Chapter 18 Civil Rights Ordinance & Chapter 18A Fair Housing Ordinance
Draft Introduction

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Presentation

- Changes to the ordinance organization (2 parts)
- Overview of additions and changes
- Civil Rights Board and the DEI office
- Community Engagement continues virtually
Changes to the organization of the document
Chapter 18
CIVIL RIGHTS ORDINANCE

- Civil Rights Board
- Protected classes
- Outline of discrimination in general
- All additional items that refer to housing are **BOLD**

Chapter 18 A
FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE

- Specific compliance details
- Specific discrimination in housing transactions
- Separated chapter for City staff and partners to utilize
Similar Ordinances

- Grand Rapids
- Ann Arbor
Overview of Additions & Changes
Court ruling on June 15, 2020. The court said the language of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits sex discrimination, applies to discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
Community Engagement

Feedback from listening sessions, emails, phone calls, and zoom interviews led to:

• Clarity of document and process to assist with implementation

• Expanded to include: The sale, exchange, rental or lease of real property.

• Clarifying language in “blanket policy” statements

• Clarifying language in arrest and conviction statements

• Including ability to pay utilities in income qualifications

• Changing 180 day reporting time frame to 91 days
Civil Rights Board and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Office
DEI Office Complaints & Enforcement

Purpose of Civil Rights Board

DEI Office Capacity (now & future)

Partnerships in the City & State
Complaint Process

File a complaint with City Manager

City Manager reviews complaint with City Attorney

If complaint should go to MDCR; complaint will be sent to State Office.

If complaint is local, City Manager will assign investigation to appropriate department

Case may come to City Manager or designee for conciliation

the City Manager shall give written notice of the results of the investigation to the Civil Rights Board
Partnership & Ordinance

Partnerships are critical to our housing stability

- The City is not a housing organization; we support through federal funds, ordinances, and org. support
- We are all a part of an eco-system of housing
- Landlords and tenants still need assistance communicating, educating, and building relationships with each other
- Everyone involved in providing housing is a part of housing success stories
- Understanding our past is part of healing our future
Community Conversations

Question & Answer Zoom and Facebook forums:
- August 4 Landlord Forum at 10:30am
- August 6 Landlord Forum at 2:30pm
- August 10 Community Facebook Town Hall at 7:00pm
- August 13 Housing Support & Partners Forum at 2:30pm

Documents will be available on the City’s website for feedback

Commission Hearings
- August 17 City Commission First Reading of Ordinance at 7:00pm
- Tuesday, September 8 City Commission Public Hearing at 7:00pm
Thank You!

Questions?