

Fair and Affordable Housing Partnership

Mission:

- ❖ To develop, preserve, and advocate for housing opportunities for a broad range of income levels
- ❖ To promote housing choice in Easton
- ❖ To eliminate discrimination in housing and increase awareness of Fair Housing laws
- ❖ To exercise a leadership position in affordable housing development and planning for fair and affordable housing

Responsibilities:

- ❖ Oversee the development and up-to-date revisions of plans and policies related to fair and affordable housing in Easton, including but not limited to:
 - The Easton Fair Housing Plan, which should be updated every five years
 - The Affordable Housing Plan Production Plan, which should be updated at least every five years
 - The Housing section of the Easton Master Plan, which should be updated at least every 10 years
- ❖ Promote implementation of the above-referenced plans
- ❖ Receive complaints about possible fair housing violations and provide information and assistance, including referrals to the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD) and coordination of testing through the Fair Housing Center of Boston
- ❖ Undertake activities to increase the understanding of tenants, homeowners, landlords, realtors and lenders of their rights and responsibilities under state and federal fair housing laws. These activities include developing educational materials and conducting trainings and community outreach.
- ❖ Act as a resource to Easton residents as well as other Boards and Committees and undertake activities to increase awareness of existing housing programs for which Easton residents may already be eligible
- ❖ Undertake activities that promote goodwill and minimize discrimination in housing
- ❖ Review comprehensive permit applications and marketing plans to ensure compliance with Fair Housing Laws and consistency with Easton housing policies and plans.
- ❖ Submit an annual report for inclusion in the Town Report.

Membership:

The partnership shall consist of five voting members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a renewable term of three years. Up to two non-voting, associate members may also be designated by the Fair & Affordable Housing Partnership on an informal basis. Associate members will not be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board shall affirmatively solicit diverse membership.

Adopted by Easton Board of Selectmen March 24, 2008; amended April 18, 2008, December 7, 2009