

Neighborhood Redevelopment Division News

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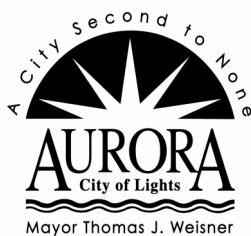
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Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

The City of Aurora, in cooperation with the City of Elgin and Kane County, has recently completed a draft of the *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI)*. This document is part of the fair housing planning required of communities that receive certain funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The report identifies specific barriers to fair housing and proposes recommendations for addressing these barriers. Public comments are being accepted on the plan through March 5, 2012. You can obtain a copy of the AI at:

http://www.aurora-il.org/documents/neighborhoodredevelopment/doc_fair_housing_impediments_draft.pdf, or by visiting any of the three Aurora Public Library branches (1 E. Benton, 555 S. Eola Road, 233 S. Constitution Drive), or at our offices. Give Karen Christensen a call if you have questions.

Reporting to HUD

Neighborhood Redevelopment staff has been working closely with other City departments and our nonprofit partner agencies to compile data for our *Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)*, which is due to HUD on March 31st. Service providers are quite familiar with our ongoing requests for data: demographics, clients served, progress on outcomes, and challenges to service delivery. Though reports are prepared for HUD's use in monitoring compliance with federal regulations, they are also useful in helping us (and you) gauge where services are needed, and how we can best meet the objectives of our five year Consolidated Plan. The draft CAPER will be posted to the City's website and public comments will be welcome. A public hearing is set for Monday, March 12th.

2012 CDBG and HOME Allocations announced

On February 3rd, HUD posted Formula Program allocations to its website — and the good news for Aurora is that funding for CDBG will be increased for 2012. Our 2011 CDBG allocation was \$1,110, 592; our 2011 HOME allocation was \$522,462. Our 2012 allocations will be \$1,180,710 for CDBG and \$455,018 for HOME, respectively.

HUD has also published household income limits for 2012. "Low income" = 80% Area Median Income (AMI) for the Chicago-Joliet-Naperville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) of which Aurora is a part. You can find the numbers at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/programs/home/limits/income/2012/il.pdf>

Someone you should know...

At its December 13th meeting, the Aurora City Council approved the appointment of **Warren Barton** as the representative for the 6th Ward (Alderman Saville) to the Block Grant Working Committee. That brings us to representation from all wards except for 5 and 8.

Mr. Barton was born in Pontiac, Illinois and relocated to Aurora with his family in 1963 when his father was transferred by the U.S. Post Office. He is a graduate of West Aurora High School, where he was a classmate of Alderman Saville. They have remained friends through the years. Warren had a long career as a graphics designer, working for Butler Printing and River Street Press, and as a self-employed small business owner of Barton Litho in downtown Aurora. He is currently employed by A&R Security in Woodridge; his firm is extremely supportive of his involvement with the Block Grant Working Committee, allowing him to take time to attend the group's meetings. He and his wife Laura have been married for 32 years. She is a graduate of East Aurora High School and worked downtown as a teenager. Ms. Barton is now on staff at Old Second National Bank in North Aurora. The Bartons' daughter and her family (two grandchildren) live in North Aurora.

Mr. Barton traces his interest in community participation to the late 1960s when he was a student at Franklin Junior High, and joined Mayor McCoy's summer youth program. After purchasing property in the Tanner Historic District, he began attending neighborhood meetings at Nancy Hill School. He has been the president of the Aurora Cosmopolitan Club three times; the group is well-known locally for its dedication to fighting diabetes. "I hate it when people complain about what's going on but never get involved to make things better. I'm the kind of person who makes a commitment and sticks to it.

"I've lived in my neighborhood for a long time, and my wife and I are here to stay. We know many people. I have strong opinions about what is needed in the areas surrounding my home. I want people to care about the community where they live as much as I do."

In his spare time, Mr. Barton assembles model airplanes, watches sports and cares for his backyard pond, which is stocked with 12 fish. We are glad to have him on board!

Upcoming events:

2/3/12 through 3/5/12

Public Comments accepted, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

2/15/12, 1:00 –5:00 pm, Hampton Inn & Suites, 2423 Bushwood Drive

Mayor's Task Force on Affordable Housing

2/16/12, 7:00 -8:15 pm, Fred Rodgers Community Center, 501 College Avenue

Home Energy Efficiency Workshop—call 630-256-3323 to pre-register

2/29/12, 3:00 -5:00 pm, Aurora Police Headquarters, 1200 E. Indian Trail

Mayor's Task Force on Affordable Housing

3/12/12, 5:00 pm, City Council Chambers, 44 E. Downer Place, 2nd floor

Public Hearing, 2011 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)