SAN DIEGO CITY-COUNTY REINVESTMENT TASK FORCE

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 30, 2026, 2:00 p.m.
San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC)
1122 Broadway, 4th Floor Board Room, San Diego, CA 92101

Meeting recording archived at:
https://www.youtube.com/live/8ra4Da-ovdc?si=Jp2-WKL50Deu7ghd

For more information, contact Debra Fischle-Faulk, SDHC Senior Vice President, Community and Strategic Initiatives at debraf@sdhc.org or (619) 578-7411.

ATTENDANCE

Present:

Co-chair and San Diego City Councilmember Henry L. Foster III
Co-chair and San Diego County Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe
Peter Armstrong, Wakeland Housing
Antonio Barbosa, Wells Fargo
Irene Bwayo, International Rescue Committee
Estela De Los Rios, CSA San Diego County
Vanessa Rojas, CSA San Diego County
Sergio Quero, Citibank
Kwofi Reed, Habitat for Humanity
Stephen Russell, San Diego Housing Federation
Adolfo Ventura, MAAC Project
Karina Velazsquez, LISC San Diego (alternate)
Mandy Cole, U.S. Bank (alternate)
Jolena Pamilar, Accessity (alternate)
Robert Lopez, JPMorgan Chase (alternate)

Absent:

Jimmy Chen, LISC San Diego
Emilie Dang, JPMorgan Chase
Pamela Gabriel, Bank of America
Enrique Meza, U.S. Bank

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Monica Montgomery Steppe called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

ITEM 2 NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

There were comments from members of the public about positive activities of the Downtown San Diego Partnership, as well as challenges with utility services and parking for residents of affordable housing. Additional comments addressed perception of a lack of financial investment in regional low- and moderate-income census tract areas.

ITEMS 3 & 4 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES & CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Kwofi Reed to approve the February 26, 2026, meeting minutes and the calendar year 2026 meeting schedule on consent. Seconded by Adolfo Ventura and passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

ITEM 5 Informational Item: Fiscal Year 2026 Financial and Programmatic Update

Debra Fischle-Faulk introduced herself as the new RTF staff liaison and presented about grants revenue, expenses, and total fund balance for the RTF between July 1, 2025, and March 31, 2026, as well as recent

programmatic highlights, such as reviews of RTF originating documents and contracts, member activities, and other guest reports and presentations. It was clarified that the cited total remaining fund balance was available for use for RTF projects and programs, not staffing. Staff will bring forward potential opportunities for using those funds at a future meeting. RTF members also inquired about the ratio of funding contributed by the County of San Diego and City of San Diego to support the staff liaison position and whether it was projected to be sustained into the future. The staff liaison will provide an update about specific funding contributions at the next meeting. Additionally, Wells Fargo Foundation was thanked for its additional grant of $15,000 to support an update to a collaborative report about housing instability in San Diego County.

ITEM 6 Informational Item: Civic Communities Presentation

Civic Communities President and CEO Andy Phillips and Vice President Gustavo Bidart presented about the Community Development Financial Institution's (CDFI) impact in 2025. Highlights include approximately $3.7M deployed, more than 2,000 individuals served, 275 new homes facilitated, 223 affordable units facilitated, and 50 jobs created or sustained. The speakers provided additional details about Civic Communities programs such as CDFI, New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC), Building Business Success (BBS), and Access 2 Capital Internship programs. Mr. Phillips specifically thanked U.S. Bank, Wells Fargo, and JPMorgan Chase for their support. RTF member comments addressed Civic Communities' Board composition; external funding secured; outcomes of their work with the nonprofit Rise Up Industries; how nonprofits are selected for assistance; forthcoming activities and expansions into Imperial Valley and Riverside County; its projects in the Chollas Watershed; potential collaboration with the City's District 4 communities; and how the RTF can support their efforts through capital infusion, increasing awareness, and partnerships.

ITEM 7 STAFF REPORT

Debra Fischle-Faulk followed up on an email she sent to the RTF members that talked about the workforce reduction at SDHC and that, as a result, she is the new staff liaison and that SDHC staff members Michelle Slingerland and Zinnia Burgoin will be supporting RTF communications and meetings. RTF member comments thanked Debra, and shared about a California Housing Needs Report to be published in mid-May by California Housing Partnership, as well as registration opening for the Housing Federation's annual conference. Also mentioned was the start of the County's budget process and anticipated federal budget impacts, and encouraged engagement by the public.

ITEM 8 TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS

Peter Armstrong shared about Wakeland Housing's recent grand opening celebration for the Teralta affordable housing development and thanked SDHC and U.S. Bank for their support. Citibank recently announced its Blueprint for Housing Initiative and associated grant opportunities in San Diego. Co-chair Henry L. Foster III also shared that the City's budget process begins next week.

ADJOURNMENT

Co-chair Henry L. Foster III adjourned the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Zinnia Burgoin
Senior Administrative Assistant
SDHC

Approved by,

Debra Fischle-Faulk
Senior Vice President, Community and Strategic Initiatives
SDHC