



TO: Housing Methodology Committee

DATE: December 19, 2019

FR: Deputy Executive Director, Policy

RE: HMC Member Correspondence

Overview

This memo provides an overview of the correspondence received since the December 19th meeting.

1. Bob Planthold - December 19, 2019 - RHMC -- Disability comments NOT being reported [Civil Rights is NOT a cafeteria-style selection process]

Staff and ABAG Chair Arreguin,

Despite publicly raising, several times, the need for comparability of inclusiveness of people with disabilities along with people of color in RHMC considerations, such is not being formally reported by staff.

At the first mtg. I mentioned such. Nobody then present said no. At today's [3rd] mtg., I again raised it early—right after hearing some members mention the need & benefits to somehow include some way to specifically include people of color in our group's considerations. Again, right afterward, I mentioned how including people of color while omitting people with disabilities [p.w.d.s] would be problematic, especially considering that p.w.d.s are a legally-protected class.

Yet, during the small group session [Item 6], when someone wrote on one of the Post-It cards that people of color ought to be considered, I immediately but ORALLY said that IF it is legally allowable to somehow develop a way to factor in people of color in RHNA calculations/ considerations, then so must p.w.d.s also be factored in.

Yet, during the oral report-out, the staff moderator for our group did not include p.w.d.s in his report of what our group considered. This happens too often--that oral comments about responding to / including p.w.d.s are somehow omitted from the formal notes/ record. Worse, it is bothersome that NOBODY, whether from RHMC or staff or the public ever mention or, as in the case with our Item 6 small group discussion, respond to any comments about / for p.w.d.s.

Silence is neither acceptance nor recognition of this topic. It is important that the record/ notes from today's 3rd mtg. be corrected. Somehow, people seem unaware that adding p.w.d.s in to the mix of populations in need of special responsiveness can add political impact to the overall push for more & better housing, rather than taking away \$\$ or

political impact from those solely advocating for people of color. Frankly, if this neglect continues, there will be unfavorable publicity—about this latest attempt to broaden & improve RHNA considerations.

In SF the Mayor's Disability Council is cable-/ web-cast live, and taped for future replays—reaching tens of thousands of people in SF. Plus, there are disability councils in Oakland, Berkeley, Marin and elsewhere, to which p.w.d.s in those jurisdictions pay attention. That is apart from publicizing such neglect of responding to p.w.d.s to:

- independent living centers in many Bay Area Counties,
- public interest law firms,
- alternative newspapers and radio [KPFA and KALW],
- blogs by advocates for housing, transit, and environmental services,
- major commercial tv and radio stations.

Finally, it may help if we get some researched legal opinion whether / how RHNA analysis and consideration can—or cannot—include people of color and therefore also people with disabilities in this process.

Bob Planthold

2. Joshua Abrams - December 19, 2019 - Idea for engaging the audiences

Hi,

It would be nice to think about ways to involve the audience. I know there are legal issues we need to keep in mind, but even with those, I think we can be more inclusive. They are spending their time and have valuable expertise as well. For example, why not allow them to complete the small group exercises as well? I understand the answers should be tallied separately, but that's fine, have the members summary and then the audience summary. It is helpful for me to know other stakeholders opinions as well. I'd also be fine if the audience had clarification questions as well. It might be helpful for everyone.

Josh

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3. Joshua Abrams - December 20, 2019 - resource sharing

One more comment.

I think some people are still not understanding what we are doing. I wonder if it would be helpful to remind them. It seems like just looking at a chart with RHNA numbers and cities and say, the only thing we have power to decide is these numbers.

Just a thought

J

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4. Bob Planthold - December 30, 2019 - resource sharing

Interesting possibility about a way to increase housing, but not sure how it might affect RHNA process.

<https://www.vox.com/2019/12/27/21039043/ibrahim-samirah-virginia-single-family-zoning>

Bob Planthold

5. Bob Planthold - December 31, 2019 - New analysis shows San Diego housing construction remains weak despite incentives - The San Diego Union-Tribune

Since ABAG is using an analysis by SANDAG, thought this story a worthwhile adjunct.

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/san-diego/story/2019-12-30/new-analysis-shows-san-diego-housing-construction-remains-weak-despite-incentives>

Bob Planthold

6. Bob Planthold – January 15, 2020 – resource sharing

Since some are advocating for special formulae on allocation of housing to people of color, in the realistic expectation that there is a lower income?? level and / or %-age of?? people of color who are working [full or part-time] please look at the stats. in this attachment, on the income levels and %-ages of people with disabilities who are working full or part-time.

Indicative that this "legally protected class" also fails to get proper responsiveness in providing needed housing.

Bob Planthold

Attachment available here: <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/disabl.nr0.htm>