

Fair Housing Plan

A plan adopted by the City of Stillwater to ensure fair housing for residents.

Fair Housing Laws

Executive Order 11063 - Equal Opportunity in Housing (1962) directs all departments and agencies in the federal government to take appropriate and necessary action to prevent discrimination based on race, color, creed or national origin. This includes properties and related facilities provided with federal financial assistance.

Executive Order 12259 (1980) amended section 101 of Executive Order 11063 by adding sex to the list of reasons for which discrimination is to be prevented.

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 is Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion and sex in the sale and rental of most housing and prohibits racially discriminatory lending practices. The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 revised the Fair Housing Act of 1968 to include the prohibition of discrimination based on disabilities or familial status.

Community Housing Status

Based on the 2020 Census, the City of Stillwater's population was 48,394 persons, housing unit data is determined to be 22,150 units within the City of Stillwater. Using data from the 2020 U.S. Census, approximately 35% of housing units are owner-occupied and 48.4% of housing units are renter-occupied. The combined occupancy rate for the city is approximately 83.4%. The 2014 housing market analysis showed that safe and affordable owner-occupied housing is becoming less available city-wide and the rental property percentage may be increasing. The majority of the renter-occupied housing is located in the proximity of Oklahoma State University and is utilized by students. However, safe and affordable renter-occupied housing can also be found throughout the city. In 2014 the Stillwater Community Housing and Affordability Study was completed and accepted by City Council.

Review of Fair Housing Programs and Activities

In 1966, the City of Stillwater approved a fair housing code intended to secure equal access to housing in all areas of the city for all residents and to preserve the public welfare, providing for the preservation of public peace, health and safety. As a part of the code a Fair Housing Council was created. The duties of the council are to review and, if necessary, act upon complaints regarding a violation of the fair housing code. The Fair Housing Council function is performed by the Stillwater Housing Authority.

Action Plans

Plans include articles in the local press and announcements on local radio that will advertise fair and affordable housing opportunities and provide fair housing information. The City makes every effort to provide emphasis on fair and affordable housing during Fair Housing Month.

By formally adopting this Fair Housing Plan, the Stillwater City Council accepts the responsibility for implementing its provisions. The Council further charges all employees and contractors with the responsibility of implementing this plan and living up to the spirit of Fair Housing.

Adopted this 7th day of February, 2022 by the Stillwater City Council.

William H. Joyce, Mayor

Teresa Kadavy, City Clerk