TEXAS STATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORPORATION

BOARD MEETING

Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation 6701 Shirley Avenue Austin, Texas 78752

Wednesday, January 29, 2025 10:30 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS:

WILLIAM H. DIETZ, JR., Chair VALERIE V. CARDENAS, Vice Chair DAVID RASSIN, Member ERNEST RICHARDS, Member (absent) LEMUEL WILLIAMS, Member

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1	<u>PROCEEDINGS</u>
2	(10:32 a.m.)
3	MR. DIETZ: Good morning. It is 10:32, and the
4	Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation Board meeting
5	for January is called to order. We'll do our roll call
6	first. William Dietz, Chair, I am present.
7	Valerie Cardenas, Vice Chair?
8	MS. CARDENAS: Present.
9	MR. DIETZ: Lemuel Williams?
10	MR. WILLIAMS: Present.
11	MR. DIETZ: David Rassin?
12	MR. RASSIN: Good morning. Present.
13	MR. DIETZ: And Ernest Richards is absent. So,
14	we do have a quorum.
15	So, before we begin, if you'll join me in the
16	Pledge of Allegiance?
17	(The pledges were recited.)
18	MR. DIETZ: Okay. Before we begin, is there
19	any public comment?
20	(No response.)
21	MR. DIETZ: Hearing none, we'll go to the
22	President's Report from Mr. Long.
23	MR. LONG: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members.
24	Appreciate everybody's flexibility in rescheduling the
25	meeting today. We do have some items that needed your

attention this morning. So, appreciate you meeting with us on a day -- the weather last week was a little tenuous for everybody, so appreciate everybody making this today.

The program reports are attached, A through E, and this month includes two quarterly reports that normally aren't in your monthly book. It includes the reports for both the Multifamily Residential Compliance Report, as well as our Fundraising Report.

The Loan Committee met -- I guess it was -- when did we meet? We met last Friday, the 24th. And it was kind of an impromptu meeting because we had an item that came up that we needed to vote on.

The Committee reviewed and approved a three-month, or a 90-day, extension to an existing \$3 million term loan that we have outstanding with -- to Project Transitions, Inc. They're in support of the Burnet Place Apartments, which is a 61-unit efficiency apartment complex located in Austin. And they're waiting on some additional funding approval to come through to pay us off.

And the Committee approved that extension. So, we'll hopefully have those funds returned to us in a timely manner based on this extension.

I know Mr. Williams was -- participated in that. And do you have any comments on that, because it's

such --

MR. WILLIAMS: No.

MR. LONG: -- a large number?

MR. WILLIAMS: No. I -- Yeah. I mean, we talked about an extension, for the rest of the Board members. We were debating whether we're going to look at nine months, three months, six months. And just based upon our budget, fiscal cycle, not to sound too selfish, but you know, it's kind of where we're at.

So, we just wanted to make sure it didn't impact the cycles going forward. So, we pretty much said, okay, hey, we'll do a 90-day, and then after that, we can do another extension if need be. And then hopefully, we don't have to go beyond that, because once we go beyond that, then harder conversations will happen. So --

MR. LONG: It's a really good project. We're really excited about getting this project, being a part of it. It's a 100 percent affordable, and it's assisting people with accessibility issues. So, we're very excited about the project.

It's downtown -- not downtown, but it's in Austin, central. So, it's a really good project. So, we want it to be completed and finished.

And the funding's the thing that's tying it up, and it's not our money; it's the money that would pay us

off this pending. And so, we're waiting on that.

So, moving on to the other program areas, single-family update. The program continues to move forward with, you know, reservations and access. Rates have not come down as we had hoped, but we are seeing volume.

It's not as high as it was a year ago, but we continue to see activity, not only in the loan applications received, but also our -- what we're doing, our -- continuing our training with LoanDoc, our new lender software. We're also seeing additional lenders sign up to participate. We had five more sign up since the last time we met.

And in order to continue our marketing, Frank

Duplechain will be out doing our -- what we call, our road
show, to make sure the lenders and realtors and everybody
else involved has the opportunity to understand our
programs and be familiar with them and get questions
answered. And I think -- I could be wrong -- somebody can
say it to me if I'm wrong -- that Lakeview, our master
servicer, will also send somebody with us on that, to make
sure they're answering questions on that.

Under fundraising, the Corporation received a \$10,000 grant from Texas Community Bank in support of our 2025 Housing Connection trainings. And that grant will

specifically support the cost and hotel expenses for attendees in TCB's service area which is basically South Texas, San Antonio, Laredo, and the Rio Grande Valley.

Marketing, I did want to make you aware of two episodes in our podcast that were just released, Episodes 39 and 40. Kind of hard to believe we've done 40 episodes. These most recent ones are in our On the House podcast, were done by Michael Wilt. He hosted them.

And they hosted and interviewed representatives from the housing industry groups, including TAAHP, Texas Association of Affordable Housing Providers in the multifamily segment, and TALHFA, Texas Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies. And then also, on the multifamily side -- on the single-family side, we had TMBA and Texas Association of Realtors.

And so those interviews were really well done. Episode 39 focused on multifamily. Episode 40 focused on single-family. And if you have an opportunity to listen to them or watch them -- they can watch video or just listen -- they're really quite entertaining in discussion, kind of how housing is going to be impacted during the session. And that's really what the focus was, looking at the legislative issues that might come up around housing.

They both last a little over an hour. So, I'm not going to tell you it's a five-minute view, but the

information provided by those individuals is really good. In fact, I did want to thank Roger Arriaga and Todd Kercheval on the multifamily side, and then also Meredyth Fowler and Tray Bates for participating in those with us and participating in giving their expert and insight into the legislative session and housing issues across the state.

On the Supportive Housing Institute, the 2024

Institute is -- has completed its virtual trainings, and they're working on finalizing the plans for the

Institute's closing event. That event is scheduled for March 6 at the Charles Schwab headquarters in the Dallas area, near the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport.

And that will bring together not only the development teams; we're going to invite back the Institute funders and other stakeholders to celebrate not only their graduation but expectations of what we're going to see coming out of that from the standpoint of supportive housing that will come from those projects.

So again, we'll keep you informed on that. We expect to have some details on that, and invites will go out next month, if you want to attend. We'd love to have you join us up there in Dallas.

On the Foundations Fund, under the Disaster Recovery, the Corporation awarded two additional grants

under the 2025 Disaster Recovery Program. Both the organizations that we funded are repairing homes damaged as a result of Hurricane Beryl, and as a result of those two additional, we've awarded \$120,000 to nonprofits in support of recovery under the Disaster Program that the Board authorized.

Housing Connection, the Corporation occasionally hosts informational webinars in addition to the other Housing Connection trainings, and we work with our nonprofit network has part of our Housing Connection in that training process. And kind of excited to announce that, today -- I think it's today -- a former Board member will be participating in that.

Andy Williams will be participating as the guest. And he'll be talking -- sharing information about his Rehab Warriors Program, as well as how that empowers veterans and their becoming residential builder/developers, as well as their impact on community revitalization. So, we're pretty excited about that.

Governmental Relations, as y'all know, the
Texas 89th Legislature has hit the ground running. We are
working on kind of just staying on top of the bills that
are being filed and impacting us, as well as impacting
housing across the state. The kind of big news is that
the House elected Representative Dustin Burrows from

Lubbock as the new Speaker. So, we have a new Speaker that we'll be trying to get to know his staff and following some of the procedures that we would do on that.

Michael Wilt is doing a really good job of trying to keep us informed of what's going on. And as a result of that, we'll begin providing email updates to the Board members as we track bills, as well as our -- in addition to what we provide you every month, going forward starting in February. So, with that, we hope to just kind of have really strong updates to you, but we don't want to overwhelm you with stuff, if nothing's really changing.

Under the TxDOT I-45 North Houston Highway

Improvement Project, that -- if you remember, that's a \$30 million contract the Corporation executed with TxDOT.

\$28.5 million of those dollars will go back into the communities impacted as a result of that improvement project. And with the approval of -- TSAHC went through an RFP process to select the consultant that would help us develop our Revitalization Plan. We made a selection on that.

It did require under our contract with TxDOT that we went back to TxDOT to let them review our selection, and we've done so. The entity -- and they gave us their approval. And the entity that was selected is basically a team.

It is AB Planning, Roberta Burroughs and Algenita Scott Davis. Their experience and expertise in the area was really kind of impressive, and so we're very excited. Hope that they can come together and help us put together a really good Revitalization Plan, and trying to get final terms on that agreement finalized so that we can get started on that and hopefully have that project underway in February.

One thing I did want to update you on that's kind of more in-house: the Corporation -- as you remember, last year we finished our new Strategic Plan. We went through the process that some of our Board members participated in. In addition to that, and kind of moving forward, to kind of keep things kind of focused on the internal -- how we can improve what we do internally, one of the things the Corporation has done is we've adopted a new staff evaluation program for doing our annual evaluations.

And that procedure -- that platform is called PerformSmart, and basically, it's the performance evaluation system that's offered through our current payroll provider, which is Insperity. We've used them for years.

We felt like the old was not only antiquated; it was really becoming burdensome and not very efficient.

The new system automates the employee performance evaluation process, and evaluations are able to be customized per each employee. And it's online and it's very automated to the extent that we can build on it all throughout the year, as well as grow on it from year to year.

So, it's a really cool system. And all the evaluations, not only being automated, will allow the completion and review, and to be done online, and they allow us to do it in a more timely basis. There's prompts. There's timelines that are put out.

And so, we hope that that will be something that really creates a better efficiency and more timely responses for the staff, as well as more timely evaluations being completed.

I did want to thank Janie and Melinda for making sure that got done. It's a lot of work put into it, in coordinating with Insperity. And without them putting all the time into it, I don't know that it would have been done, as we would be here right now doing it.

And we started in January, and actually, have completed a couple evaluations already. So hopefully, we'll have that as a nice start to the year, in addition to our Strategic Plan for working internally.

Our next scheduled Board meeting is scheduled

for Tuesday, the 18th. I know we're 29th today, and we're 1 scheduled for the 18th. We will consider, you know, all of the needs for that meeting, and we'll keep the Board 3 4 informed as we look at our agenda and what items we need 5 to bring for the Board. 6 With that, Mr. Chairman, I'll conclude my 7 remarks, unless there's any questions. 8 MR. DIETZ: Ouestions? 9 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. Just one. David, so with 10 the new performance review platform, is that still going 11 to -- is that going to coincide with the employee 12 anniversary? MR. LONG: Yes. 13 14 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay. 15 MR. LONG: It's set up to give them a reminder 16 shortly before their anniversary date --MR. WILLIAMS: 17 Yeah. MR. LONG: -- and there's a time frame for them 18 19 to complete it, and then a time frame for their supervisor 20 to complete their review. 21 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay. 22 MR. LONG: So, it's a self-evaluation, and then 23 it goes through to a formal evaluation by the supervisory staff. 24

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Okay.

MR. WILLIAMS:

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1	MR. DIETZ: Any other questions or comments?
2	(No response.)
3	MR. DIETZ: Okay. Thanks for your
4	presentation, Mr. Long. So, let's move into the action
5	items for our meeting today.
6	Tab Item 1 is the "Presentation, Discussion and
7	Possible Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting that was
8	held on December 17, 2024."
9	Are there any corrections or discussion or
10	amendments or questions about the minutes?
11	(No response.)
12	MR. DIETZ: Is there a motion?
13	MR. RASSIN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to move
14	that those minutes be approved.
15	MR. WILLIAMS: Chair, this is Lemuel. I'll
16	second that.
17	MR. DIETZ: Okay. It's been moved and seconded
18	that we approve the minutes as presented. Is there any
19	public comment?
20	(No response.)
21	MR. DIETZ: Hearing none, all in favor, please
22	say aye.
23	(A chorus of ayes.)
24	MR. DIETZ: Any opposed?
25	(No response.)

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MR. DIETZ: Okay. It is approved. The minutes are approved.

Tab Item 2 is the Presentation, Discussion and Possible Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation to close the financing of Cairn Point Montopolis located in Austin, Texas, including creating entities, negotiating finance documents, and obtaining debt financing and equity investment in the Project.

MR. DANENFELZER: Good morning. Dave

Danenfelzer, Senior Director of Development Finance.

Yeah. We've looked at this project a couple times, most recently last month. We did finalize a bond approval on this project, which if you recall, there are sort of two different things that we're looking at.

We are the issuer of bonds for the project, which is a significant portion of the financing, but we'll also going to be a member of the ownership entity long term. And so this is approval of sort of the -- giving approval to the Executive Director and the EVP to go -- our President and EVP to go ahead and sign and affirm all of those legal documents associated with the ownership, establishment of the owner entities, the closing of the financing and all that, from that perspective.

The project is well underway. We did get the

Bond Review Board approval last week. So, as far as the 1 bond financing goes, everything's good. Now that we have 3 that, then we'll go ahead and finalize a number of the 4 things like pricing of the final bond amounts and other 5 steps that are necessary to bring this to closing. 6 There's still a few things. I know there's a 7 permitting issue that we're still dealing with that's 8 related to an easement from the power company that they 9 requested late in the plan review process, but we still do 10 think this will close in late February or early March at this point and move forward. 11 12 So, I'm here for any additional questions you 13 may have. 14 MR. DIETZ: Questions, comments or discussion? 15 (No response.) 16 MR. DIETZ: Okay. None of the above? Is there 17 a motion? (No response.) 18 19 MR. DIETZ: It could die for lack of a motion. 20 MR. DANENFELZER: Well, let's hope not. 21 MS. CARDENAS: So, I guess I do have one 22 question. You know, with just, you know, discussions that 23 are had with, you know, certain federal fundings being 24 halted, do they foresee anything? Because there's housing

vouchers that would be issued.

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Are -- is there any concern from the developers' perspective or --

MR. DANENFELZER: I haven't heard directly from the developer on that question. There has been a lot of talk in housing circles because of the executive order which came out, I guess, Monday evening or afternoon.

There's -- at this point, there's still a lot of uncertainty.

We do know that the executive order -- at least, the courts have sort of paused that for now. That was the latest news, late yesterday. But ultimately, it really is unclear how that process will unfold.

At this point, we don't have any concerns.

None of the other financing partners have spoken up and said they have concerns about access to funding. The housing voucher side of things, it is difficult to say, but those contracts have already been affirmed and approved.

So, under sort of -- I am not an attorney, but under general practice when dealing with housing voucher contracts, once those contracts are affirmed and closed on, it's really hard, unless there is a change in the appropriation for the program at the national level, that there would not be funding available. And in many cases, those appropriations are made several years in advance

for, particularly, contracts because those are typically 20-year contracts that are made with the developer and HUD. So yeah.

MS. CARDENAS: And I mean, I understand. With any project, there's always some level of risk that may be unforeseen, but just, you know, with the discussions, I just wanted to make sure that, you know, as an organization, you know, it sounds like you're informed about it, keeping abreast of it, and done the research accordingly, so --

MR. DANENFELZER: Yeah.

MS. CARDENAS: -- just wanted to see if there would be any potential impact. We may not know, but just, you know, for us to be top of mind about it.

MR. DANENFELZER: Absolutely. And I would say I had probably 20 emails yesterday from different folks on this issue. So, it's certainly at the top of everyone's list right now for this week.

But again, there are times when these things happen, and we've gotten through them in the past. I am assuming that we will find a way forward on this one as well.

MR. WILLIAMS: Valerie, I asked the same thing yesterday. Full disclosure, I sent David a note. I was just kind of, like, hey. And then of course, an hour

later, it's, like --

MS. CARDENAS: Yeah.

MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. But no. I mean, I --

MR. DANENFELZER: Yeah.

MR. WILLIAMS: -- firmly agree with you. The minute -- like I said, I saw that, and just not understanding just context of anything, whether if it's beginning, middle and end. I was just thinking about what we do, like I said, selfishly.

So yeah, you know, that's kind of where my concern was at, was like, okay. The current loans and outstanding debts that we have -- I mean, how is that going to be impacted? So --

MR. DANENFELZER: Yeah.

MR. WILLIAMS: -- but David, do appreciate that you giving us, like I said, just context, not only on this project, but just kind of the overarching theme of just confidence of what's going to happen next, and kind of what's going on from there. So, thank you.

Mr. Chairman, I know there's a motion still on the table. So, I'll go ahead and make the motion. I'd like make a motion to have approved the resolution authorizing Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation to close the financing of Cairn Point Montopolis here in Austin, including creating entities, negotiating finance

1	documents, and obtaining debt financing and equity
2	investments in the project.
3	MS. CARDENAS: Second.
4	MR. DIETZ: Okay. It's been moved and
5	seconded. Is there any public comment?
6	(No response.)
7	MR. DIETZ: Hearing none, all in favor of
8	approval as presented, please say aye.
9	(A chorus of ayes.)
10	MR. DIETZ: Any opposed?
11	(No response.)
12	MR. DIETZ: Okay. It is approved. Thank you.
13	MR. DANENFELZER: Thank you.
14	MR. DIETZ: That brings us to Tab Item 3, the
15	Presentation, Discussion and Possible Approval of the 2025
16	Texas Foundations Fund Guidelines.
17	MS. ORENDAIN: Good morning. My name is Anna
18	Orendain. I serve as the External Relations Specialist
19	here at TSAHC.
20	This past November, we brought the draft of our
21	2025 Texas Foundations Fund Program Guidelines to you all,
22	asking for approval to post the draft guidelines for
23	public comment. But now that the public comment period
24	has ended without any substantial feedback, we're bringing
25	the guidelines back to the Board for final approval.

1 We have not made any major changes or any 2 changes at all to the quidelines since November. However, 3 to refresh our memory, the guidelines this year propose 4 that we continue with a noncompetitive grant structure, 5 similar to what we've done in the previous years. Also, 6 the total amount of available funding for this year will 7 be \$1.25 million, which matches the amount of funding we 8 provided last year. 9 The main change, again, that we're proposing is 10 that, in 2025, grant applications will be accepted on a 11 first-come, first-served basis, as long as funding is

that, in 2025, grant applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, as long as funding is available or until August 1. This means that our staff will review applications and approve grantees in monthly batches to ensure a regular turnaround time.

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But other than that major change and some language tweaks for clarification, the guidelines remain the same as the ones from the previous year. If you all have any questions, I'm happy to --

MR. DIETZ: Remind me the time frame. So, applications would open on what date?

MS. ORENDAIN: The application, if the guidelines are approved, would open this Friday.

MR. DIETZ: Okay. So, it would open this Friday, in January --

MS. ORENDAIN: Yes.

1	MR. DIETZ: 31st, I guess?
2	MS. ORENDAIN: Yes.
3	MR. DIETZ: And then go through August 1,
4	unless funds were depleted prior to August 1?
5	MS. ORENDAIN: Correct.
6	MR. DIETZ: Okay. Is that correct? Any other
7	questions or comments or discussion?
8	MR. WILLIAMS: Oh, Chair, was there any
9	feedback?
10	MS. ORENDAIN: No.
11	MR. WILLIAMS: Okay.
12	MS. CARDENAS: Okay. So, I'm sorry. Just to
13	clarify. Maybe Bill just said it, and it just didn't
14	register.
15	So, it has the tiers here, but I guess I'm just
16	a little tripped up on "an equal amount of funding will be
17	available to each tier until March 31." And then it says,
18	"at which point any unused funding will be available to
19	all applicants across all tiers." But then "equal amount
20	of funding will be available."
21	What's an equal amount of funding? Because it
22	has Tier 1, 10,000, and Tier 2, so on. I hear, equal
23	amount, I'm thinking, equal?
24	So, I don't know if that term is just tripping
25	me up. I think I know what you mean, but that one is

just -- can someone clarify?

MR. WILT: Michael Wilt, Senior Manager of

3 External Relations.

The equal amount is -- so say, you have the 1.25 million. It would just be divided in three. And you would have a third of the funding. That would be for bucket one, which is the big organizations, a third for the medium organizations, and a third for the small organizations.

So, if you applied before March 31, you are applying within your bucket of organizational size funding. And if there is funding left over in any of those three buckets at the end of March, then we collapse that, and it's available to any applicant.

MS. CARDENAS: So, the equal amount is just breaking up, like you said, a third of the 1.2 into those?

MR. WILT: Yes, but the --

MS. CARDENAS: To the --

MR. WILT: -- award amounts will also be equal across financial category size, like they have been in the past. So, let's say you're a large organization; you'll be guaranteed \$25,000 or whatever. And if you're a medium size, it will be less, and if you're small, it would be less.

MS. CARDENAS: Okay.

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1 MR. WILT: So, the funding will be the same 2 within each tier. 3 MS. CARDENAS: Okay. MR. DIETZ: And in terms of communicating these 4 5 changes to potential recipients and past recipients, I'm 6 assuming that's all done proactively, like via email? 7 what's the kind of mechanism that we use to make sure 8 that's all communicated, since we're making these changes? 9 MR. WILT: Yeah. This aligns quite nicely with 10 the release of our newsletter, which is what we -- that's 11 the single biggest way for us to communicate, with the 12 biggest universe. And we'll advertise it the same ways 13 that we always do, and we -- people know. 14 If you're on top of the grant process, people 15 already know that we're opening it up earlier this year. 16 But there will be people that, inevitably, you know, don't 17 figure that out immediately. But with this rolling application process, it's not like you have just this one 18 19 window of five weeks to apply, like we did historically. 20 So, we have a much longer window. 21 MR. DIETZ: Yeah. 22 MR. WILT: I think it will be better for that 23 reason. 24 MR. DIETZ: Any other questions or comments? 25 MR. WILLIAMS: I guess with the -- yes,

1	Chairman. I guess with the with this new process, it's
2	not going to put a strain on the team, just how they
3	evaluate, just kind of how they're looking at this. It's
4	not going to put more work on top of their current work,
5	if that makes sense?
6	MR. WILT: Yeah. That's what we were aiming
7	for, to relieve some of the administrative burden.
8	MR. WILLIAMS: Okay. Okay.
9	MR. DIETZ: Is there a motion?
10	MS. CARDENAS: Motion to approve Tab Item 3 as
11	presented.
12	MR. WILLIAMS: Chair, this is Lemuel Williams.
13	Second that.
14	MR. DIETZ: It's been moved and seconded that
15	we approve the 2025 Texas Foundations Fund Guidelines, as
16	presented. Is there any public comment?
17	(No response.)
18	MR. DIETZ: Hearing none, all in favor, please
19	say aye.
20	(A chorus of ayes.)
21	MR. DIETZ: Any opposed?
22	(No response.)
23	MR. DIETZ: Okay. The Texas '25 the 2025
24	Texas Foundations Fund Guidelines are approved. Thank
25	you.

Tab Item 4 is the Presentation, Discussion and Possible Approval of a Resolution authorizing the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation to review, approve, and award grants and appropriation -- and appropriate amounts from the Texas Foundations Fund for eligible purposes to qualified applicants pursuant to the Texas Foundations Fund annual guidelines just approved by the Board of Directors of the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation for such fiscal year.

MR. WILT: Michael Wilt, again, Senior Manager of External Relations.

There are a lot of recitals in this resolution, but really, it only does -- it does several things, but there are really two important things that it does. You can kind of -- you can understand the genesis and history of this program. And then you also -- I know Chairman Dietz is aware that we used to have an advisory board -- advisory council that we haven't used in some time, because they were scoring applications, and we were counting on them to help us determine the grantees whenever this was competitive.

So, we haven't used the advisory council in some years, and this resolution codifies the discontinuation of the advisory council in a way more formal way. But the more important thing that it does is

that it authorizes David Long and Janie Taylor to approve the grantees that we make on a monthly basis.

And this is exactly how we've done it in two other grant programs, the first being Hurricane Harvey, when we had the HEART Program set up, and then the second -- and a more recent example is Texas Foundations Fund Disaster Recovery awards. This is how we've done those as well. So, it allows us to administratively approve the grantees and then we make a recommendation to David and Janie, and they're able to sign off on the grantees.

And then, our intent, while it's not detailed in the resolution, is to update you monthly on the grantees that have been awarded grant funds, how much, what they're doing, either home repair or services, and then just to update you like we do with disaster recovery grants, or like we used to do with the HEART grants, on a monthly basis.

And just to remind you, the review process, hopefully -- and this will give you some comfort level with this, set up is -- we do a threshold review among the Marketing and Communications department to make sure that they check all the boxes that are required for threshold criteria. Melinda's team in Accounting does a financial review to -- largely the same, that they're looking for

some threshold criteria to meet. And then we send those recommendations on to Janie and David, and they have, you know, the last opportunity to review them.

MR. DIETZ: So, if I can kind of restate it the way I'm thinking of it, just to make sure that I'm understanding it correctly? In the past, the approval actually took place at the Board level.

The staff would put together the list, the recommendations. You'd bring it to the Board. We'd approve it, and then the funds would be disbursed.

MR. WILT: That's correct.

MR. DIETZ: And so, now, because of the rolling nature of the new program, that approval will be done by staff, specific members of staff, and then it will come to the Board so that we're knowledgeable about what approvals have been made, but we're not going to wait for a Board meeting to make that decision and make the disbursements.

Is that --

MR. WILT: Correct.

MR. DIETZ: -- did I say that correctly?

MR. WILT: Yeah. And we feel like we've reflected your feedback through the guidelines. So, as long as they are meeting the criteria in the guidelines, we feel confident that the organizations meet the criteria that you all are looking for.

1	MR. DIETZ: Okay. Any questions or comments or
2	motions?
3	MS. CARDENAS: Motion to approve Tab Item 4 as
4	presented.
5	MR. RASSIN: Seconded.
6	MR. DIETZ: It's been moved and seconded that
7	we approve the resolution authorizing the Texas State
8	Affordable Housing Corporation to review, approve, and
9	award grants and appropriate amounts from the Texas
10	Foundations Fund for eligible purposes to qualified
11	applicants pursuant to the Texas Foundations Fund annual
12	guidelines approved by the Board of Directors of the Texas
13	State Affordable Housing Corporation for such fiscal year.
14	Is there any public comment?
15	(No response.)
16	MR. DIETZ: Hearing none, all in favor, please
17	say aye.
18	(A chorus of ayes.)
19	MR. DIETZ: Any opposed?
20	(No response.)
21	MR. DIETZ: Okay. It is approved.
22	MR. WILT: Thank you.
23	MR. DIETZ: On to Tab Item 5, the Presentation,
24	Discussion and Possible Approval of the Request for
25	Proposals for Single-Family Programs Counsel for the

Corporation.

MS. LeVECQUE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. I'm Joniel LeVecque, the Senior Director of Single-Family Programs.

Under Tab Item 5, we are asking the Board to approve a request for proposal for legal counsel services, and this is actually separate from our current General Counsel. It will be a new position specific to our Single-Family Programs. As written in the RFP, the scope of services for legal counsel includes expertise and mortgage regulations, including CFPB, RESPA, TRID compliance and agency loan guidelines, in addition to private activity bonds and mortgage credit certification programs.

This will provide TSAHC staff with direct access to subject matter experts in legal matters relating to the business and operation of TSAHC's single-family mortgage loan programs. If approved, this RFP will be published on our website and the *Texas Register*, with the deadline to respond being Friday, March 7, at 5:00 p.m.

As you'll notice in the Board book, the deadline currently reflected on the RFP is February 28. Since we rescheduled the Board meeting, we are asking to extend the deadline from February 28 to March 7, to give respondents adequate time to respond.

Respondents are not allowed to contact TSAHC staff or Board members to discuss issues or questions that they may have. If respondents do have issues or questions that pertain to the RFP, they must email Michael Wilt, our designated point of contact for the RFP process. This limitation on contact starts when the RFPs are approved by you today, and continues through the selection process. This is to protect the integrity of the RFP process and ensure an equal playing field among all respondents.

A panel of TSAHC staff will review all responses based on demonstrated competence, experience, knowledge, qualifications, and any other pertinent information. And we'll make a recommendation on who to select to David Long, TSAHC's President, who will make the final decision.

I'll note that, per Section 3.5 of our bylaws, as TSAHC's President, David Long has the ability to execute contracts. We will report the respondents selected to the Board after it is finalized. And with that, I will close my presentation and take any questions that you might have at this time.

Thank you.

MR. DIETZ: Do I understand correctly, this is a new position for counsel? It used to be that this was included -- one legal counsel --

1	MS. LeVECQUE: Yes, sir.
2	MR. DIETZ: did this, as well as some other
3	things?
4	MS. LeVECQUE: Yes, sir.
5	MR. DIETZ: But we want to separate that
6	into various
7	MS. LeVECQUE: Yes. We have realized that we
8	need someone who specializes not only in mortgage lending
9	requirements, but also single-family bond transactions,
10	MCC programs, basically, housing finance agency needs.
11	And right now, we don't have a combination of that. So we
12	would like to find legal services that encompass both of
13	our needs or all of our needs.
14	MR. WILLIAMS: So, right now, we're just
15	we're going to our current GC for all that?
16	MS. LeVECQUE: I'm sorry. I didn't get that.
17	MR. WILLIAMS: All right. So, we're going to
18	our current General Counsel for
19	MS. LeVECQUE: Correct.
20	MR. WILLIAMS: this?
21	MS. LeVECQUE: Correct.
22	MR. WILLIAMS: Okay. Okay.
23	MR. RASSIN: Doesn't some of it go to bond
24	counsel as well?
25	MS. LeVECQUE: Yes, yes. We actually have bond

counsel. And our bond counsel is very -- we have a great relationship with them.

We work really well with them, but we have seen a need that they specialize a little bit, I think, in multifamily. And then some of our single-family needs,

MR. RASSIN: Yeah.

which are different --

MS. LeVECQUE: -- So, we're just looking for someone who has a little bit more single-family experience.

MS. CARDENAS: I'm surprised this wasn't done sooner. I completely agree. I mean, in our mortgage world, that's like us going to -- no offense to the attorneys --

MS. LeVECQUE: Yes.

MS. CARDENAS: -- that are here, right -- but for somebody that doesn't specialize to do our loan doc prep, you know, in the realm of mortgage lending versus just going -- they don't understand TRID.

MS. LeVECQUE: Yeah.

MS. CARDENAS: They don't -- they may understand it, but not the intricacies of it. So, you know, I think it's a good thing for the organization to go with somebody -- as much as we want to be experts in everything, we can't.

MS. LeVECQUE: 1 Yes. 2 MS. CARDENAS: And so, I think relying on 3 someone that pulls that level of expertise is just, you 4 know, more protection for the organization. 5 MS. LeVECQUE: Yes. Thank you. We agree. 6 MR. DIETZ: There's nothing in any of our 7 quidelines or anything that prohibits a law firm from 8 applying in two different categories. Correct? 9 MS. LeVECQUE: Correct. 10 MR. DIETZ: I mean, if they were inclined to do 11 so --12 MS. LeVECQUE: Correct. 13 MR. DIETZ: -- we could -- yeah. Further 14 questions or comments? 15 MR. RASSIN: Yes. 16 MS. CARDENAS: Motion to approve -- oh, sorry. 17 MR. RASSIN: If it's all right, I do have other questions. Is there anything in our company 18 19 procurement guidelines that requires us to consider 20 historically underutilized businesses to -- I'm sorry --21 to provide additional credit for historically 22 underutilized businesses or minority-owned businesses? 23 MS. LeVECQUE: Actually, there is in our 24 statute. It requires us to take that into consideration, 25 that -- the HUB.

1	MR. RASSIN: Okay.
2	MS. LeVECQUE: Is that what you asked? I'm
3	sorry.
4	MR. RASSIN: It is. Can we have more
5	information about that? Here is
6	MR. WILLIAMS: Isn't that part of the State
7	statute?
8	MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.
9	MS. LeVECQUE: Yeah. And actually I'm
10	sorry. I should have brought up my she sent me.
11	MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I back when we went
12	to
13	MR. DIETZ: State your name.
14	MS. TAYLOR: Oh, sorry. I forget. Sorry.
15	Janie Taylor, Executive Vice President.
16	Back when we went through Sunset, which I don't
17	recall the exact year, but it's been a while. Actually,
18	it was 2011. This was added, as part of they added a
19	ton of different things.
20	That's why you all have to ask, is there any
21	public comment, after the presentation, before the vote.
22	They added that at that time too.
23	So, it's 2306, if you want to write it down.
24	It's Section 2306.5553, and that's what requires us to add
25	that into our permanent

MR. RASSIN: So, Section 2306 -
MS. TAYLOR: Yes. Government Code -
MR. RASSIN: Government Code. Got you.

MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. 2306.5553.

MR. DIETZ: So, does that mean that all of the kind of review and selection criteria and scoring criteria is a part of -- is defined by statute or -- I mean, that's included because of statute. Is everything in that covered in statute? Or do we have --

MS. TAYLOR: No. That's -- I mean, not off the top of my head. I don't know if our attorney knows, but not off the top of my head that there's other things.

This is probably the only thing that -- I mean, there's other things in there, I think that like say that we can contract with all of these different entities.

It does lay out different attorneys, you know, different financing agencies and other government agencies. But I believe, but don't quote me on this, this is the only thing that was added back in 2011 that we do have to -- it's part of the criteria. It's -- and the way Michael kind of views it, when we're reviewing these -- all things being equal, if they have fantastic references, fantastic, you know, experience in the exact subject matter that we're looking for, their cost and pricing is what we want to see. But one of them is a HUB, then that

1	would put them over.
2	But all things have to be considered, because
3	we weigh other things more, especially subject matter and
4	cost. Yeah. But you know, it's in statute, and so we
5	have to put it in there.
6	MR. DIETZ: Yeah. And that's would be
7	applicable to all procurement
8	MS. TAYLOR: That's right.
9	MR. DIETZ: processes, whether it's law
10	firms or accounts or
11	MS. TAYLOR: Yes.
12	MR. DIETZ: investment manager, whatever we
13	can
14	MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. Okay.
15	MR. DIETZ: All right.
16	MS. TAYLOR: Thank you. Do any any more
17	questions for me?
18	MR. DIETZ: Any other questions or comments or
19	discussion?
20	MR. RASSIN: No. That answers my question.
21	MS. TAYLOR: Okay.
22	MS. LeVECQUE: Thank you.
23	MS. TAYLOR: Thank you.
24	MR. WILLIAMS: Chair, if I may? Sorry. Go for
25	it.

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1	MS. CARDENAS: Well, I was making a motion to
2	approve Tab Item 5, as presented.
3	MR. WILLIAMS: Chair, this is Lemuel. I'll go
4	ahead and second that.
5	MR. DIETZ: It's been moved and seconded that
6	we flip back to my language here that we approve the
7	Request for Proposals for Single-Family Programs Counsel
8	for the Corporation. Is there any public comment?
9	(No response.)
10	MR. DIETZ: Hearing none, all in favor, please
11	say aye.
12	(A chorus of ayes.)
13	MR. DIETZ: Any opposed?
14	(No response.)
15	MR. DIETZ: The Request for Proposal is
16	approved as presented.
17	MS. LeVECQUE: Thank you very much.
18	MR. DIETZ: Tab Item 6 is the Presentation,
19	Discussion and Possible Approval of the Request for
20	Proposal for Financial Advisor Services for the
21	Corporation.
22	MR. WILT: Michael Wilt. Michael Wilt, again,
23	Senior Manager of External Relations.
24	For Mr. Rassin's benefit, I can read 2306.5553
25	into the record, if you would like?

MR. RASSIN: Thank you. I just read it on my phone.

MR. WILT: Oh, okay. I heard you might want to access it as quickly as possible. Okay.

I'm here to present Tab Item 6. This is another RFP for financial advisor services. We intend to release this bond to Board meeting. We'll publish it on the *Texas Register*, advertise it like we do every other RFP, and the deadline to respond is Friday, March 7.

The last time we did a financial advisor services RFP was in 2019. Prior to that, we were working with Hilltop Securities, who served as our financial advisor to both single-family and multifamily programs.

As a result of the 2019 RFP process, we ended up selecting two firms.

We had CSG Financial Advisors for single-family programs and PFM for multifamily. CSG actually terminated their agreement with us at the end of last year, which prompted the issuance of this RFP. But to be honest, we probably needed to issue this RFP anyway, since we do that every five to seven years for professional services.

Like the last time we issued this, firms may speak just the single-family services they provide or the multifamily services, or both. They can respond to one aspect or both aspects.

Like Joniel said, important reminder on the 1 2 limitation of contact. They can't contact anyone on the Board or at TSAHC, with the exception of me. I'm here to 3 4 answer any questions they have or issues that they may 5 have, and then review and selection process, as laid out 6 in Section 8, similar to our selection and review process 7 for the other RFPs. 8 A panel of TSAHC staff will review and will 9 make a recommendation to David Long, who's tasked with 10 making the final selection. With that, I'm here for any questions. 11 12 MR. DIETZ: Any questions, comments? MR. WILLIAMS: Chair, I'd like to make a motion 13 14 to -- for the possible approval of the Request for 15 Proposals for financial advisor services for the Corporation, listed in Tab Item 6. 16 17 MR. DIETZ: Great. Is --MR. RASSIN: Seconded. 18 19 MR. DIETZ: Okay. It's been moved and seconded 20 that we approve the Request for Proposals for financial 21 advisor services for the Corporation. Is there any public 22 comment? 23 (No response.) 24 MR. DIETZ: Hearing none, all in favor, please 25

say aye.

(A chorus of ayes.) 1 2 MR. DIETZ: Any opposed? 3 (No response.) MR. DIETZ: The Request for Proposal for 4 5 financial advisor services for the Corporation is 6 approved. 7 MR. WILT: Thank you. 8 MR. DIETZ: Which leads us to Tab Item 7, the 9 Presentation, Discussion and Possible Approval of the 10 Request for Proposals for Website Redesign Services for the Corporation. 11 12 MS. CLAFLIN: All right. Good morning. name is Katie Claflin, Senior Director of Communications 13 14 and Development, and I'm here to present Tab Item 7, which 15 is asking the Board to approve an RFP for website redesign services. 16 17 So, I thought I'd start with a little background on our current website. Our website was 18 19 originally designed in 2013, and then significantly 20 refreshed in 2018. It has several special features, 21 including an eligibility quiz, a loan comparison 22 calculator, an MCC calculator, lender and realtor search 23 tools, as well as a very robust news and events section. 24 And it currently runs on a content management system

called ExpressionEngine, and this is the system that the

25

website was built on and then how we also make day-to-day website updates, like when we update our interest rates.

And so, we have two reasons for wanting to redesign our site now. The first is just to improve the look and usability of the site. You know, the current site is about 12 years old, and it's just time to take a look at the navigation, the graphics, the colors, stuff like that, and make it, you know, refreshed and a little bit more user-friendly.

And then the second is that ExpressionEngine has pretty much reached the end of its useful life.

Companies are no longer using it. And our current website company has basically told us that, within a couple of years, they won't even be able to support it. And that's bad. That means if something were to break on their site -- on our site, they wouldn't be able to guarantee that they could fix it.

And so, we did actually issue an RFP a few years ago, specifically to solicit costs to transfer our current site to another content management system. And what we found is the costs were so expensive to do that, that we might as well just wait and redesign our site at the same time.

So, a little bit about the RFP itself. We have a deadline of March 14, which gives companies about six

weeks to respond. We've included an explanation of TSAHC and our programs, as well as all the special features on our site.

We want companies to know what our current site looks like, because we do anticipate transferring all of those special features to the new site, and not losing any functionality. And so, we think that that will help us get more targeted responses, because of that.

So -- and for the scope of services, we're asking for the costs specifically to redesign our main site, which is www.TSHAC.org, as well as the cost to redesign our secondary site, which is our Texas Financial Toolbox site. And that's a small site that we've created specifically to link consumers with housing nonprofits that provide homebuyer education, foreclosure prevention services, credit counseling services, stuff like that.

So, if the costs allow, we'd like to redesign both sites. If not, we'll focus just on our main site.

So, we are asking in the RFP -- people to include a timeline of how long they think this will take. Internally, we think it will probably take about a year. So, you know, realistically, we're probably looking at early 2026 to launch our new website.

And then finally, we did include a budget in this RFP of \$150,000. We did a lot of research on whether

you should include a budget in an RFP, and the general consensus was, for an RFP like this, you tend to get better responses if you do include a budget. And we based that budget on the proposals we got just to transfer our site to a new content management system, and then just some general resources about what it typically takes to design a site with the number of pages that we have on our site and features and stuff like that.

And then, the last thing I would mention is that, you know, this RFP will follow our standard process. So, Michael Wilt will be the point of contact for all responses. There will be a Staff Review Committee, with David Long making the final decision. And then we are including the HUB certification as part of the scoring criteria, as required by our statute.

So, yeah. I'm happy to take any questions.

MS. CARDENAS: I guess, you know, as far as the design, you know, one of the tools that you see out there, and just because, you know, yes, we offer various programs, right, but a lot of people are reliant on knowing whether they qualify, right, for down payment assistance. And so, you know, you see your larger -- obviously, some of the GFCs that have, you know, Fannie Mae, as an example -- that has their tool where you can just go in and plug in, you know, your zip code. And it

will determine, you know, what the 80 percent either below or above AMFI is.

And so, I guess, when just considering that, you know, if there's tools like that we can adopt -- I don't know if anybody's ever gone to our website. You know, being that I'm in this line of work, right, and in the industry, you know, we just always want to make it easier. And I think that's what you're trying to accomplish, right, for the end consumer.

And so, trying to look at income limits, and then you have to click here. Wait. Is it above 80 percent? No, it's below 80 percent. No, it's this down payment, right.

And so, I guess, with all of that, and I'm sure you all are thinking of that, right -- if there is just easier ways where it's like, let me just plug in the zip code, and yes, based on income limits, it's this, rather than scrolling and looking for the county. And you know -- so you know, because at the end, I think all of the lenders throughout Texas that are participants with TSAHC, that's where we get a lot of phone calls too, right -- to where -- I don't understand. Do I qualify?

And so, again, I think we want more applications taken in by our organization, because that's

our whole mission. And so just thinking of those things when we're -- this is our opportunity to design it, so might as well design it, you know, the way we want it and the best way that we can provide more outreach and more understanding to the end user.

So, those are just my comments. But I'm -obviously, I think this is great, that you know, we're
putting this out for an RFP to give it a refresh and just,
you know, better the tool for all of Texas.

MS. CLAFLIN: And that is a great point, yes. We're looking at what are other, you know, entities in this industry doing? How are they communicating things like income limits, and you know, credit score requirements?

And so, if y'all are aware of any tools, any websites that you'd like, that's going to be one of our processes, is finding other websites and other entities that are communicating this information, so we can figure out what makes sense for us.

But yes, that's a great point. We're definitely going to be looking at that.

MR. DIETZ: Any other questions or comments, discussion?

MR. WILLIAMS: I guess, for the redesign, is that also going to be for other devices too? So mobile,

I guess, is that going to be inclusive as well, 1 tablet. or is that going to be kind of a separate project? 3 MS. CLAFLIN: It should be inclusive as well, 4 you know. When we designed our original site, that was a 5 big component, and they built it all at the same time. 6 So, they wouldn't build a separate site. On 7 mobile, they would just build a site that was mobile-8 friendly that would --9 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, yeah, yeah. 10 MS. CLAFLIN: -- automatically adjust for different mobile devices. 11 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. Can --12 13 MR. DIETZ: Is there a motion? 14 MR. WILLIAMS: -- yeah -- can I make a -- okay. 15 MR. DIETZ: Yeah. 16 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair, I would like to make a 17 motion for the approval of the Request for Proposal for website redesign services for the Corporation, as noted in 18 19 Tab Item 7. MS. CARDENAS: Second. 20 MR. DIETZ: It's been moved and seconded 21 22 with -- that we approve the Request for Proposals for 23 website redesign services for the Corporation. Is there 24 any public comment?

(No response.)

25

1	MR. DIETZ: Okay, then. All in favor, please
2	say aye.
3	(A chorus of ayes.)
4	MR. DIETZ: Any opposed?
5	(No response.)
6	MR. DIETZ: It is approved. And I'll just
7	note, on a general note, I'm assuming we're doing requests
8	for proposals for all of our we have everything on a
9	rotating basis
10	MR. LONG: Yes
11	MR. DIETZ: for all the employee benefits,
12	all the everything. That's a great process. I just
13	want to make sure we're not missing anything, that we're
14	actually catching everything.
15	MR. LONG: We're certainly trying to make sure
16	that we go through the process and identify each of those
17	professional services or
18	MR. DIETZ: Okay.
19	MR. LONG: opportunities for our RFP
20	requirements. The Board gave us direction several years
21	ago to kind of
22	MR. DIETZ: Yes.
23	MR. LONG: get this five- to seven-year
24	timeline, and so that's what we're doing.
25	MR. DIETZ: Yeah, yeah. Does that seem to be a

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1	good time frame for both those services?
2	MR. LONG: It's working so far. I mean
3	MR. DIETZ: Okay.
4	MR. LONG: we haven't really had to do a lot
5	of RFPs in the last several years. So, we're this is
6	kind of the first round after that discussion with the
7	Board.
8	MR. DIETZ: Yeah. Great. Good. Thank you.
9	MS. CLAFLIN: Thank you all so much.
10	MR. RASSIN: Thank you.
11	MR. DIETZ: No reason for us to go into closed
12	meeting today. Correct?
13	MR. LONG: No, sir.
14	MR. DIETZ: Okay. Announcements or closing
15	comments?
16	MR. LONG: I did want to remind the Board,
17	Natalie Ball is here representing our General Counsel
18	firm. I know she was here last year, but I just wanted to
19	make sure everybody you know, with Routt's retirement,
20	Natalie and Sarah will be working together on it. But
21	Natalie is here, and Sarah's on maternity leave. So, we
22	want to thank Natalie for being here.
23	I just want to mention that Blake Roberts with
24	PFM and Dan are back here. I was going bug him and tease
25	him about coming up and giving you guys an overview of the

1	federal freeze on funds, but we won't make him do that,
2	unless you have a desire to come up and put him under
3	the
4	MR. DIETZ: No.
5	MR. LONG: microscope on it. But appreciate
6	them being here.
7	And they serve as our FA on our multifamily
8	transactions, and they're very good at what they do. In
9	fact, it was Blake and I that were corresponding back and
10	forth when he sent me the information regarding the freeze
11	yesterday. So good to have partners and professionals sit
12	us down and talk to things as they move along.
13	With that, Mr. Chairman, reminder that the
14	Board meeting for next month is the 18th at 10:30. It's a
15	Tuesday. Back to the normal day.
16	And if there's anything that comes up, we'll
17	keep the Board informed.
18	MR. DIETZ: I think that's the day after a
19	holiday. That isn't
20	MR. LONG: It is. It's
21	MR. DIETZ: going to cause problems, does
22	it?
23	MS. CARDENAS: [Inaudible] unless we move it.
24	MR. DIETZ: Okay. We'll need to poll the
25	Board, because I know

1	MR. LONG: Yeah. We'll do that.
2	MR. DIETZ: sounds like not all of us will
3	be able to be there, but
4	MR. LONG: Yeah. Okay.
5	MR. DIETZ: Okay. Well, then it is 11:28 on
6	Wednesday, January 29, and we are adjourned.
7	(Whereupon, at 11:28 a.m., the meeting was
8	adjourned.)

1 CERTIFICATE 2 3 MEETING OF: Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation 4 Board 5 LOCATION: Austin, Texas 6 DATE: January 29, 2025 7 I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages, 8 numbers 1 through 53, inclusive, are the true, accurate, 9 and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording made by electronic recording by Elizabeth Stoddard before 10 11 the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation Board. 12 DATE: February 3, 2025 13 14 15 16 17 18 /s/ Adrienne Evans-Stark 19 (Transcriber) 20 21 On the Record Reporting & 22 Transcription, Inc. 23 7703 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste. 515 24 Austin, Texas 78752 25

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