

Spotlight Article

Eastern Piedmont Triad: Genise Smith-Watkins, Shared GAD

The City of High Point's Human Relations Commission is exploring the question of whether the city could become a federally sanctioned agency that would have investigative and enforcement authority over housing discrimination cases.

At the request of the High Point City Council, the High Point Human Relations Department began exploring the possibility of High Point establishing Fair Housing Assistance Program status by HUD. The Human Relations Department reached out to High Point Regional Association of REALTORS® (HPRAR) to participate in the 4-part workshop discussions. HPRAR members included: 3-5 property managers, 6 HPRAR Executive Committee members, and 4 Committee/Council Chairs to represent its members.

Included below are links to brief summaries of the City's last four Analysis of Impediments (A.I.) reports. The reports were prepared in response to questions asked during the second workshop where Mike McNair, Director of Community Development and Housing - City of High Point, presented highlights from the most recent 2020 A.I. report.

YouTube links:

- [Overview of FHAP operations and certification process | July 22](#)
- [A history of Fair Housing in High Point | July 29](#)
- [Legal Aspects of Fair Housing | August 3](#)
- [Panel Discussion of Fair Housing Investigative Process | Aug. 10](#)

The Human Relations Commission met on August 12, 2021, to discuss all the information related to this series. Ultimately, the HRC voted unanimously to recommend that City Council pursue the next steps to becoming a FHAP, and an HRC rep will present that recommendation at an upcoming city council meeting. The minutes are still being created for the meeting, but you can view what is currently available here: [Human Relations Commission Meeting | August 12](#).

https://greensboro.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/fair-housing-debate-resurfaces-in-high-point/article_9ab1e109-b5e0-566b-b4ba-6b3d41b8ab9a.html