

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2022- Pittsburgh's Fair Housing Month 2022

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The Mayor's Office, District 7 Councilwoman Deb Gross, and the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations (PghCHR) are proud to announce another Fair Housing Month in the City of Pittsburgh. April commemorates the passage of the Fair Housing Act. This month, we work to assess progress and renew our commitment to fair housing. This year, our City will be pushing harder than ever to bring Fair Housing and Equal Opportunities to its residents.

Pittsburgh was named one of the first Human Rights Cities in the United States in 2011. Fair access to housing is critical to serves the needs of *all* of Pittsburgh residents. Although the right to housing is well established in international law, thousands of Pittsburgh residents continue to face housing insecurity and displacement as housing prices rise. The Fair Housing Act, and enhanced fair housing protections provided by Pittsburgh City Code, and aims to secure residents' rights to live, rent, and buy housing free from discrimination on the basis of protected classes. Protecting against discrimination is only the first step. This year we recommit to Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing and taking steps to ending systemic inequities and ensuring equitable access to adequate housing.

On April 5 at 1:30pm, Pittsburgh City Council will hold a [public hearing](#) on the expansion of inclusionary zoning, one of several 2019 recommendations to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing. Already implemented in Lawrenceville, inclusionary zoning intends to provide avenues for diverse residents to remain in their neighborhoods.

To help us launch Fair Housing Month, we are proud to welcome well-known global housing rights expert and advocate, Ms. Leilani Farha, the former [United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Adequate Housing](#). Ms. Farha will visit Pittsburgh April 4-7, as a guest of Pitt's Global Studies Center, in cooperation with the Human Rights City Alliance and PghCHR. Following her work with the United Nations, Farha co-founded [The Shift](#), an organization dedicated to working with local governments and housing advocates to promote the human right to housing. Ms. Farha will meet with city officials and community advocates throughout the week, sharing lessons from her work in the United Nations and with national and municipal housing leaders around the world. Some of this work is featured in the documentary film, [Push](#), which explores the drivers of the global housing crisis and efforts to better protect cities and communities. PghCHR will be hosting public screenings of the film in locations across the city on Friday, April 1st, to kick off Fair Housing Month, and residents can also get [free access to the film online through April 6](#). Ms. Farha will give two public lectures on these topics that are free and open to the public. [These and other events listed on Pitt's Global Studies Center website](#).

PghCHR and Council District 7 invite the public to attend a celebratory press conference on April 4 at 2:30pm in front of City Council Chambers. The Press Conference will feature statements from government officials and fair housing advocates including Ms. Farha. Throughout the month, PghCHR provide education, and promote Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing in partnership with Pittsburgh City Council, the office of the Mayor, and local organizations such as the Fair Housing Partnership of Greater Pittsburgh. Learn more by following us on social media @PghCHR.

