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MEMORANDUM
NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES - COUNCIL MEMO NO. NR08-006

DATE: April 14, 2008

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

THRU: W. MARK PENTZ, CITY MANAGER
JUDITH REGISTER, NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES DIRECTOR
PAT TYRRELL, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

FROM: PAM LARGE, ASSISTANT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NUMBER 4177, ADOPTING A FAIR HOUSING POLICY AND EXPRESSING COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE OF FAIR HOUSING

RECOMMENDATION: Council is requested to approve Resolution No. 4177 adopting a fair housing policy and expressing commitment to the principle of fair housing.

BACKGROUND: The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development annually requires that recipients of Community Development Block Grant Funds locally resolve to support the principle of fair housing. Also, the grantee must describe the actions it shall undertake to affirmatively further fair housing. The City of Chandler has participated in the nationally organized Fair Housing month since 1994. Traditionally held during April, Chandler's Fair Housing Month activities have included a resolution adopted by Mayor and Council, mailing the resolution to interested individuals and organizations and announcing availability of fair housing materials.

DISCUSSION: Resolution No. 4177 provides additional publicity of the City's commitment to affirmatively further fair housing. In addition to regular publication of the Fair Housing Hotline in the CityScope newsletter and ongoing public availability of fair housing materials in English and Spanish, this resolution will be mailed to Chandler landlords, rental companies, management companies, realtors, banks and media outlets. Additionally, staff of the Neighborhood Resources Division will continue to handle any citizen complaint pertaining to discrimination in the acquisition or disposition of housing. Also, Neighborhood Resources has coordinated a Fair Housing Seminar to take place May 17, 2008 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Tumbleweed Park Recreation Center located at 2250 S. McQueen Rd. Chandler, AZ 85249.

FINACIAL IMPLICATIONS: All costs associated with this fair hosing activity will be paid by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

PROPOSED MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 4177 adopting a fair housing policy and expressing commitment to the principle of fair housing.

RESOLUTION NO. 4177

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER, ARIZONA, ADOPTING A FAIR HOUSING POLICY MAKING KNOWN ITS COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE OF FAIR HOUSING, AND DESCRIBING ACTIONS IT SHALL UNDERTAKE TO AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING.

WHEREAS, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, requires that all applicants for Community Development Block Grant funds certify that they shall affirmatively further fair housing; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (commonly known as the Federal Fair Housing Act) and the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, declare a national policy to prohibit discrimination in the sale, rental, lease, and financing of housing or land to be used for the construction of housing or in the provision of brokerage services on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin; and

WHEREAS, fairness is the foundation of the American system and reflects traditional American values; and

WHEREAS, discriminatory housing practices undermine the strength and vitality of America and its people.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT by the City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1: THAT discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, and financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services, on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin is prohibited by law; and

Section 2: THAT it is the policy of this community to implement programs, within the constraints of its resources to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, age, religion, handicap, familial status or national origin; and

Section 3: THAT within available resources, the City of Chandler will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against in housing issues on the basis of race, color, age, religion, handicap, familial status or national origin to seek equity under existing federal or state laws and to file a complaint with the Civil Rights Division of the Arizona Attorney general's office or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

Section 4: THAT the city of Chandler shall publicize this Resolution and thereby encourage owners of rental properties, developers, builders and others involved with housing to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Act and the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 and any applicable state or local laws or ordinances; and that the City of Chandler shall undertake the following additional actions to "affirmatively further fair housing":

- ❖ continue the Fair Housing Hotline that is regularly published in the City newsletter that is distributed through the water bill.
- ❖ mail this resolution to apartments, financial institutions, real estate companies, home builders, banks, and development companies.
- ❖ post this Resolution in a public place.
- ❖ make the HUD "Fair Housing" booklet available in the Planning and Development Department and in the Library.
- ❖ provide all brochures and informative materials in Spanish and English.
- ❖ ensure that assistance is available to all persons in completing forms and issuing Fair Housing complaints with the Attorney General's Office.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHANDLER ON THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2008.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above forgoing Resolution No. 4177 was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona at a regular meeting held on the ____ day of _____, 2008, and that a quorum was present thereat.

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY GAK