



## WHAT IS A FAIR HOUSING STUDY?

The Civil Rights Act requires that states, counties, and cities receiving federal housing and community development funds assist HUD in “Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Choice.” The required starting point is conducting an analysis of fair housing barriers. This is called the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, or AI.

**Why do a regional study?** Residents move across jurisdictional boundaries on a regular basis to access housing, jobs, schools, and services. Solutions to fair housing barriers should reflect this reality. A regional approach facilitates cooperative planning to address common barriers. It is also a much more efficient and less costly way to conduct fair housing planning.

**Did the approach change recently?** The approach to the AI was revised in 2016 to incorporate more than just housing—access to quality education, job training and employment—and to require a new format. In January 2018, HUD suspended the new approach to give communities more time to adjust to the new format.



*The Sacramento Valley is proceeding with a Regional AI that embraces the best of both formats. The overall goal of this approach is to help communities improve economic conditions and housing options for all residents, in a way that best fits the community.*

## WHAT COMMUNITY EVENTS WILL BE PART OF THE STUDY?

The AI is keeping the strong focus on community engagement of the revised (Assessment of Fair Housing or AFH) template. Events will be tailored and ensure diversity in participation. Events will include open community meetings, community conversations, a resident survey, and focus groups.



## HOW WILL THE STUDY BENEFIT RESIDENTS IN THE REGION?

A large body of research has shown that where housing is located makes a difference in people’s lives. Neighborhoods with access to good schools, jobs, recreation, healthy food, and transportation help to reduce public service costs. This study helps identify where jurisdictions should focus their efforts to ensure that residents have equal access to quality communities—while also preserving the unique identities of local neighborhoods and cities.

## STUDY TIMELINE

*April-May 2018*  
**Community survey launched**

*May-September 2018*  
**Community meetings and outreach**

*June-October 2018*  
**Data analysis**

*October-December 2018*  
**Barriers identification**

*December 2018-January 2019*  
**Local and regional goal setting**

*March 1, 2019-April 15, 2019*  
**Draft report available for comment**

## WHO IS DOING THE REGIONAL AI?

The AI is a partnership among local jurisdictions and housing authorities. A regional approach is more efficient, reduces costs, and facilitates partnerships in addressing needs.



## WILL THE STUDY BE DIFFERENT FROM THE ASSESSMENT OF FAIR HOUSING APPROACH (AFH) HUD PROPOSED IN 2016 AND 2017?

The Regional AI will follow the format of the AFH, which includes an analysis of barriers to economic opportunity, in addition to housing. The AI will satisfy the AFH requirements by:

- Incorporating relevant maps and tables from the AFH mapping and data tool. This will include an analysis of segregation and integration and location of publicly-subsidized housing.
- Retaining a meaningful community engagement process, especially with typically under-represented residents.
- Dedicating a section to an analysis of the housing and community access barriers faced by persons with disabilities.
- Considering a broad list of “contributing factors,” or impediments, to fair housing choice and economic opportunity.

For more information on Fair Housing laws, see: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/fair\\_housing\\_equal\\_opp](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp)