

FAIR HOUSING STATEMENT CITY OF ESCANABA

The City of Escanaba is committed to fair housing. As part of that commitment, the City of Escanaba will request that both minorities and women apply for assistance through the Rehabilitation Program, be it for dwelling living or construction contracting. The City of Escanaba will periodically have notices placed in the local newspaper requesting that minority and female owned businesses be placed on the City's contractor bidder list.

In an effort to meet our fair housing goals, the City has appointed James V. O'Toole as the A Fair Housing Contact Person. Within the notices that the City places in local newspapers, residents who have complaints regarding fair housing issues will be encouraged to submit their complaints to the City's Fair Housing Contact Person. The complaints received will be recorded on a Civil Rights Log which is maintained by the City. If the complaints are in violation of any local Ordinances, appropriate action by the City will be taken; otherwise residents will be encouraged to contact the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. All complaints will be forwarded to MSHDA's Office or Community Development. All fair housing/civil rights actions taken by the City will be recorded in the Log. Local fair housing issues that are identified in the local newspaper will be recorded in the Log.

Should a discrimination complaint from a contractor, applicant, tenant, or resident be received, the following procedure will be issues:

- * The complaint is made in writing to the Fair Housing Contact Person. The Fair Housing Contact Person will review the complaint and attempt to resolve the problem. If the problem is not resolved, then;
- * A written complaint filed with the City Manager, who will investigate the matter and attempt to resolve the issue. If the issue is not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, then;
- * The contractor, applicant, tenant, or resident can initiate a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and/or the Michigan Civil Rights Commission.

The City will maintain, at the Community Development and Planning Department, located on the second floor of City Hall, brochures and other materials provided by MSHDA for distribution. Applicants and Tenants for a Rehabilitation Program will receive a copy of the A Fair Housing It's Your Right brochure during the application/approval process.

GENERAL PUBLIC POLICY

It is hereby declared to be contrary to the public policy of the City of Escanaba for any person to be discriminated against in employment, housing or participation in publically funded programs because of race, religion, national origin, color, sex, marital status, age, or handicap.

The opportunity for employment without discrimination because of race, religion, national origin, color, sex, marital status, age or handicap is hereby recognized and declared to be a civil right. Further, it shall be contrary to public policy of the City of Escanaba for any employer to discriminate in hiring, promotion, tenure, terms or conditions of employment because of race, religion, national origin, color, sex, marital status, age, or handicap. The opportunity to purchase, lease, sell, hold,

use or convey housing without discrimination because of race, religion, national origin, color, sex, marital status, age, or handicap is hereby recognized and declared to be a civil right. The opportunity to participate in federal, state, and locally funded programs without discrimination if race, religion, national origin, color, sex, marital status, age, or handicap is hereby recognized and declared to be a civil right.

The City of Escanaba will make people aware of the United States Fair Housing Laws, State of Michigan Fair Housing Laws, Fair Housing Resources, and background of the Fair Housing Laws as shown in the attachments of this policy.