

Housing is a Human Right

Housing Problems

- Housing Costs Outpacing Incomes
- Households Spending too much on Housing (more than 30% of household income)
- City losing homeowners (61% in 2005 to 54% in 2016)
- Mismatch between people's income and the availability of affordable housing.
- Redevelopment and new investment is creating gentrification and displacement.
- Federal housing assistance (CDBG, HOME, etc. is dwindling.

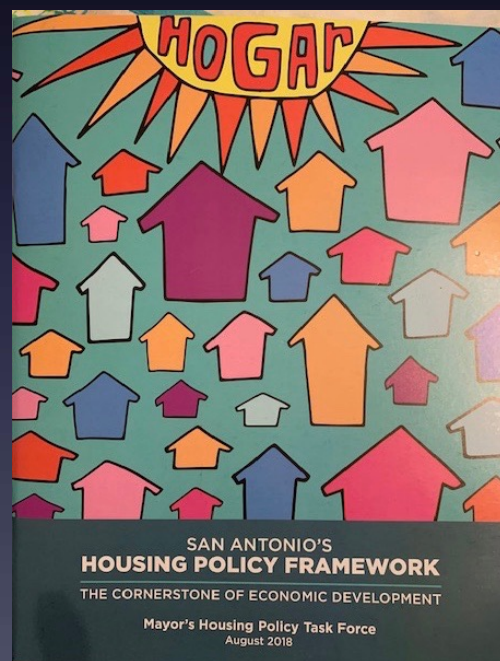
Recommendations: A Housing Framework

- Develop a Coordinated Housing System.
- Increase City Investment in Housing.
- Increase Affordable Housing Production, Rehabilitation and Preservation.
- Protect and Promote Neighborhoods.
- Ensure Accountability to the Public.

Ensure Accountability to the Public – Establish a “structured framework of accountability to ensure that oversight and public engagement are an inseparable component of housing delivery.”

- Housing Commission
- Develop Annual Report

To view report:
Google “Mayor’s Housing Policy Task Force” and click
picture of report.



The Church, “sharing the joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the people of our time, especially those who are poor or affected in any way,” feels it has a serious obligation to join with those who are working, without self-interest and with dedication, to find concrete and urgent solutions to the housing problem and to see that the homeless receive the necessary attention and concern on the part of public authorities. – John Paul II.

“Yet, we cannot pretend that soup kitchens and shelters represent a truly humane and effective response to poverty and homelessness. Charitable efforts cannot substitute for public policies that offer real opportunities and dignity for the poor. Shelters cannot substitute for real housing for low-income families and poor individuals. We owe our sisters and brothers more than a cot and a blanket for the night; we owe them a chance for a better life, an opportunity to live a life of dignity in decent housing.”

- US Conference of Catholic Bishops, March 1988