



April 19, 2021

## GENERAL NEWS

### HUD Awards 1.5 Million in Main Street Grants

In a [press release](#) last Friday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it has awarded three \$500,000 [HOPE VI Main Street](#) grants to three communities in Colorado, California, and Oregon. The Main Street program's objective is to rejuvenate older, downtown business districts in smaller communities while at the same time keeping the historic character of the area by providing funds for the development of affordable housing.

The Kit Carson, Colorado grant will be used to redevelop two affordable housing sites, the City of El Cerrito, California will use the funds to build affordable, residential units in the city's commercial district, and the City of Stayton, Oregon will rehabilitate two buildings.

### HUD Finds That a PHA in TX Engaged in Disability Discrimination

In another [press release](#) last Friday, HUD announced that it has [issued findings](#) that a housing authority in Dallas, Texas, discriminated against a tenant with a disability by failing to provide a reasonable accommodation and seeking to evict her.

Specifically, the housing authority failed to transfer a tenant with a mobility disability to a ground-floor unit, forcing her to leave her wheelchair and crawl up or down the stairs in order to access or leave her housing. HUD's investigation also revealed that the housing authority unlawfully evicted the tenant in retaliation for her efforts to obtain a reasonable accommodation. The case originally came to HUD's attention when the tenant filed a complaint alleging that she had been discriminated against on the basis of her disability.

[Section 504](#) of the Rehabilitation Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public housing agencies and other recipients of HUD funding. Recipients must bring their programs, activities, and facilities into compliance with federal accessibility requirements. [Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) also prohibits public entities from discriminating on the basis of disability in all services, activities, and programs, whether or not they receive federal funds.



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