



Furthering Fair Housing

in Kansas City, Missouri

All residents should have access to affordable quality housing, whether they own or rent, regardless of race or ethnicity, family status or disability.

That's the vision, but how can we make it a reality? The City of Kansas City is embarking on a new study to determine what actions we can take to help residents — particularly disadvantaged residents — meet their housing needs.

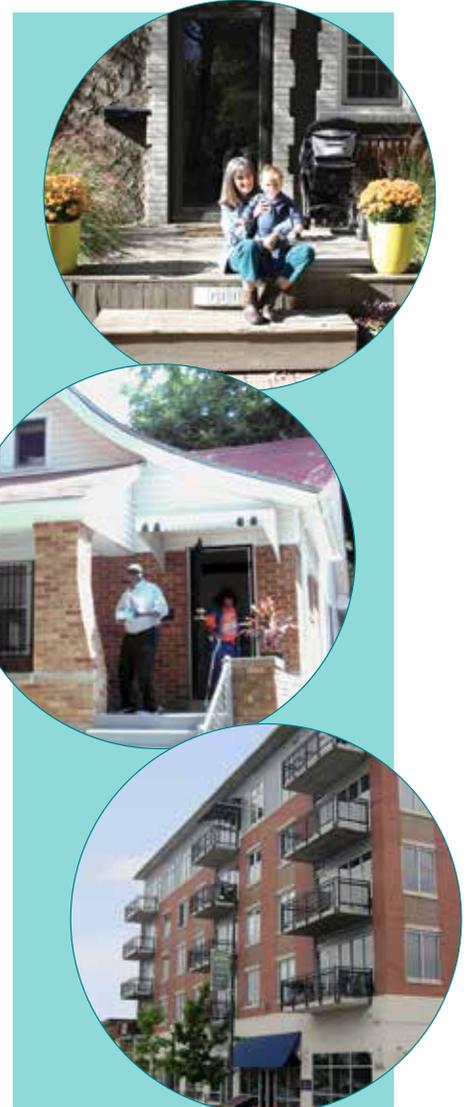
The Fair Housing Assessment Process

Over the next six months, we'll collect data about our current housing infrastructure. We'll examine difficult issues like racial and ethnic segregation, concentrated areas of poverty, and challenges facing people with disabilities or limited English proficiency.

We'll also look at areas of opportunity, and listen to residents to learn about their priorities. In October, we'll publish a plan with recommendations and strategies that outline what role the City can play in furthering fair housing for all residents.

How You Can Help

Input from residents is a critical part of developing a strong fair housing plan. We'll provide plenty of opportunities for you to share ideas about housing and tell us what's most important to you. We'll host community meetings in each council district this summer and also use social media and other online tools to engage in a community conversation about housing. Watch for more information at [\[insert web address\]](#).



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Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing is a legal requirement that federal grantees further the purpose of the Fair Housing Act. As part of its Community Development Block Grant obligations, the City of Kansas City, Missouri, is required to submit an Assessment of Furthering Fair Housing to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by October 2016. The City has contracted with the Mid-America Regional Council to assist with the assessment. MARC completed a regional Fair Housing and Equity Assessment in 2014.

Data and Analysis

MARC will work with the City to gather data, analyze and present required plan elements:

- Patterns of segregation and integration trends and contributing factors.
- Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty.
- Disparities in access to opportunity in education, employment, transportation, poverty exposure and environmental health.
- Disproportionate housing needs, including cost burdens and substandard housing.
- Publicly supported housing.
- Access for persons with disabilities.
- Housing affordability.

Community Engagement

MARC will work with the Regional Equity Network and City staff to conduct a series of meetings and online engagement opportunities, including public meetings, presentations to community groups, social media interaction and online discussion through KC Momentum. City staff will keep the Mayor and City Council informed throughout the process.

Regional Framework

The Fair Housing Plan will include a review of regional trends in addition to City-specific information. Several other communities will be working with the City, including Wyandotte County, Independence, Blue Springs, Lee's Summit, Leavenworth and Johnson County.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing means taking meaningful actions to address significant disparities in housing needs and access to opportunity, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws.