



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Housing Affordability Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 31, 2024, | 10:00 - 11:30 AM | Via [Zoom](#) | Meeting ID: 161 652 8469

Working Group Goal: Increase access to quality affordable housing in the SDPZ.

In Attendance

City of San Diego (Michele Marano), **City of San Diego - Promise Zone** (Amber Weber, Donika Moreno, Zach Engberg, Brandon Tran, Ian Hembree, Domanic Riley, Daniel Hamilton), **Community Housing Works** (Pablo Estrada), **CSA San Diego** (Monica Lopez), **I Love to Glean** (Karen Clay), **International Rescue Committee** (Irene Bwayo), **Legal Aid Society** (Laura Ann Fernea), **San Diego Housing Commission** (Jon Rios), **SAY San Diego** (Marsha Lyon), **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development** (Megan Emme)

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Introductions

- Co-chairs welcomed partners and reviewed the agenda
- The Promise Zone team announced the departure of VISTA Ian Hembree, who completed his year of service as the Promise Zone's Civic Engagement Associate.
- The culture share prompt for the meeting was: *"How do you manage stress on a daily basis?"*

Promise Zone & Staff Updates

- The **City of San Diego's** Employ & Empower Program will host a Winter Civics Internship and Training Program from February 11 to March 20, 2025.
- Laura Ann shared a resource from Housing Justice Collaborative that offers [assistance and resources for tenants](#).
- Irene Bwayo: IRC, World Design Capital is holding a fashion show at Balboa Park on November 2nd.
- The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) submittal deadline is November 8, 2024 at 5 p.m. (PST). The anticipated release date for the Request for Proposal (RFP) is December 9, 2024, with a tentative submittal deadline of January 17, 2025.
- The **October newsletter** was published with Daniela Kelly, executive director of the Sherman Heights Community Center, as the Community Spotlight. Links to the [newsletter archive](#) and [nomination form](#) were shared.

Click the following links to stay connected to the San Diego Promise Zone

[Newsletter](#) | [Website](#) | [New Website](#) | [Email](#) | (619) 236-6700 | 1200 Third Ave, 14th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

- Promise Zone will not have any normal WG meetings in December 2024 in lieu of an all-partner meeting on Thursday, Dec. 5.

Guest Presentation: Karen Clay, Flood Food Relief Committee

- The floods have greatly affected the Promise Zone; a plan for future disaster food needs assessments will be created to further help families in need.
- Flood data relevant to the Promise Zone will be analyzed and maps displaying the Flood Zone in relation to the Promise Zone will be made.

Guest Presentation: Megan Emme and Michele Marano, Developer's Forum

- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is partnering with the City of San Diego to gather key leaders to incentivize effective conversations to alleviate the current challenges in developing affordable housing.
- The Developer's Forum aims to combine the expertise of housing developers, the government and community members to collect valuable input.

Logic Models & Breakout Rooms

- Amber introduced the logic model framework that the breakout rooms within the meeting will be using. The goal of improving Housing Affordability has three formal objectives, but the working group decided to narrow the focus to the two objectives: First: Access to affordable housing with proximity to transit, healthy food, and green space; Second: supporting first-time homebuyers, renters, and people without housing.

Subgroup 1 Objectives: 1) Create and preserve affordable housing.

- Due to a lack of attendance, Subgroup 1 merged with the Subgroup 2 to continue Housing Affordability discussions.

Subgroup 2 Objectives: 1) Support first time home buyers, renters, and people without housing.

- Topics covered in the second breakout room include:
 - The number of first-time buyers in the Promise Zone. Jon presented a map with the current affordable housing options in the Promise Zone.
 - There is a question regarding whether or not there are enough first-time buyers who are saving up for a down payment.
 - Banks and their accessibility were also discussed. City Heights in particular is seeing a decline in banks and bank-related services.
 - A Promise Zone needs assessment is in the works to be conducted in order to collect data and feedback from residents.
 - Education within the communities is essential for residents to access financial resources.

Next Steps & Adjourn

- The co-chair thanked those who attended the meeting and encouraged them to leave any feedback through the [Digital Comment Box](#).

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM | Via Zoom

Via Zoom ([Link to Sign Up](#)) | (Meeting ID: 160 869 8761)