

RFP Bidders' Meeting: Rochester Housing Stability Fund Activities

- Welcome
- Background
- Review of proposal deadlines
- Discussion of specifics for the program and proposal, including Q/A

Housing Trust Fund (Rochester Housing Stability Fund)

- **Purpose:** reduce displacement and improve opportunities for stability and growth for low-income households , **including on HTF Board**
- **Focus:** low-income women of color with children, but **will not exclude**. All activities created and implemented through the lens of racial equity
- **Key importance: dedicated source of revenue**
- **Where are we now:**
 - Launch first year's activities using ARPA funds

Components

Services that meet people where they are to move them ahead

- **Increase Housing Stability:** Support ability of households to remain in/move to home of their choice by reducing conditions that lead to forced/pressured moves
- **Close Gaps:** Resources for households who might otherwise struggle to qualify for/access housing/other assistance
- **Flexible Support:** Support programs that are flexible enough to meet the diversity of household needs which can contribute to housing instability

Administration

- Standalone entity (optimally 501(c)3)
- Staffed by City employee(s) through shared Services Agreement
- Transparency, separation, and a strong Board

Governance

- Clear responsibilities
- Wide range of stakeholders to include a variety of experience and 'knowhow'
- 'Boots on the ground' membership, not just 'community'

Important Deadlines

- **Today! Q/A opportunity**
- **December 29: RFP due**
- **April/May 2024: anticipated Council approval of agreement(s)**
- **June/July 1, 2024: programs begin**

Your Program Should:

- Fit into one of the categories listed
- Reduce displacement and improve housing quality
- Improve long term housing and household stability/wealth opportunities
- Fill gaps you see in other programs
- Have a simple access and approval process
- Be trackable for success

Tell Us:

- Who are you going to assist?
- How are you going to assist them?
- How much does it cost and who gets the money (You? Them? Both? Someone else?)
- How will you show that you've succeeded?

Program Categories

Tenant stabilization

- short-term rental/financial assistance

Homeownership:

- Down payments and closing costs, combined where possible with City programs
- May include alignment with Tenant Opportunity to Purchase (TOPA) concept.

Reduce housing and wealth inequities

- Financial/educational assistance to support new responsible local property owners, developers, and housing providers.

Agreements with legal services or non-profit service organizations:

- Will prep or solving complex title issues. Encourage owner-occupancy and/or sales to first time buyers where appropriate.
- Representation of purchasers, whether individually or related to TOPA concept.

Property repairs or improvements

Q/A

Q: What's this about violence prevention?

A: typo, please ignore

Q: Should our program cover all of these categories?

A: No, definitely not. Whatever 1 or 2 you will be best at.

Q: Can we apply if our services only cover a certain part of the city?

A: Yes, that is perfectly acceptable.

What can we answer for you?

Q: Do we have to be able to do the work ourselves?

A: No, but you must describe who will do the work and it shouldn't go 5 organizations deep to dilute the funds.

Q: Can we partner with someone else?

A: Yes