



NEWS RELEASE

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**Austin Mayor Steve Adler and HACA Announce New Housing Resources
for Families Experiencing Homelessness and for Homeless Veterans**

*125 project-based vouchers awarded, representing a \$26 million investment,
to develop new long-term housing for the homeless*

AUSTIN, TEXAS – Austin Mayor Steve Adler and The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) are pleased to announce the awarding of project-based voucher funding to create new long-term housing solutions for individuals, families and Veterans experiencing homelessness.

To address the long-term need for permanent supportive housing for the homeless, HACA is awarding 100 project-based vouchers to create new housing units. These vouchers were made available through a request for proposal (RFP) process to develop new permanent supportive housing or the rehabilitation of existing housing to serve the homeless. HACA is awarding the vouchers to properties that best meet the criteria of serving the homeless or those who experienced chronic homelessness. The four properties selected are Espero Austin at Rutland (171 units), Texas Bungalows (60 units), as well as two Foundation Communities properties: Waterloo Terrace (132 units), and Capital Studios (135 units).

HUD provides the funding for these 100 project-based vouchers through the tenant-based Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and attaches funding to specific units. Developments awarded project-based vouchers will be required to provide available units to the homeless for an expected term of twenty years. The rent paid to assist homeless families and the vouchers' value over the twenty-year period is expected to exceed \$22 million.

HACA is also awarding 25 project-based Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers to create new housing units dedicated to homeless veterans. Espero Austin at Rutland is awarded the 25 project-based VASH vouchers and will be required to provide available units to homeless veterans for an expected term of twenty years. The rent paid to assist homeless Veterans and the vouchers' value over the twenty-year period is expected to exceed \$4.3 million.

"This represents a real investment in building new housing for our homeless neighbors," said Mayor Steve Adler. "Providing safe, stable housing is a fundamental need for families and Veterans experiencing homelessness. We have much more work to do as a community to help our homeless neighbors, and these new units are a step in the right direction toward filling that need."

"The City of Austin is committed to finding permanent housing for chronically homeless people, and this is a significant priority for our City Council," said Dianna Grey, the City of Austin's Homeless Strategy Officer. "By connecting the resources of HACA, with the City and local partners, we can make a difference toward getting people off the streets and into safe, stable homes."

"At HACA, we are housers first, so we are proud to provide these vouchers and create long-term housing solutions for people in need," said Michael Gerber, HACA CEO. "Working together with the City and the strong leadership of Mayor Adler, we can start helping people experiencing homelessness right away and for twenty years to come."

The 125 total project-based vouchers will be awarded to the four selected properties beginning in April of 2021 and are expected to exceed \$26 million dollars in funding for the units for twenty-years in rental payment assistance.

About the Properties

Espero Austin at Rutland

New Construction - 171 affordable housing zero bedroom units located at 1934 Rutland, Austin Texas with 101 units provided to persons identified by Continuum of Care as homeless. Site includes a fitness center, community dining room, furnished community room, interior resident courtyard. 12.5% poverty rate; significant private investment fueling revitalization in the area; less than 1/2 mile from the development is the site for the FC Austin Soccer Stadium; the Broadmoor 66-acre transit oriented mixed use 1 mile from site; and ACC Northridge Campus less than 2 miles away.

Texas Bungalows

Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) in collaboration with Integral Care are providing permanent supportive housing for this Hotel Conversion project: The Bungalows located at 13311 Burnet Road, Austin TX. Resident population single, disabled homeless persons. Existing hotel with 60 units that has been in use since 2018. Van transportation, 24-hour desk coverage; and computer stations. 5.4% poverty rate; the development is in Census Tract 18.47, which is a current high opportunity area which means it has deconcentrated poverty, has access to jobs, quality schools, services and green spaces. Significant federal, state and local dollars invested in the revitalization of this area. Employers in agreements with the City of Austin near the site include Hanger, HID Global, Samsung, Visa, the Domain and Apple.

Foundation Communities Capital Studios

Existing housing ready to house chronically homeless single persons. Capital Studios located at 309 E 11th Street, Austin TX 78701. One building site with 135 zero bedroom units. Unit size 397 to 525 sq ft, total square footage of community 91,976 sq ft on .63 acre site. Five offices available to provide support services to residents. Property has resident community areas to include community kitchen, fitness room and computer lab. Large community room for one-on-one meetings with clients or large meetings for events or trainings with smart TV and access to a balcony overlooking downtown Austin. Energy efficient design and amenities. 13.8% poverty rate; located downtown Austin, block from state capital building and surrounded by new developments in a rapidly changing downtown area. Located in area targeted by City of Austin as priority for future development and public investment to include infrastructure, connectivity, amenities and bike and pedestrian access. Capital Studios is the only affordable housing tax credit development within the census tract. Located in Austin's Central Business District and less than a mile from Austin Community College Rio Grande Campus. According to 2018 census data, located within 1 mile of more than 100,000 jobs.

Foundation Communities Waterloo Terrace

Existing housing ready to house chronically homeless single persons. Located at 12190 N Mope, Austin TX 78758. 132 units from 486 sq. ft. to 633 sq. ft. Total sq. footage 106,705 on 2.45 acres. The site is conveniently located to the Mope Expressway. One building, three story elevator, amenities include computer room with internet access, fitness center, laundry room, food pantry, lounge and community room; BBQ/picnic area, garden space, dog play area. Energy efficient design and amenities. 6.2% poverty rate supports goal of poverty deconcentration; located within a mile of ACC Northridge Campus and the Domain; According to 2018 census data, property is within 1 mile of more than 15,000 jobs. This location offers excellent access to education and employment opportunities. COA affordable housing search tool indicates this is only affordable housing in the 78758 zip code. Located near many employment opportunities, the Domain, St David's Medical Center, and multiple options for public transportation within one-mile radius.

To learn more about HACA's Housing Choice Voucher and VASH programs, please visit:

hacanet.org/resident/assisted-housing

About the Housing Authority of the City of Austin

Established in 1937, the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) is a public unit of government separate from the City of Austin. HACA's mission is to cultivate sustainable affordable housing communities and partnerships that inspire self-reliance, growth, and optimism. As a High-Performing housing authority that assists over 20,000 Austinites, HACA owns and operates 1,839 units of subsidized housing in 18 developments throughout Austin. For more information, visit www.hacanet.org, or find us on Twitter [@hacanet](https://twitter.com/hacanet).

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