

Commission on Human Relations

Transition Briefing

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Executive Summary

Executive Summary



The Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations ("PghCHR" or the "Commission") is an independent Commission that enforces and ensures civil rights protections within the City of Pittsburgh. Sections 216 through 218 of Pittsburgh's Home Rule Charter established the PghCHR and Title 6, Article V, Chapters 651 through 659, of the Pittsburgh City Code further detail and outline the PghCHR's authority, as well as civil and human rights protections within the City. Additionally, per contracts with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Office (EEOC), the PghCHR enforces federal anti-discrimination law in housing and employment.

The Commission consists of fifteen (15) volunteer Commissioners who are appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. The Commissioners serve four-year terms.

PghCHR investigates complaints of alleged discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and the provision of City services. It can also initiate its own complaints against persons and entities, and can investigate any conditions, which it believes, is having an adverse effect on "intergroup relations." Additionally, the Commission reviews findings and recommendations of staff, conducts confidential mediation/conciliation meetings, approves of and/or enters into mediation/conciliation agreements, holds private fact-finding meetings, subpoenas evidence and/or witnesses, and interviews witnesses. It may hold public hearings, which could result in findings of fact that are legally enforceable orders. The Commission also provides outreach and education services regarding rights and responsibilities under the Fair Practices Ordinances (PCC: 651-659). These functions are performed within the following program areas:

- **Unlawful Practices Administration and Enforcement**—As provided in the City Code, the Commission's mandate is to receive, investigate and adjudicate complaints of discriminatory practices in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations. This Office is also charged with the responsibility for the receipt, investigation and adjudication of complaints alleging civil rights violations by City employees in the exercise of their duties as City employees. The Commission is charged with seeking the satisfactory resolution or adjustment of all complaints through negotiation, mediation, and conciliation.



- **Inter-Group/Police Community Relations**—The Commission studies, investigates, holds public hearings and conciliates issues in the community that adversely affect inter-group relations, negatively impact the livability of city neighborhoods and lead to civil unrest.
- **Education and Outreach**—The Commission provides information on the laws it enforces and its work in the area of community relations through the use of a wide variety of tools, including presentations and programs specifically targeted to reach the particular needs of all segments of the population, including the City workforce. These services complement the Commission's work in the area of enforcement and serve to reduce prejudice, enhance inter-group relations, increase understanding of our need for unity, and bring about a greater level of awareness and compliance with the law.

The Commission is divided into two sections: the Compliance Review Section (CRS) and the Public Hearing Section (PHS). Commissioners are appointed to sections by the PghCHR Chairperson, and no Commissioner may serve concurrently in both Sections. The CRS reviews case determinations and recommendations by PghCHR staff regarding probable cause, lack of probable cause and approval of conciliation agreements. By majority vote, the CRS will approve or disapprove of determinations and recommendations. After a determination of probable cause, if the parties cannot reach an agreement, the PHS conducts public hearings and renders the Commission's final decisions regarding cases.

The Commission's rules and regulations can be found at:

[apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/9384_Rules_and_Regulations_\(March_2020\)_-_COMPLETE.pdf](https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/9384_Rules_and_Regulations_(March_2020)_-_COMPLETE.pdf)

The Commission makes policy recommendations to the Mayor's Office, City Council and conducts policy review for the Bureau of Police. Despite its charge in conducting policy review for the Bureau of Police, our interviews revealed that the Bureau of Police has not been cooperative with investigations of discrimination. This will prove to be both a major challenge and opportunity for the incoming Administration to employ a much-needed cultural shift within the Bureau of Police, as well an opportunity to build collaborative partnerships between the Commission, the Bureau of Police and the Citizen's Police Review Board.

Executive Summary



The scope of the Commission's work covers a wide range of issues and areas. On first impression, its work intersects and, in some cases, "competes" with the work that the Office of Equity could or should focus on. However, the Commission's independence is what sets the Commission apart from other city departments and divisions that may focus on issues, initiatives or programs that impact the broad scope the Commission's charge. Across the world, these types of commissions have adopted different models and possess varying degrees of power. However, they share the common goal of seeking to address human rights violations and educating the public about human rights. Independence is a best practice, and is core to the efficiency and effectiveness of the agency.

Ideally, commissions like PghCHR should be independent of the government. This means that it should be financially independent to the greatest extent possible, and that the government should have little or no control over the functioning of the commission. Members of the commission should be accountable to and responsive to the public and should be diverse so as to reflect the plurality of society. A commission like PghCHR should also have a broad mandate and meaningful powers to monitor human rights compliance by the government effectively. PghCHR, which is not financially independent of city government, is comprised of mayoral appointments. The incoming Administration will need to be intentional in gaining public confidence and trust by ensuring that composition of the Commission reflect the diversity of Pittsburgh. PghCHR should communicate and cooperate with a broad range of social and political groups and institutions, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), judicial institutions, professional bodies, government departments, and human rights academics and practitioners. It should further take account of different trends of philosophical and religious thought.

Overall, the work done by PghCHR is, without question, robust and quantitative. Its work in receiving and responding to complaints, ensuring compliance with City Code and its outreach efforts are all areas that PghCHR is efficiently operating. However, its work historically has not always been backstopped with the ability to enforce. For example, in several interviews, we learned that there may be issues, particularly with Public Safety, with compliance and enforcement of rulings of PghCHR. The incoming administration will need to manage expectations across all city departments, divisions, and offices as it relates to the reach and authority of the Commission, as well as penalties/sanctions of failure to comply.



Findings



The Commission's work is well-defined. However, there is still room for continuous improvement, particularly as it relates to independence, funding, and compliance by departments and agencies regarding findings and policy recommendations issued by the Commission. This section summarizes our team's findings in the Commission on Human Relations. These findings have been validated and, in some instances, include recommendations or decision points for the incoming Administration.

Lack of True Independence

The Commission has produced several investigative and policy results for the City for a number of years despite disruptions in the level of staff, funding and Commissioners. As has already been noted, the Commission is quasi-independent, with all of its members being direct mayoral appointment. More impactful, however, is its lack of financial independence. The City of Pittsburgh currently spends \$2 million or more in its operating budget on initiatives that are intended to advance civil rights and equity. Despite momentum to address racial inequity, the Commission receives less than a quarter of these funds and was denied dedicated staff to address discrimination in City Hall. There is a need to explore the best model and structure for the Commission based on best practices. Support for this finding can be found in a Commissions report entitled, "Civil Rights Agenda for a New Administration: Priorities from the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations." Source: apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/15989_Civil_Rights_Agenda_for_a_New_Administration_20211006.pdf

Lack of Support from Bureau of Police

The Department of Public Safety (DPS), particularly the Bureau of Police (PBP), has made significant progress toward compliance with the laws and standards of our city, but work remains to be done. When this department is not held to the same standards and laws of the rest of the City, public safety itself suffers. To guarantee that all people in Pittsburgh feel safe and protected, the DPS must accelerate its push toward equal access and compliance with anti-discrimination laws. PCC § 653.05 outlining the Commission's powers and duties give the

Findings



agency the power to "request other departments, boards and commissions of the City government to assist in the performance of its duties, and such other departments, boards and commissions shall cooperate fully with the Commission." Unfortunately, where police officers become involved, departments have struggled to cooperate with the Commission's investigations. DPS and its Bureau of Police must be accountable to its people in the maintenance of their civil rights. Support for this finding can be found in the Commission's report entitled, "Civil Rights Agenda for a New Administration: Priorities from the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations." Source: https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/15989_Civil_Rights_Agenda_for_a_New_Administration_20211006.pdf

Key Recommendations

1. Reinforce the independence of the Commission, clearly defining the work that it does and demonstrating how this work impacts city departments, particularly the program and initiatives of the Office of Equity.
2. If the Commission remains dependent on city finances to operate, the City should create specific performance metrics for the Commission to ensure that the metrics are tracked, measured and analyzed for continuous improvement.
3. There needs to be a top-down approach as it relates to the enabling power granted to the Commission and the impact of finding, and recommendations from Commission on applicable departments and agencies.



About the Agency

About the Agency



Contact

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Commission on Human Relations

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Enabling Legislation

Pittsburgh Home Rule Charter: (Ord. 29-1980, eff. 12-31-80); Article 2 sections 216–218;

Pittsburgh City Code, Title 6 Article V, Chapter 651–659

Mission and Vision

The Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations is a civil rights organization focused on investigating instances of discrimination, providing outreach and education to communities about their rights, and recommending necessary protections in our City Code to provide all people in Pittsburgh with equal opportunities. The Commission's goal is to decrease unfair treatment and discrimination by promoting justice and understanding among communities in the City of Pittsburgh.

To further its mission and commitment to equity and equality, the PghCHR does, among other things, the following:

- Conduct community education, training and other outreach programs for schools; community groups; businesses; professional organizations; and City departments in

About the Agency



order to promote fairness, equity, equal rights and opportunities for all who work in, live in or visit our city.

- Conduct and contract for studies and reports regarding discrimination-related issues within the City.
- Share information with the public regarding resources provided by other organizations and entities.
- Draft and propose amendments to the Pittsburgh City Code.
- Draft and submit comments on proposed changes, creation, or elimination of federal rules and regulations.
- Send press releases on issues relating to civil and human rights.
- Foster collaboration between and among other organizations and entities.

Organizational Chart





Description of Services

Key Commission of Human Relations services include:

- **Unlawful Practices Administration and Enforcement**—As provided in the City Code, the Commission's mandate is to receive, investigate and adjudicate complaints of discriminatory practices in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations. This office is also charged with the responsibility for the receipt, investigation and adjudication of complaints alleging civil rights violations by City employees in the exercise of their duties as City employees. The Commission is charged with seeking the satisfactory resolution or adjustment of all complaints through negotiation, mediation and conciliation.
- **Inter-Group/Police Community Relations**—The Commission studies, investigates, holds public hearings and conciliates issues in the community that adversely affect inter-group relations, negatively impact the livability of city neighborhoods and lead to civil unrest.
- **Education and Outreach**—The Commission provides information on the laws it enforces and its work in the area of community relations through the use of a wide variety of tools, such as presentations and programs specifically targeted to reach the particular needs of all segments of the population, including the City workforce. These services complement the Commission's work in the area of enforcement and serve to reduce prejudice, enhance inter-group relations, increase understanding of our need for unity, and bring about a greater level of awareness and compliance with the law. The Commission also works to further the City's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially those focused on peace, justice and strong institutions.

About the Agency



Per Chapter 659 of the of the Pittsburgh City Code, it is unlawful to discriminate in the following areas on the outlined bases:

Employment	Housing	Public Accommodations	City Services Provided by a City Employee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race • Color • Religion • Age (over 40) • Ancestry • National origin • Place of birth • Sex • Sexual orientation • Gender identity or expression • Handicap or disability • Pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions and events • Hairstyles and protective and cultural hair textures and hairstyles • Retaliation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race • Color • Religion • Familial status • Ancestry • National origin • Place of birth • Sex • Sexual orientation • Gender identity or expression • Handicap, disability, or use of a support animal • Status as a survivor of domestic violence • Citizenship or immigration status • Preferred language • Hairstyles and protective and cultural hair textures and hairstyles • Retaliation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race • Color • Religion • Ancestry • National origin • Place of birth • Sex • Sexual orientation • Gender identity or expression • Handicap, disability, or use of a support animal • Citizenship or immigration status • Preferred language • Hairstyles and protective and cultural hair textures and hairstyles • Retaliation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race • Color • Religion • Ancestry • National origin • Place of birth • Sex • Sexual orientation • Handicap, disability, or use of a support animal



**Agency Goals &
Performance Metrics**



Create a meaningful engagement series with area youth on civil and human rights.

Strategies to Achieve Goal:

- Work with community leaders and commissioners to create a youth engagement strategy.
- Begin a quarterly human and civil rights youth contest based in art, writing, video and other media to create discussion around the influence of civil rights on Pittsburgh.
- Collaborate with the Allegheny County Human Relations Commission to broaden efforts to reach youth.
- Provide youth-based resources and education around civil and human rights.

How Success Will Be Measured:

- Meet with at least four (4) community leaders and/or commissioners to form a strategy for youth engagement.
- Hold a quarterly contest to represent diverse viewpoints of youth in Pittsburgh, while also providing historical context and education about the Commission's mission.
- Provide at least two (2) educational events on human rights geared toward youth and/or parents.

Increase availability of multi-lingual services and materials in order to be a Welcoming Agency, while providing relevant anti-discrimination education to immigrant and international populations.

Strategies to Achieve Goal:

- Utilize information and recommendations from the City's language access plan to better serve Limited English Proficiency (LEP) members of the community.
- Implement a system for video remote interpreting within the department.
- Ensure that in-person interpretation is utilized for complaints and intakes, whenever possible.
- Participate as a member of the All for All Coalition and the Welcoming Pittsburgh Advisory Council.



- Create a series of Know Your Rights workshops for immigrant and refugee communities to utilize for housing and public accommodations.

How Success Will Be Measured:

- All vital documents for the Commission will be translated into at least the top five (5) languages by the end of 2021, including our main outreach materials/brochures.
- All conciliation agreements or documents requiring a signature for LEP complainants or respondents will be translated into the preferred language within one week of request.
- The Commission will have Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) capabilities by the end of 2021.
- A workshop curriculum will be created by Commission staff and/or fellows by mid-2021, and will be utilized by at least three (3) community leaders by the end of 2021.

Implement SDGs by utilizing data from the CMU CREATE Lab data mapping project.

Strategies to Achieve Goal:

- Work with Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) CREATE Lab to visualize issues of equity in the City of Pittsburgh and identify areas of the City with the greatest disparities.
- Support a community engagement strategy for the City around SDG education and feedback.
- Utilize the mapping tools and narratives with community organizations to help them understand and proactively address inequities in their communities.
- Understand how data visualization capabilities can increase enforcement of the Fair Housing Act and Pittsburgh City Code, as well as investments made by the City.

How Success Will Be Measured:

- Data visualizations will be utilized in community meetings with at least two (2) community partners.
- An Earthtime data visualization story specific to SDGs will be created for use in City planning and budgeting, as well as for creation of the City's SDG indicators and targets.
- At least two (2) SDGs community groups will be trained to use the Earthtime tool within their communities to work toward reducing inequities and furthering social justice.



Create and utilize a series of Fair Housing videos to inform the public about issues of housing discrimination.

Strategies to Achieve Goal:

- Work with partners at Fair Housing Partnership (FHP) and CREATE Lab, as well as a vendor chosen by CHR staff, to produce a series of topical videos on Fair Housing issues.
- Use community perspectives (lived experience) and data visualizations to provide education around issues of systemic racism and discrimination in housing.
- Air the series of videos on social media platforms and City Channel to increase the viewer base that receives Fair Housing education and learns how to report Fair Housing complaints.

How Success Will Be Measured:

- The videos will be fully produced and finally edited by June 2021, and will start airing immediately.
- Viewership across all platforms will exceed 500 viewers, targeted to City of Pittsburgh residents.
- Residents will better understand where they can report Fair Housing issues and how to identify discriminatory practices (as measured by an increase in inquiries and complaints related to video subject matter).



Budget

Budget



Staffing and Salaries

City of Pittsburgh Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2022

Commission on Human Relations
105000

Position Summary

Title	2021			2021 Budget	2022			2022 Budget
	FTE	Rate/ Grade	Hours/ Months		FTE	Rate/ Grade	Hours/ Months	
Director	0.7	32G	12	\$ 68,858	0.7	32G	12	\$ 70,924
Deputy Director	0.4	26E	12	28,545	0.7	26E	12	51,453
Senior Investigator, Field	0.9	U08-H	12	51,314	0.9	U08-H	12	52,853
Senior Investigator, Field	0.9	U08-H	12	51,314	0.9	U08-H	12	52,853
Senior Investigator, Field	0.9	U08-H	12	51,314	0.9	U08-H	12	52,853
Coordinator, Outreach & Intake	0.9	U08-H	12	51,314	0.9	U08-H	12	52,853
Fiscal & Contracting Coordinator	0.7	18E	12	35,802	0.3	18E	12	15,804
Administrative Assistant	0.7	17E	8	22,796	0.7	17E	12	35,221
Total Full-Time Permanent Positions	6.1			\$ 361,257	6.0			\$ 384,814

Temporary, Part-Time, and Seasonal Allowances

Administrative Assistant	0.80	\$ 21.92	1,300	\$ 7,599	—	\$ 21.92	—	\$ —
Student Interns	—	7.40-10.20	—	5,000	—	7.40-10.20	—	5,000
	—			\$ 12,599	—			\$ 5,000

Total Full-Time Permanent Positions	6.1			\$ 361,257	6.0			\$ 384,814
Temporary, Part-Time, and Seasonal Allowances	—			12,599	—			5,000
Total Full-Time Positions and Net Salaries	6.1			\$ 373,856	6.0			\$ 389,814

2022 Allocations	General Fund	HUD Trust Fund	EEOC Trust Fund
Director	70%	20%	10%
Deputy Director	70%	20%	10%
Fiscal & Contracting Coordinator	30%	60%	10%
Coordinator, Outreach & Intake	90%	10%	—%
Senior Investigator, Field	90%	10%	—%
Administrative Assistant	70%	10%	30%

Budget



Other Operating Funds

City of Pittsburgh Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2022

Commission on Human Relations
105000

Subclass Detail

	2020	2021	2022	Increase/	%
	Actual	Budget	Budget	(Decrease)	Change
Expenditures					
51 - PERSONNEL-SALARIES & WAGES	\$ 379,589	\$ 373,855	\$ 389,814	15,959	4.3%
51101 - Regular	372,156	373,855	389,814	15,958	
51207 - Leave Buyback	7,378	—	—	—	
51401 - Premium Pay	55	—	—	—	
52 - PERSONNEL-EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	107,855	122,889	120,576	(2,313)	(1.9)%
52101 - Health Insurance	66,490	68,655	75,011	6,356	
52111 - Other Insurance/Benefits	7,707	7,915	8,209	294	
52201 - Social Security	28,372	29,319	30,356	1,037	
52601 - Personal Leave Buyback	5,286	17,000	7,000	(10,000)	
53 - PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES	42,631	37,958	38,308	350	0.9%
53101 - Administrative Fees	1,179	1,020	600	(420)	
53105 - Recording/Filing Fees	—	1,800	1,800	—	
53301 - Workforce Training	3,992	3,338	3,338	—	
53509 - Computer Maintenance	—	—	420	420	
53901 - Professional Services	37,460	31,800	32,150	350	
55 - OTHER SERVICES	808	1,550	2,400	850	54.8%
55305 - Promotional	796	1,000	1,500	500	
55309 - Regulatory	13	500	150	(350)	
55701 - Transportation	—	50	750	700	
56 - SUPPLIES	1,398	4,000	2,800	(1,200)	(30.0)%
56101 - Office Supplies	936	2,550	2,050	(500)	
56151 - Operational Supplies	462	1,450	750	(700)	
Expenditures Total	\$ 532,281	\$ 540,252	\$ 553,898	13,646	2.5%

Budget



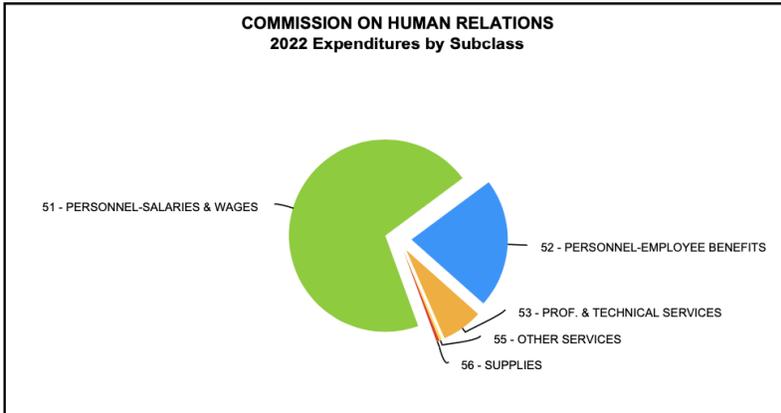
5-Year Forecast

City of Pittsburgh Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2022

Commission on Human Relations
105000

Five Year Forecast

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Expenditures					
51 - PERSONNEL-SALARIES & WAGES	\$ 389,814	\$ 399,624	\$ 409,694	\$ 420,031	\$ 428,331
52 - PERSONNEL-EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	120,576	125,527	130,743	136,239	141,815
53 - PROF. & TECHNICAL SERVICES	38,308	38,308	38,308	38,308	38,308
55 - OTHER SERVICES	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
56 - SUPPLIES	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800
Total	\$ 553,898	\$ 568,658	\$ 583,945	\$ 599,778	\$ 613,654
% Change from Prior Year	2.5%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.3%



Budget



Capital Budget—2022

Not applicable.



Programs & Projects

Programs & Projects



2021 Accomplishments

- Hosted fair housing and COVID-19 webinars during Fair Housing Month to share information on immigrant and refugee, disability, and domestic violence housing issues
- Created and conducted a series of Know Your Rights workshops for immigrant and refugee communities on housing and public accommodations
- Utilized Partnership Grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and worked with the CMU CREATE Lab staff to develop six topical fair housing videos
- Utilized CARES Act funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to share informational handouts on the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to disability and national origin in housing
- Drafted legislation to extend the Survivor of Domestic Violence protected class to employment

Programs and Projects Generally

The year 2020 was a critical turning point for our nation, region, and city to reckon with long-standing racial inequity and inequality. This reckoning was spurred by the global catastrophe that severely diminished the financial situation for governments around the world. Now, with limited resources, the fight for equity and against inequality is more pressing than ever. It is time for the municipalities to act deliberately and strategically about eliminating inequity and inequality. The Commission's work is not focused on direct run programs or projects. Instead, it focuses on supporting organizations that fight for equitable outcomes for all Pittsburgh citizens. Below is a list of the Commission's most recent notable accomplishments.

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Opportunities & Risks

Opportunities & Risks



This section is designed to make the incoming administration aware of important program/project events, as well as important decisions that will have to be made over the next year.

Risks Ahead:

No Real Performance Metrics

- The Commission on Human Relations is designed to be an independent body. However, the agency is supported by the City's budget. From the City's perspective, there are no specific strategies, tactics or metrics that are directly tied to the City's goals and objectives. The Commission will do its work, but the City lacks its own strategic plan for the equitable outcomes that it hopes to achieve. The City should develop key metrics for the Commission that are directly tied to the funding that it receives from the City.

Changing Outcomes for Pittsburgh's Most Vulnerable Communities

- The Commission was founded in 1955, and the outcomes for historically socially and economically disadvantaged groups, including minorities and women, are not reflective of the time, money and effort expended. Equity is hard because it seeks to remove barriers and challenges created by systemic inequities and oppression. This is a risk that is not unique only to this Commission, but it certainly should be recognized as the elephant in the room.



Important Decisions Between 1/6/21 and 12/31/22

1. The incoming Administration will have to distinguish the current programs/initiatives of the Office of Equity, the Commission on Human Relations and the Office of Community Health and Safety (OCHS). There is a perception that there is overlap and/or conflict, which leads to each of these departments questioning the necessity of the other departments. We do not recommend that these departments/divisions be combined. There is more than enough work to be done to empower communities, and change outcomes for our vulnerable and historically disadvantaged communities.



Reports



Civil Rights Agenda for a New Administration 2021

The year 2020 was a critical turning point for our nation, region and city to reckon with long-standing racial inequity and inequality. It is time for municipalities to act deliberately and strategically about eliminating inequity and inequality. The suggestions in this document guide the next administration in financially sound, equitable planning for all Pittsburghers. The full report can be found at:

apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/15989_Civil_Rights_Agenda_for_a_New_Administration_20211006.pdf

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Pittsburgh's Inequality Across Gender and Race

The Affordable Housing Task Force began with an assumption that there was a compelling need to address the changing landscape of housing affordability in Pittsburgh. Through research, discussion, and community and stakeholder engagement, the Task Force has arrived at recommendations that respond to both the assumption and the realities of affordable housing in the City. The report also notes that while the recommendations are complete, there is more work to do on the road to action and implementation, and lays out the immediate, short- and mid-term goals to achieve them. Many of the task force members have volunteered to continue to work on specific proposals, making sure we have the fullest range of experience and expertise available.

The full report can be found at:

http://www.p4pittsburgh.org/media/W1siZiIsIjwMTYvMDkvMTkvNnczY2wocG5rcF9BZmZvcmlRbWxlcXohvdXNpbmdfVGFza19Gb3JjZV81XzMxXzE2LnBkZiJdXQ/Affordable_Housing_Task_Force-5_31_16.pdf

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Policy Recommendations of the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Task Force

In April 2019, the Commission issued policy recommendations regarding housing and housing-related opportunities in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. The report notes that



these opportunities remain largely segregated on the basis of race, with persons of color, people with disabilities, families with children, and others protected by applicable Fair Housing laws generally having fewer choices and less access to opportunities. The impacts of this on affected families and individuals are myriad, from inferior access to educational and employment opportunities to poorer health outcomes. This is particularly egregious in the context of the "renaissance" that has been ongoing in Pittsburgh, as many people of color and others protected by the Fair Housing laws find themselves excluded from the benefits of development in the City and living in neighborhoods that are falling further behind. The report can be found at:

apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/5697_AFFH_Report_FINAL.pdf

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2016 Fiscal Audit

In 2016, the City Controller conducted a fiscal audit to determine whether the funds deposited into a trust fund by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) were properly accounted for and administered by evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of its operations and related internal controls. The report can be found at:

apps.pittsburghpa.gov/co/HUD_2016_Fiscal.pdf