



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 37

MAY 7, 1992

MAYOR'S ADVISORY BOARD TO PROMOTE FAIR HOUSING

WHEREAS, fair housing and fair lending is essential to the City's growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding substantial efforts by the City to combat housing discrimination, the residents of New York City still encounter barriers which limit equal access to housing; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Fair Housing Act and State and City human rights laws prohibit housing discrimination; and

WHEREAS, equal housing opportunity cannot be realized until the principles of fair housing are fully accepted by the real estate and building industries, appraisal firms, financial institutions, property owners' associations, local government officials, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, in order to bring together all of the diverse segments of the City to prevent housing discrimination, it is necessary to create an advisory board to promote fair housing;

NOW THEREFORE, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of New York it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Creation of Advisory Board

There is hereby established an Advisory Board to Promote Fair Housing ("Advisory Board") as successor to the NYC Fair Housing Task Force. The Advisory Board shall report to and be directly accountable to the Mayor.

Section 2. Membering of Advisory Board

- a. The Advisory Board shall be chaired jointly by the Commissioners of the City Commission on Human Rights and of the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, or their designees.
- b. The following City agencies and divisions of the Office of the Mayor shall participate in the Advisory Board: The Department of Finance, the Human Resources Administration, the Department for the Aging, the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit, and the Mayor's Offices of Constituency Affairs. The New York City Housing Authority shall also be requested to participate in the Advisory Board.
- c. The Advisory Board shall also include representatives of the banking or lending community, the real estate industry, fair housing or civil rights groups, and religious organizations appointed by the Mayor. Such members shall be appointed for a term of three years and shall serve without compensation.
- d. The Speaker of the City Council shall be requested to appoint a representative of the City Council to participate in the Advisory Board.

Section 3. Functions of Advisory Board

The Advisory Board shall advise the Mayor with respect to all fair housing issues affecting the City and shall:

- a. formulate and recommend policies and programs to further equal housing opportunity;
- b. foster coordination among City, state and federal agencies, and other organizations and institutions, both public and private, with respect to fair housing activities;
- c. promote public awareness and education relating to fair housing and make recommendations regarding the provision of information and referral services, and procedures for the speedy resolution of complaints concerning fair housing;

- d. locate and utilize funding sources, both public and private, in order to assist in the implementation of the provisions of this Order;
- e. assist the City Commission on Human Rights in promoting the enforcement of fair housing laws;
- f. promote volunteer assistance so as to provide legal representation for fair housing complainants;
- g. appoint a Resource Council to assist the Advisory Board in the design and implementation of a fair housing program. The Resource Council shall include representatives from the Office of Management and Budget, the Law Department, and the City Planning Commission, as well as persons in the private and not-for-profit sectors who possess expertise in promoting fair housing. The members of the Resource Council shall serve without compensation and at the pleasure of the Advisory Board;
- h. compile data and statistics regarding fair housing in New York City and submit its findings to the Mayor; and
- i. perform such other functions as the Mayor may direct.

Section 4. The heads of all City departments and agencies shall cooperate with and assist the Advisory Board.

Section 5. This Order shall take effect immediately.


DAVID N. DINKINS
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