Housing Tax Credit (HTC) Application and Policy

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October 10, 2017



Background

- Cities can approve a resolution of support, no objection, or opposition for HTC projects
- June 27, 2017 Work Session
- What was presented
 - Summary of research from other cities
 - Range of methods
 - No Evaluation Criteria
 - General Criteria/Factors
 - Priority Considerations or Preferences
 - Minimum Policy Thresholds
 - Draft Application and Policy



Background

- What we heard:
 - Support for an application and process to establish expectations, increase transparency, and streamline review process
 - Request for additional information on application
 - Description of neighborhood contact and involvement
 - Percentage of affordable and market rate units
 - Access to transportation/mobility options
 - Develop a point system to evaluate applications and provide clarity to the applicant
 - Potential for priority considerations
 - Property tax vs tax exempt
 - Housing support or units for homeless



What has been done since

- Met with Denton Housing Authority
- Received feedback from potential developers
- Researched point/ranking system to evaluate applications
- Revised draft application and policy
 - Condensed and streamlined the checklist and submittals
 - Eliminated some duplicate questions that would be addressed through planning and zoning review
 - Recommend revising the submittal schedule:
 - □ 9% establish deadline (~March, based upon TDHCA annual schedule)
 - 4% accept year-round



Evaluation

- Point/ranking system
 - Difficulties and challenges
 - Potential subjectivity
 - Absence of a policy document to base scoring categories
 - Minimal volume of applications and lack of experience with an application process
- Other municipalities researched
 - El Paso has a point system method; however, linked to City's value statements and affordable housing policies
 - Some municipalities utilize other methods, such as stating policy preferences to help determine support for applications



Options

- Option #1: Application and Policy with general criteria/factors for consideration
 - Staff can provide an analysis based upon the general 4 criteria listed and the checklist
 - Revisit the application and policy annually after having some experience
- Option #2: Application and Policy with City Council Policy Preferences
 - Property Tax vs Tax Exempt
 - Percentages of Affordable Housing vs Market Rate units
 - Homeless and Transitional Housing requirements
 - > Types of Development (e.g. Senior Housing, Redevelopment, etc.)



Questions



