



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION LEADS HOUSING SECURITY WORKSHOP SERIES

High Point, N.C. (July 19, 2021) - Starting July 22, the High Point Human Relations Commission will host a series of four housing security workshops via Zoom to evaluate the feasibility of the City of High Point becoming a Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP).

FHAPs, under oversight from the federal Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, implement federally equivalent fair housing laws to protect people from discrimination when renting or buying a home, securing a mortgage, seeking housing assistance or engaging in other housing-related activities. Additionally, FHAP programs offer local access to fair housing resources, such as additional outreach, enforcement, education and training.

These workshops, led by subject experts, will bring together commissioners, realtors, landlords and local leaders to discuss all aspects of FHAP operation and certification, ultimately producing a recommendation to City Council.

High Point City Council approved the Human Relations Commission's 2021 workplan item to investigate FHAP certification in response to concerns that not having a local FHAP creates inequitable barriers for residents.

Currently, High Point residents who experience discrimination in housing may submit a complaint to the NC Human Relations Commission in Raleigh, N.C.

All four workshops will start at 5:30 p.m. and are open to the public virtually. Each workshop will explore a different aspect of FHAP operation and certification:

- Thursday, July 22 - Overview of FHAP operations and certification process
- Thursday, July 29 - History of fair housing in High Point
- Tuesday, Aug. 3 - Legal aspects of fair housing
- Tuesday, Aug. 10 - Panel discussion of fair housing investigative process

Interested residents are encouraged to listen in and participate by registering at www.HighPointNc.gov/VirtualPublicMeeting. Archived recordings will be available on the City's YouTube.

For more information, contact Human Relations Manager Rase McCray at 336.883.3124 or rase.mccray@highpointnc.gov.

The City of High Point aims to serve as the catalyst for bringing together the community's human, economic and civic resources for the purpose of creating the single most livable, safe and prosperous community in America. For more information on the City, visit www.highpointnc.gov.

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