies
- December 2018: Compilation of data and revitalization strategies presented and adoption by council
- January 2019: Begin implementation of revitalization strategies.

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro, AR

Discussion

Fair housing is not only about housing, but also about ensuring all residents have a great quality of life. The development of revitalization strategies will allow all residents to provide input into the vision of the quality of life they want for their neighborhood. Revitalization strategies will address contributing factors expressed by residents and staff identified throughout the AFH.

The Census data shows that over the last ten years, there has been a constant flow of moderate/middle income families as well as white families moving out of North Jonesboro. Over the same period of time, there has been a constant influx of low-income and minorities moving into North Jonesboro. If this trend continues, it is only a matter of time before this R/ECAP become full of slums and blight; followed by crime.

🔊 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

Through the previously discussed outreach efforts of the CFHB, increase knowledge and understanding of fair housing among landlords and residents and affirmatively furthering fair housing, international property maintenance codes, and revised state landlord/tenant laws.

Contributing Factors**Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources**

Lack of local private fair housing outreach and enforcement

Fair Housing Issues

Segregation

R/ECAPs

Access to Opportunity

Disproportionate Housing Needs

Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

Disability and Access

Fair Housing Enforcement/Outreach

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

- Immediately and ongoing - Schedule and facilitate workshops for consumers as well as providers of housing (Quarterly)
- Immediately and ongoing - Prominently display posters, flyers, and educational materials on City property. Utilize bus panels, pamphlets, Channel 24 and city website (Ongoing)
- June and October of each year (2017-2022) - Coordinate regular workshops, seminars, or training sessions on fair housing laws (biannual)
- June and October of each year (2017-2022) Partner with Hispanic Community Services and Arkansas United Coalition to coordinate translated fair housing presentations (in conjunction with all training for the general community.)
- JURHA will display fair housing material in their main lobby within 12 months of approval of AFH
- JURHA will display in lobby the HUD Channel for fair housing running a loop of videos on fair housing within 24 months of approval of AFH
- JURHA will update materials annually after set up.

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro, AR

Jonesboro Urban Renewal Housing Authority, AR

Discussion

This addresses the issues because education of the public regarding their rights and responsibilities with regards to the fair housing law is an essential component of fair housing enforcement. This includes the education of landlords and tenants, housing and financial providers, as well as citizens. Potential victims of housing and/or lending discrimination law should be aware of fair housing issues, know what constitutes a violation, and what they can do in the event they believe they have been discriminated against. Likewise, it is important for lenders, housing providers, and their agents to know what their responsibilities are and when they may be violating fair housing law. The Community Development Office is responsible for conducting public education, training and outreach of fair housing rights and remedies in Jonesboro.

People are often unaware of their fair housing rights. Housing discrimination tends to be more subtle these days than it was in the past. Instead of saying no children are allowed, unreasonable occupancy standards may exclude families with children. Rather than saying, "We do not rent to Hispanics," a rental agent may say they have no vacancies, when, in fact, they have vacancies. In addition, a person who believes he/she may have been discriminated against will probably do nothing if he/she does not realize a telephone call can initiate intervention and a resolution, without expenditure of funds or excessive time.

JURHA already provided fair housing material during briefing sessions and upon request. Voucher holder are required to come into the office every year for their annual reexamination. Providing materials on fair housing in the lobby will provide on-going exposure to voucher holders as well as applicants.

📄 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

Increasing awareness and enforcement of fair housing laws among publicly assisted families.

Contributing Factors

Lack of knowledge of Fair Housing among residents, landlords, real estate agents, and banker/lenders as well as the lack of agencies and/or organizations devoted to fair housing enforcement.

Fair Housing Issues

Segregation/Integration

R/ECAPs

Disparities in Access to Opportunity

Disproportionate Housing Needs

Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy

Disability and Access Issues

Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

Annually conducted Fair Housing training for JURHA Staff.

Annually provided Fair Housing materials at local landlord association meetings.

Develop a list of local, regional and state agencies that might serve as effective partners to educate residents of publicly supported housing and landlords within 12 - 18 months.

Partner with two local organizations to promote fair housing including education opportunities and enforcement of fair housing within 24-36 months.

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro Urban Renewal Housing Authority, AR

Discussion

Jonesboro is one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Arkansas, with a population of over 68,000, an increase of 23.5% from 2000 per Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce website. Surveys from the HCV and Public Housing Programs indicated that lack of knowledge amount residents, landlord, real estate agencies and bankers were a serious barrier. It also indicated that our area had a limited capacity of a local organization devoted to fair housing investigation/testing.

📄 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

Establish a land bank/land trust to make homes more affordable for low-wealth families, help eliminate slums and blight, and reverse the trend of deteriorating property in low-income areas by making two (2) low-income home per year available through 2022.

Contributing Factors

Disproportionate Housing Needs

The availability of affordable units in a range of sizes

Location and type of affordable housing

Fair Housing Issues

Segregation

R/ECAPs

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

Immediately: June 2017: Review feasibility and guidelines for land bank

October 2017: Establish process for selection of commissioners for landbank and establish guidelines for participation

January 2018: Begin implementation of land bank.

July 2018 - Acquisition of five (5) properties.

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro, AR

Discussion

Although Jonesboro has come a long way in providing affordable housing for moderate income families, at \$600 to \$750 average mortgage/rent for these units, the price is still out of range for many families who would like to own or at least rent a nicer home, and there continues to be a shortage of affordable units in certain middle-income neighborhoods. It should also be noted that the HUD Fair Market Rent for Arkansas is lower than the average rent in the City for a home of comparable size and quality. This presents a problem for residents presenting Section 8 vouchers to potential landlords.

📄 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

The City will increase accessibility for people with disabilities through sidewalk and pedestrian crossing investments and expansion of para-transit services.

Contributing Factors**Disability and Access Issues**

Access to transportation for persons with disabilities

Inaccessible sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, or other infrastructure

Fair Housing Issues

Disability and Access

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

December 2017 – The City has hired a consultant to propose a master pedestrian and bicycle plan to be completed by December 2017. Once the plan is completed, it will be introduced to the City Council for adoption as an ordinance.

2017 – 2022 – The City will construct or rehab 1 mile of sidewalks per year to ensure all neighborhoods will have other modes of travel available for accessibility to other parts of the city.

2017 – 2018 – The City Grants Administrator will seek additional funding streams to expand its limited para-transit services to cover the entire city borders.

2019 – Once funds can be secured, the public transit system will provide extended hours and pick-up services to 100% of those individuals with disabilities who request service.

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro, AR

Discussion

Opportunities and accessibility issues for individual with disabilities goes to the heart of fair housing issues for these residents. Individuals with disabilities without transportation and other key public infrastructures can cause limited housing opportunities to exist throughout the city.

📄 Revised (Click for the previous goal)

Goal

Goal

Increase the number of property owners willing to accept Housing Choice Vouchers to open up available housing throughout the community due to the lack of affordable housing for Publicly assisted families in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Contributing Factors

Location and type of affordable housing

Fair Housing Issues

Disparities in access to opportunity

Segregation/intergration

R/ECAPs

Publicly Supported Housing Location and Occupancy.

Metrics, Milestones, and Timeframe for Achievement

JURHA representative will attend monthly meeting with property owners to promote and educate property managers especially owners with properties in high opportunity areas to participant in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Enlist 10 new owners annually.

Responsible Program Participant(s)

Jonesboro Urban Renewal Housing Authority, AR

Discussion

Jonesboro is one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Arkansas with an increase of 23.5% from 2000 per Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce with an annual growth rate of 2%. It is a challenge to enlist owners who willing to participate in the HCV program because it is a "sellers market" where there are more renters looking for units than there are rentals available.

Documents			
File	Description	Uploaded	User
AFH Signatures_Cover Sheet .pdf (/Afh/Document/View/284)	Signed Cover Page	12/1/2016 4:33:01 PM	MWP768
Fair Housing Article.pdf (/Afh/Document/View/285)	News Coverage of Public Hearing	12/1/2016 4:33:02 PM	MWP768
AFH_Goal_revisions_final.pdf (/Afh/Document/View/572)	3/24 Section VI Addendum	3/24/2017 4:42:51 PM	H46307
AFH_Goal_revisions_final_OGC Comments.docx (/Afh/Document/View/573)	OGC Comments on Addendum	3/28/2017 2:17:31 PM	H46307
JONESBORO ACCEPTANCE.pdf (/Afh/Document/View/574)	Jonesboro Acceptance Letter	3/29/2017 5:15:43 PM	H46307

Maps	
Map 1 - Race/Ethnicity (Race/Ethnicity) Jonesboro, Arkansas Jurisdiction (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/100/051410/J) Jonesboro, AR Region (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/100/051410/R)	
Map 2 - Race/Ethnicity Trends (Race/Ethnicity Trends, 1990 and Race/Ethnicity Trends, 2000) Race/Ethnicity Trends, 1990 Jonesboro, Arkansas Jurisdiction (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/200/051410/J) Jonesboro, AR Region (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/200/051410/R)	
Race/Ethnicity Trends, 2000 Jonesboro, Arkansas Jurisdiction (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/201/051410/J) Jonesboro, AR Region (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/201/051410/R)	
Map 3 - National Origin (National Origin) Jonesboro, Arkansas Jurisdiction (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/300/051410/J) Jonesboro, AR Region (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/300/051410/R)	
Map 4 - LEP (Limited English Proficiency) Jonesboro, Arkansas Jurisdiction (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/400/051410/J) Jonesboro, AR Region (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/400/051410/R)	
Map 5 - Publicly Supported Housing and Race/Ethnicity (Publicly Supported Housing and Race/Ethnicity) Jonesboro, Arkansas Jurisdiction (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/500/051410/J) Jonesboro, AR Region (../../ArcGisV03/Map/V03/500/051410/R)	