

Request for Action
By
Board of Commissioners

Approval of Amendment to the RIHousing Administrative Plan

1. Summary of Issues

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) operates several federal housing programs, one of which is the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (the “HCV Program” or the “Program”). The HCV Program offers rental subsidies to help income-qualifying families, senior citizens and disabled individuals afford safe, healthy homes of their choosing. RIHousing serves as a Public Housing Authority (“PHA”) in those Rhode Island communities that do not have standalone municipal housing authorities. RIHousing’s operation of the HCV Program is governed by an Administrative Plan, as provided by federal regulation.

In connection with RIHousing’s ongoing efforts to reduce administrative burdens on Program participants and adopt best practices in the administration of the Program, staff performs periodic targeted reviews of the Administrative Plan. During the most recent such review, staff identified an opportunity to implement a preference for households with expiring rental subsidies, who are vulnerable to homelessness or housing instability.

The proposed Administrative Plan change is summarized in the table provided at Attachment B hereto. The full text is provided at Attachment C. The amendment will become effective upon approval and adoption by the Board of Commissioners.

2. Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners approve the attached resolution adopting the amendment to the Administrative Plan, substantially in the form presented at Attachment C.

3. Attachments

- A. Resolution
- B. Summary of Substantive Amendment to Administrative Plan
- C. Amendment to Administrative Plan (Changed Page)

Attachment A

Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation

WHEREAS: Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) has been designated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) as a Public Housing Authority (“PHA”) in connection with the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (the “HCV Program”);

WHEREAS: Part 982.54 of title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations requires each PHA to administer its HCV Program according to an Administrative Plan;

WHEREAS: the Administrative Plan must establish local policies for administration of the HCV Program in accordance with HUD requirements and must be adopted by the PHA Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS: staff has undertaken a review of the Administrative Plan and has established the need for an amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED: that RIHousing hereby approves and adopts the amendment to the RIHousing Administrative Plan substantially in the form presented at Attachment C; and

RESOLVED: that the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, and the Director of Leased Housing and Rental Services, each acting singly, is, and hereby are, authorized to execute any document or take any other action necessary to carry out the foregoing resolutions.

Attachment B

Table of Substantive Amendments to Administrative Plan

Proposed Change to Administrative Plan	Location	Rationale
<u>Add a selection preference for “Unstable Housing Situation” to provide 2800 points to families</u> currently receiving a rental subsidy under a temporary, expired/expiring, or defunded housing program, where the families would be at risk of becoming severely rent-burdened and at increased risk of homelessness upon the program’s termination or expiration.	Section 4, page 4-13	As RIHousing initiates additional programming offered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”), such as the Foster Youth Initiative, which may be time- or resource-limited, it is necessary to ensure that vulnerable families, who may otherwise be at-risk of homelessness or housing instability, have a selection preference so that they can maintain their stable housing if the initial program terminates or expires.

Attachment C

Administrative Plan (Changed Pages)