



"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community and Economic Development Committee
FROM: Kathy Flores, Diversity Coordinator – Community & Economic Development
CC: Karen Harkness, Director of Community Development & Economic Development
Mayor Timothy Hanna
DATE: July 25, 2013
RE: Fair Housing Ordinance Updates

You received the Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing report at the April 22, 2013, meeting of the Community and Economic Development Committee. In that report, the first impediment identified focused on updating our Fair Housing ordinance.

Our team has been working for the past few months to make updates and changes to our Fair Housing ordinance to comply with standards suggested by Milwaukee Fair Housing.

The changes include:

- Clarifications on language
- Protected classes are more fully defined
- Protections for persons with disabilities expanded to mirror state and federal housing laws
- Protections added include Gender Identity and/or Gender Expression
- Addition of the terminology 'actual or perceived' to protected classes
- Penalties for violating the ordinance have been raised consistent with state and federal housing laws
- Elimination of the word "willful" as it applies to intent
- The Ordinance is amended to clarify that civil action is permissible under the ordinance and defines what role and benefits the victim of discrimination is afforded in such actions.
- Addition of prohibiting discrimination in the procurement of homeowner's insurance.
- Definition of advertising is expanded
- Elimination that the requirement of written complaints be notarized
- The statute of limitations for filing a complaint has been lengthened to one year

After the CEDC meeting on July 15, we changed or added:

- Language about owner-occupied and single-family residents 8-31 (b) (1) (2)
- Grammar and sentence structure updates
- Moved 'actual or perceived' for protected classes to section 8-30 rather than 8-26

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (920) 832-1564 or email at Kathy.flores@appleton.org