



1301 E Jefferson Ave.
Detroit, MI 48207
313-877-8000

Monday, March 18, 2024

Item 1. Invitation to RAD Community Meetings

Dear Resident of the Villages at Parkside,

The Detroit Housing Commission (DHC), in partnership with Ginosko Development Company, would like to invite you to two upcoming community meetings. At these meetings, we'll talk about the next steps in the redevelopment efforts at Parkside. Specifically, we'll focus on the **Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)** application for vacant land at Village I, which will become Phase 1A and Phase 1B of the new Parkside. Please see the attached map.

RAD is a federal program that helps improve public housing by providing new housing options for residents. The RAD application for Village I will enable Ginosko to start constructing the new buildings. **Attached to this letter is a longer Resident Information Notice (RIN) which outlines the RAD program and your rights as a resident.**

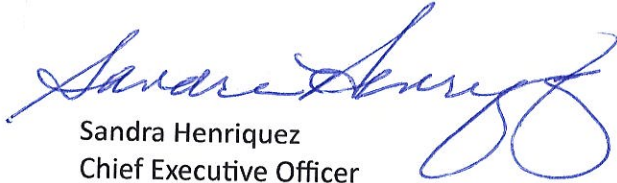
Your input in these meetings is crucial. We want to hear your thoughts and ideas about the RAD application and what it means for Parkside. Whether you join us in person or on Zoom, your voice matters. Videos of the meetings will also be available online for those who can't attend. Materials will also be on the Parkside website at <https://dhcmi.org/villages-parkside> as well as in the management office at 5000 Conner St and the resident liaison office at 12385 Drew Ct. **We also would like your help in getting the word out about all community meetings as they come up: please tell your neighbors!**

Meeting 1: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Community Center building

Meeting 2: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Community Center building

Instructions for joining via Zoom are on the next page.

Let's work together to make Parkside an even better place to live!


Sandra Henriquez
Chief Executive Officer

Contents of this envelope:

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| 1. Cover Letter (this page) | 5. Project-Specific Fact Sheet |
| 2. Instructions for Zoom meetings | 6. Fact Sheet #1: RAD Overview |
| 3. Map of Phases 1A and 1B | 7. General Information Notice |
| 4. RAD Resident Information Notice | 8. HUD Relocation Brochure |



1301 East Jefferson Avenue • Detroit, MI 48207 313.877.8000 • Fax 313.877.8769 • TDD/TTY 800.222.3679.  "Equal Housing Opportunity".
DHC will provide a reasonable accommodation to a qualified individual with a disability by providing modifications, alterations or adaptation in policy, procedures, or practices. Please advise us if you require a reasonable accommodation.



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Item 2. Instructions for Teams Meetings

As indicated on the cover letter, two RAD community engagement meetings are scheduled for the coming weeks. Both will be held both in person and on Zoom. A call-in option is also available.

To join a Zoom meeting, use the Meeting ID and Passcode provided below to log into the meeting. That way you can avoid having to type out the long URL.

Meeting 1

In person	Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM Community Center building (5000 Conner)
By phone	Phone numbers: 312-626-6799 or 646-931-3860
Zoom	Meeting ID: 821 1497 7969 Passcode: 590518 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82114977969?pwd=WEpycWgxRzNYTWZyktuK0xtTDVYdz09

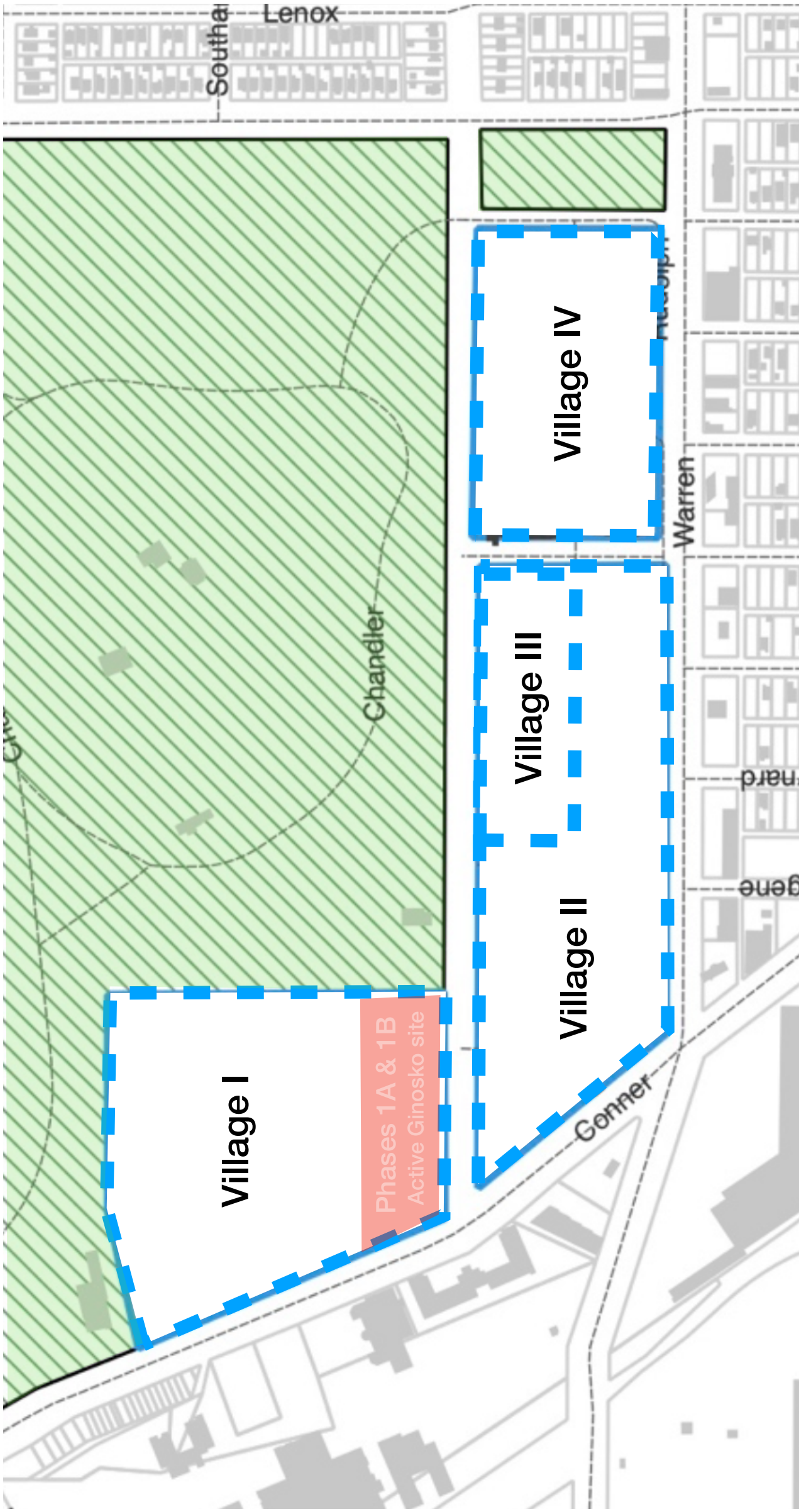
Meeting 2

In person	Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM Community Center building (5000 Conner)
By phone	Phone numbers: 646-931-3860 or 929-205-6099
Zoom	Meeting ID: 852 2544 5870 Passcode: 969185 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85225445870?pwd=M0NvR3lvOVVlaUd0K053Ujl0bHRYUT09

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Item 4

**RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM (RAD)
RESIDENT INFORMATION NOTICE (RIN)**

Monday, March 18, 2024

Dear Parkside Resident,

You are invited to a resident meeting to talk about DHC's plans to convert the Villages at Parkside from the Public Housing program to Section 8 rental assistance under the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD). Here is information for the two meetings:

Meeting 1: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Community Center building

Meeting 2: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Community Center building

Information on how to join by Zoom or phone call has also been attached to this envelope.

RAD is a voluntary program run by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under RAD, HUD will change the way it provides rental assistance to the property from public housing to a long-term Section 8 assistance contract. The Section 8 program would make it easier for us to access money to repair and improve the property, either now or in the future. **This letter describes your rights under RAD and explains how a RAD conversion might affect you. Whether we participate in RAD or not, you will still get rental assistance.**

1. Your Right to Information

With this letter, we have included "Attachment #1," which is a description of our current plans for the property. At both meetings, we will describe the RAD program, our current ideas in more detail, and new information since the previous meeting. At every meeting, we will also answer any questions that have come up for you. If we submit an application to HUD and are accepted into the program, we will have at least two (2) additional RAD-specific meetings with you about our plans (**but please know that we are planning many more community engagement meetings beyond these!**). You have the right to hear about major changes in the plans for the project, and we will invite you to additional meetings if key features of the plans change. You also have a right to organize and to form a resident council to serve as your voice and to help you become well informed about the RAD plans.

2. Your Right to Rental Assistance

Our decision to participate in RAD does not affect your rental assistance eligibility. You are not subject to new eligibility screening. If we satisfy all HUD requirements and the property is placed under a Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contract, you have a right to ongoing rental assistance as long as you comply with the requirements of your lease. **In most cases, your rent will not change with the conversion from public housing to Section 8.** In the rare event that your rent calculation would change (most commonly, when you are paying a "flat rent"), the increase would be phased in over time if the increase is more than 10% or \$25/month.



3. Your Right to Relocation Assistance

As part of the Parkside redevelopment project, we are planning for enough newly built units at Phases 1A and 1B to relocate every resident in good standing from the current buildings into the new buildings. In some situations, we may also need to relocate you from your unit temporarily in order to complete repairs or do construction. Since we are at the beginning of the planning process for the RAD conversion, we don't yet know the exact timing of when you will need to move. You **do not** need to move now.

If we require you to move, you are entitled to certain relocation protections under the RAD rules, including, in all cases, advance written notice and detailed information about the move. The other specific relocation protections depend on the situation, but may include advisory services, moving assistance, payments, and other assistance.

In some cases, you have additional rights under other Federal laws, such as the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act, often referred to as the "Uniform Relocation Act." If the Uniform Relocation Act applies, we must give you a "General Information Notice" which is also referred to as a "GIN." **To make sure we are complying with the Uniform Relocation Act, we are including the GIN with this letter.** The GIN describes rights you have, but it may also describe situations that don't apply to you.

4. Your Right to Return

If you need to move temporarily for repairs, you have a right to return to an assisted unit once any construction work is done. However, we may need to move you during construction and your post-construction home may be a different unit than your current home. If the plans involve the transfer of the rental assistance to a different site, you may need to move to the new site to keep your rental assistance (provided that it is within a reasonable distance of your current home), but you still have a right to an assisted unit.

You get to return to a RAD Section 8 unit unless **you choose** to move somewhere else. If you believe the plans prevent you from exercising your right to return, you have the right to object to the plans. RAD program rules require us to make sure that anyone who wants to return can do so.

5. Don't Put Your Rights at Risk!

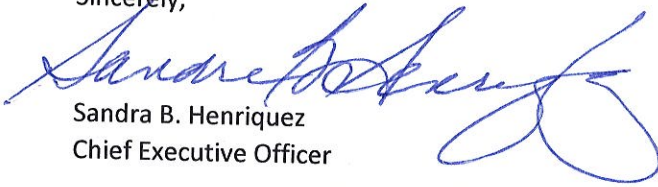
You are always welcome to move based on your household's needs and personal goals. However, if the RAD effort will require relocation and you choose to move from the property on your own without waiting for instructions from us, you may lose your eligibility for relocation payments and assistance.

The RAD conversion, and any relocation associated with it, must be implemented consistent with fair housing and civil rights requirements. If you need a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, or have other questions about the RAD conversion, please contact DHC's Reasonable Accommodations Coordinator, who will assist you, at res504@dhcmi.org. If you need to appeal a decision made by us, or if you think your rights aren't being protected, you may contact the HUD Detroit Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) at (800) 669-9777 or the HUD Detroit Field Office at (313) 226-7900.

Because we are very early in the process, the plans for the RAD conversion are likely to change. We are holding resident meetings to share our current ideas and will keep you informed about major changes to these ideas as we develop our plans. You should also share with us any information you have on repairs that need to be made, since you know the property best. We will give that information to the people who are helping us figure out what work needs to be done at the property.

We hope this letter gives you useful information about your rights. We are also including with this letter a fact sheet that may help you understand the RAD program better. **We encourage you to come to the resident meetings to learn more about how the RAD conversion would impact Parkside and you.** If you have additional questions about RAD and would like to contact HUD directly, you can do so by sending an email to rad@hud.gov.

Sincerely,



Sandra B. Henriquez
Chief Executive Officer

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2. Instructions for Zoom meetings
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Item 5

**RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION (RAD)
PROJECT-SPECIFIC FACT SHEET**

Monday, March 18, 2024

The Detroit Housing Commission has been working with Ginosko Development Company to plan the redevelopment of the Villages at Parkside. The project team is applying to the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, which will convert Parkside from the public housing program to the more stable Section 8 program. As a result of this conversion, residents of the Villages at Parkside will no longer be public housing residents, and will instead become project-based Section 8 residents in newly-built buildings. All residents in good standing will have the option to remain in the Parkside community in the new buildings.

The April 3, 2024 meeting marks the start of the formal RAD community engagement process. Several community engagement meetings are planned, and a Resident Liaison Leadership Team has been formed. The purpose of this resident team is to act as the main resident-to-resident communicators, helping to spread the word of project progress and engagement opportunities. Additionally, DHC and Ginosko received HUD permission to convert a vacant unit (12385 Drew Ct.) into an on-site office for the resident liaisons.

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FACT SHEET #1

RAD Overview



What is RAD?

RAD stands for Rental Assistance Demonstration. RAD is a tool developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address living conditions in public housing properties. RAD allows public housing authorities to “convert” public housing subsidy into a Section 8 subsidy that is tied to the property. **These fact sheets are intended for residents of public housing properties that may be participating in RAD.**



Why was RAD Created?

Public housing properties across the country need billions of dollars to pay for the repair of broken systems or replacement of outdated appliances. Public housing authorities (PHAs) do not have enough money to keep their public housing properties in good condition and make the necessary repairs. As a result, many public housing residents nationwide have seen conditions at their property worsen.

RAD was created to allow PHAs to access additional sources of funding to maintain, repair, and replace public housing properties. After a RAD conversion, the federal government continues to provide rental assistance through a Section 8 contract and ensures the property remains permanently affordable; residents continue to benefit from the same rights and protections that they had under the public housing program.



What is a RAD Conversion?

A RAD Conversion is the process of changing how the rent subsidy is delivered to a property from the Public Housing program to a Project-Based Section 8 program.



What are PHAs Required to do in a RAD Conversion?

The requirements that PHAs must follow in order for a public housing property to participate in RAD is described in the RAD Implementation Notice published by HUD ([PIH 2019-23/H 2019-09](#)). They include:

- ✓ **The PHA is required to consult with residents throughout the conversion process and consult with the community and Resident Advisory Board (RAB) through the PHA Plan process.**
- ✓ **No resident may be displaced involuntarily. Every resident has a right to remain in the property or to return to the property if temporary relocation is necessary in order to complete repairs or construction.**
- ✓ **The PHA is required to show that it is repairing or replacing all broken or outdated items at the property.** While an inspector will identify the items that need to be replaced or repaired, residents are encouraged to communicate known issues directly to the PHA.
- ✓ **The public housing units must be replaced one-for-one, with limited exceptions.** This means that generally there must be the same amount of affordable housing after the RAD conversion. HUD allows units to be eliminated that have been vacant for 2 or more years, permits up to 5% reduction in total affordable housing units, and allows housing units to convert to community space for services. However, such reductions are rare.
- ✓ **The PHA or a non-profit must continue to own or control the property following RAD conversion.** In most cases the PHA continues to own the property directly. In some cases, the PHA will partner with other affordable housing providers.
- ✓ **All properties enter a long-term (15 to 20 years) Section 8 contract that must be renewed each time that it expires.** This ensures that the property will remain affordable permanently.
- ✓ **Residents keep the same basic rights from public housing and gain a new right to request a “choice-mobility” voucher.** After living in a RAD property for either 1 or 2 years, a family may request a voucher that they can use to rent a qualifying home of their choosing. With the voucher they will continue to pay 30% of their adjusted income towards rent.

These and many other topics are covered in the remaining fact sheets.



Will I Keep My Rental Assistance?

In a word...Yes. **No resident can be displaced involuntarily or pay an unaffordable rent.**

Residents of public housing developments participating in RAD are guaranteed the right to ongoing housing assistance. All residents will either remain in their property, or if temporary relocation is needed to make repairs, be offered the opportunity to return to the property after repairs have been completed. Residents may also choose to accept an alternative housing option, if offered. **Residents under lease in the public housing program cannot be rescreened when the property comes under a Section 8 contract.**



Will RAD Affect My Rent?

Most residents will not have rent increases because of RAD. Like in most public housing, Section 8 residents pay 30% of their income towards rent and utilities. As in public housing, your rent will increase if your income increases and decrease if your income decreases.

However, if you are currently paying a “flat rent” in public housing, your rent will transition to a new formula based on the lower of the Total Tenant Payment minus any utility allowance or other rents in the area. If this transition leads to a rent increase, your new rent may be phased in over 3 to 5 years. Under RAD, you will never pay more than 30% of your household’s adjusted income towards rent. (For more information, see [**Fact Sheet #6: Rent**](#))



Will I Have to Move?

Most repairs made as part of RAD allow you to stay in your home during construction. However, some apartments and buildings need more extensive repairs that require residents to move out during construction.

In these cases, the PHA will pay for temporary relocation and you will be protected by RAD relocation rules. You will have the **right to return** to the property once construction is completed.

If construction at your property takes longer, the PHA may offer you other housing options, such as another public housing unit or a **tenant-based voucher** that you can use to rent a qualifying home you choose and continue paying 30% of your income towards rent. (For more information, see [**Fact Sheet #9: RAD and Relocation**](#))



Will RAD Affect My Rights Under My Lease?

RAD maintains the resident processes and rights under public housing, including:

- Requires lease renewal, except with good cause (For more information, see [Fact Sheet #7: Your Lease](#))
- A right to organize and have access to tenant participation funds to support resident organizing and participation (For more information, see [Fact Sheet #8: Resident Organizing and Funding](#))
- Procedures for hearing grievances and minimum timelines for being notified if your assistance is being terminated. (For more information, see [Fact Sheet #10: Resident Grievance and Termination Rights](#))
- Continued participation in FSS, ROSS, or Jobs Plus, while funding remains available. (For more information, see [Fact Sheet #11: Family Self-Sufficiency & Resident Opportunities And Self-Sufficiency](#))

RAD also gives residents a significant new right to request a tenant-based, “choice-mobility,” voucher. (For more information, see [Fact Sheet #12: Choice Mobility](#))



Who Will Own and Manage the Property?

Most but not all public housing is owned by a public housing authority (PHA) and most, but not all, RAD converted properties are also owned by a PHA. Sometimes, the owner of the property changes through RAD. However, in all cases RAD requires that a public entity, generally the PHA, or a non-profit retain ownership or control of the property. In some cases, particularly when the PHA is using the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program to fund repairs, the PHA may partner with other housing organizations to own the property together. As with some public housing properties today, the PHA may partner with another company, including a for-profit, to manage the property day-to-day.



How Can I Be Involved?

HUD encourages residents and their PHAs to work together during the RAD conversion process. PHAs are required to hold meetings with residents and send notices at various stages in the conversion process to educate residents about RAD and provide updates on plans. Once the RAD application has been accepted, HUD encourages PHAs to hold quarterly meetings with residents. During these meetings, you can **learn about the conversion plans, ask questions, express concerns, and provide comments**. The PHA must submit your comments and its responses to HUD. (For more information, see [Fact Sheet #5: Resident Engagement and Consultation](#))



How Will the PHA Ensure Everyone Can Participate in the RAD Process

PHAs must provide adequate notice of meetings and work to reduce barriers to resident participation. For example, by providing childcare or refreshments. Meetings should be convenient (place and time) for residents and accessible to residents with disabilities.

Meeting notifications and materials must be available in accessible formats. PHAs must use effective communication for people with disabilities including providing materials in appropriate alternative formats (Braille, large type, accessible email, etc.), and providing sign language interpreters and assistive listening devices at meetings as needed. Electronic (virtual) or in-home meetings should be offered when needed.

The PHA must provide meaningful access to its programs and activities for people who have a limited ability to read, speak, or understand English. Language assistance may include providing translated notices and oral interpretation of meetings.



Who Can I Talk to if I Have Questions?

You should talk to a PHA representative if you have specific questions about the RAD conversion process and the specific plans for your property. You may also direct any questions to HUD at rad@hud.gov and Office of Recapitalization staff will respond confirming receipt and indicating next steps.



Chicago, IL: A resident enjoys his newly renovated kitchen in the Fannie Emanuel Apartments. The 181-unit senior apartment building was the first RAD conversion by the Chicago Housing Authority.



1301 E Jefferson Ave.
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Item 7

**RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION (RAD)
GENERAL INFORMATION NOTICE (GIN)**

This notice was delivered by mail to every unit.

Dear Parkside Resident,

Monday, March 18, 2024

The property you currently occupy is being proposed for participation in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program. At this time, we expect that [the proposed acquisition, rehabilitation or demolition, may require you to be relocated (temporarily or permanently) from your unit]. We will provide further details to you as plans develop. **This notice does not mean that you need to leave the property at this time. This is not a notice of eligibility for relocation assistance.** The remainder of this letter only applies to situations where you will need to be relocated from your unit.

This notice serves to inform you of your potential rights under the RAD program and a federal law known as the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act (URA). If the proposed RAD project receives HUD approval and if you are displaced permanently as a result, you may become eligible for relocation assistance and payments under the URA, including:

- 1) Relocation advisory services that include referrals to replacement properties, help in filing payment claims and other necessary assistance to help you successfully relocate;
- 2) At least 90 days' advance written notice of the date you will be required to move;
- 3) Payment for moving expenses; and
- 4) Payments to enable you to rent a similar replacement home.

NOTE: Persons not lawfully present in the United States are not eligible for URA relocation assistance, unless such ineligibility would result in exceptional and extremely unusual hardship to a qualifying spouse, parent, or child as defined at 49 CFR 24.208(h). All persons seeking relocation assistance will be required to certify that they are a United States citizen or national, or an immigrant lawfully present in the United States.

As a resident of a property participating in RAD, you have the right to return to the project after the project is complete. You will be able to lease and occupy a unit in the converted project when rehabilitation is complete.



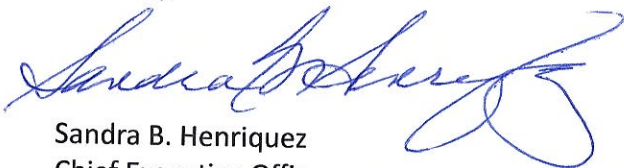
If you are permanently displaced from your home, you will not be required to move until you are given at least 90-day advance written notice of any required move and at least one comparable replacement dwelling has been made available to you. If you are temporarily relocated and your temporary relocation lasts more than one year, you will be contacted and offered permanent relocation assistance as a displaced person under the URA. This assistance would be in addition to any assistance you may receive in connection with temporary relocation and will not be reduced by the amount of any temporary relocation assistance you have already received.

If you are required to relocate from the property in the future, you will be informed in writing. DHC will inform you of what assistance and payments you are eligible for if you will be relocated because of RAD and how you will receive these payments. If you become a displaced person, you will be provided reasonable assistance necessary to complete and file any required claim to receive a relocation payment. If you feel that your eligibility for assistance is not properly considered, you will also have the right to appeal a determination on your eligibility for relocation assistance.

You should continue to pay your rent and meet any other requirements specified in your lease. If you fail to do so, DHC may have cause for your eviction. If you choose to move, or if you are evicted, prior to receiving a formal notice of relocation eligibility, you may become ineligible to receive relocation assistance. It is very important for you to contact us before making any moving plans.

You will be contacted soon so that we can provide you with more information about the proposed project. If the project is approved, we will make every effort to accommodate your needs. In the meantime, if you have any questions about our plans, please email the project team at parkside@dhcmi.org to contact DHC and Ginosko. **This letter is important to you and should be retained.**

Sincerely,



Sandra B. Henriquez
Chief Executive Officer

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RELOCATION ASSISTANCE TO TENANTS DISPLACED FROM THEIR HOMES

Introduction

This booklet describes the relocation payments and other relocation assistance provided under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (URA) to tenants displaced from their homes. This includes any family or individual that must move as a direct result of rehabilitation, demolition or acquisition for a project in which Federal funds are used.

If you are notified that you will be displaced, it is important that you **do not move** before you learn what you must do to receive the relocation payments and other assistance to which you are entitled.

This booklet may not answer all of your questions. If you have more questions about your relocation, contact the Agency responsible for the project. Ask your questions before you move. Afterwards, it may be too late.

Summary of Relocation Assistance

As an eligible tenant displaced from your home, you will be offered the following advisory and financial assistance:

- **Advisory Services.** This includes referrals to comparable and suitable replacement homes, the inspection of replacement housing to ensure that it meets established standards, help in preparing claim forms for relocation payments and other assistance to minimize the impact of the move.
- **Payment for Moving Expenses.** You may choose either a:
 - **Payment for Your Actual Reasonable Moving and Related Expenses, or**
 - **Fixed Moving Expense and Dislocation Allowance.**
- **Replacement Housing Assistance.** To enable you to rent, or if you prefer, buy a comparable or suitable replacement home, you may choose either:
 - **Rental Assistance, or**
 - **Purchase Assistance.**

If you disagree with the Agency's decision as to the relocation assistance for which you are eligible, you may appeal that decision.

General Questions

How Will I Know I Am Eligible For Relocation Assistance?

You should receive a written notice explaining your eligibility for relocation assistance. You should not move before receiving that notice. If you do, you may not receive relocation assistance.

How Will The Agency Know How Much Help I Need?

You will be contacted at an early date and personally interviewed by a representative of the Agency to determine your relocation needs and preferences for replacement housing and advisory services. The interviewer will ask certain questions about you and other members of your household, including questions about your income. It is to your advantage to provide the information so that the Agency can assist you in moving with a minimum of hardship. The information you give will be kept in confidence.

How Soon Will I Have To Move?

If possible, a mutually agreeable date for the move will be worked out. You will be given enough time to make plans for moving. Unless there is a health or safety emergency, you will not be required to move without at least 90 days advance written notice of (1) at least one "comparable replacement home" that is available to you and (2) the earliest date by which you must move.

What Is A Comparable Replacement Home?

A comparable replacement home is:

- Decent, safe, and sanitary.
- Functionally equivalent to (and equal or better than) your present home.
- Actually available for you to rent.
- Affordable.
- Reasonably accessible to your place of employment.
- Generally as well located with respect to public and commercial facilities, such as schools and shopping, as your present home.
- Not subject to unreasonable adverse environmental conditions.
- Available to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

What is Decent, Safe, and Sanitary Housing?

Decent, safe, and sanitary housing is housing that:

- Meets applicable housing and occupancy requirements.
- Is structurally sound, weathertight, and in good repair.
- Contains a safe, adequate electrical wiring system.
- Has adequate living space for the occupants.
- Has a kitchen with a sink, hot and cold running water, and connections for a stove and refrigerator (if you were displaced from a housekeeping unit).
- Has a separate, complete bathroom with hot and cold running water.
- Has heating as required by climatic conditions.
- Has an unobstructed exit to safe, open space at ground level.
- Meets standards protecting occupants from lead-based paint hazards.
- If you are physically handicapped, is free of any barriers which would preclude your reasonable use of the unit.

Will The Agency Help Me Find A Replacement Home?

Yes. You will be provided with referrals to housing that has been inspected to ensure that it meets established standards. If possible, you will be referred to at least three comparable replacement homes.

The maximum financial assistance for which you may qualify will be based on the cost of the most representative comparable replacement home that is available to you. Promptly after you become eligible for relocation assistance, the Agency will inform you of such unit and the maximum payment available.

Once the Agency representative has a clear understanding of your needs and preferences, he or she will work with you to assure that you are given the best possible choice of housing. The Agency will offer you appropriate transportation to inspect these units.

If you would like to move to government-owned housing or obtain a Section 8 "housing voucher" or "certificate," let the Agency representative know of your interest. Generally, an eligible displaced person receives preference for such long term housing assistance. You will be given assistance in completing any required application forms.

What If I Find My Own Replacement Housing?

You have every right to find your own replacement housing. However, before you rent or buy, ask the Agency to inspect the unit to make sure that it is decent, safe, and sanitary. If the housing unit is not decent, safe, and sanitary, you will not receive a replacement housing payment.

What If I Encounter A Problem In Obtaining Housing Of My Choice?

If you encounter a problem in buying or renting housing of your choice, notify the Agency immediately. The Agency will look into the matter and try to resolve it. You will receive this help whether you were referred to the housing unit or found it yourself.

If you are unable to buy or rent a housing unit because of discriminatory practices on the part of a real estate broker, rental agent, lender, or a property owner, the Agency will help you file a formal housing discrimination complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or the appropriate State or local fair housing agency.

What Other Services Will I Receive?

In addition to help in obtaining a comparable replacement home, other assistance, as necessary, will be provided in order to minimize the impact of your move. This assistance may include referral to appropriate public and private agencies that provide services concerning housing financing, employment, health, welfare, or legal assistance. The range of services depends on the needs of the person being displaced. You should ask the Agency representative to tell you about the specific services that will be available to help you and your family.

What Is a Payment For Actual Reasonable Moving and Related Expenses?

You may choose to receive a relocation payment to cover the reasonable cost of your move. If you choose a Payment For Actual Reasonable Moving And Related Expenses, you may include in your claim the reasonable and necessary costs for:

- Transportation for you and your family.
- Packing, moving and unpacking your household goods.
- Disconnecting and reconnecting household appliances and other personal property (e.g., telephone and cable TV).

- Storage of household goods, as may be necessary.
- Insurance for the replacement value of your property during the move and necessary storage.
- The replacement value of property lost, stolen or damaged in the move (but not through your neglect) if insurance is not reasonably available.

The Agency will explain all eligible moving costs, as well as those which are not eligible. You must be able to account for any costs that you incur, so keep all your receipts. Select your mover with care. The Agency can help you select a reliable and reputable mover.

You may elect to pay your moving costs yourself and be repaid by the Agency or, if you prefer, you may have the Agency pay the mover. In either case, let the Agency know before you move.

What Is A Fixed Moving Expense And Dislocation Allowance?

If you choose a Fixed Moving Expense and Dislocation Allowance, you will receive an allowance which is based on the number of rooms in your home or the number of rooms of furniture you will be moving, as shown on a schedule. The Agency has a copy of the schedule and will help you decide whether choosing this allowance is in your best interest.

If you do not have a large amount of personal property to move, this payment should be more advantageous. No special documentation is required to support your claim. You need only move your personal property and complete the appropriate claim form in order to receive your payment.

How Much Rental Assistance Will I Receive?

You may be eligible to receive Rental Assistance for a 42-month period. The assistance is computed in the following manner:

The assistance needed for one month is determined by subtracting the "base monthly rent" for your present home from the cost of rent and utilities for your new home (or a comparable replacement home, if that cost is lower). That monthly need, if any, is multiplied by 42, to determine the total amount that you will receive. This amount will be paid directly to you. However, the Agency may elect to provide the assistance in monthly installments or other periodic payments. Generally, the base monthly rent for your present home is the lesser of: (1) the monthly rent and average monthly cost for utilities, or (2) thirty (30) percent of your average monthly gross household income.

Examples: Let's say that the monthly rent and average cost for utilities for your present home are \$250; the monthly rent and estimated average utility costs for a comparable replacement home are \$350; and your monthly gross income is \$700. In this case your "base monthly rent" would be \$210 because that amount (30 percent of your income) is less than the monthly cost of rent and utilities at your present home (\$250).

- If you rent a replacement home for \$360 per month, including estimated average monthly utility charges, you will receive \$5,880. That amount is 42 times \$140 (the difference between the "base monthly rent" for your present home (\$210) and the cost for a comparable replacement home (\$350)).
- If you rent a replacement home for \$310, including estimated average monthly utility charges, you will receive \$4,200. That amount is 42 times \$100 (the difference between the "base monthly rent" for your present home (\$210) and the actual cost of your new home (\$310)).

To qualify for rental assistance, you must rent and occupy a decent, safe, and sanitary home within one year after the date you move. However, the Agency will extend this period for good cause.

If I Decide to Buy, Rather Than Rent, How Much Assistance Will I Receive?

If you buy a replacement home, you may be eligible for assistance to make a down payment equal to the amount you would receive if you rented a comparable replacement home (i.e., 42 times the amount obtained by subtracting the "base monthly rent" for your present home from the monthly rent and estimated average monthly utility costs for a comparable replacement home). A down payment assistance payment will be paid in a lump sum.

Example: Assuming the information in the prior examples, the downpayment assistance payment would be \$5,880. That amount is 42 times \$140 (the difference between the "base monthly rent" for your present home (\$210) and the monthly rent and estimated average monthly utilities cost for a comparable replacement home (\$350). The full amount of the payment must be applied to the purchase of the replacement dwelling.

Must I File A Claim To Obtain A Relocation Payment?

Yes. You must file a claim for each relocation payment. The Agency will, however, provide you with the required claim form, help you to complete it, and explain the type of documentation, if any, that you must submit in order to receive the payment.

If you must pay any relocation expenses before you move (e.g., a security deposit when you sign a lease for your new home), discuss your financial needs with the Agency. You should be able to obtain an advance payment to meet these costs. An advance payment may be placed in "escrow" or paid directly to a contractor to ensure that the move will be completed on a timely basis.

You must file your claim within 18 months after the date you move. However, it is to your advantage to file as soon as possible after you move. The sooner you submit your claim, the sooner it can be processed and paid. If you are unable to file your claim within 18 months, ask the Agency to extend this period.

Be careful not to confuse this 18-month period with the 12-month period within which you must rent (or buy) and occupy a replacement dwelling in order to be eligible for a replacement housing payment.

You will be paid promptly after you file an acceptable claim. If there is any question regarding your right to a relocation payment or the amount of the payment, you will be notified, in writing, of the problem and the action you may take to resolve the matter.

Will I Have To Pay Rent To The Agency Before I Move?

If the Agency acquires the property in which you live, you may be required to pay a fair rent to the Agency for the period between the acquisition of the property and the date that you move. Such rent will not exceed the market rent for comparable properties in the area.

Do I Have To Pay Federal Income Taxes On My Relocation Payments?

No. Section 216 of the URA states that you need not report relocation payments as part of your gross income for Federal tax purposes. For information on State or local income taxes, you should

check with the State or local income tax office in your area or with your personal tax advisor.

What If I Don't Receive The Required Assistance. Can I Appeal?

If you disagree with the Agency's decision as to your right to relocation assistance or the amount of a payment, or the adequacy of the housing to which you have been referred, you may appeal the decision to the Agency.

The Agency will inform you of its appeal procedures. At a minimum, you will have 60 days to file your appeal with the Agency after you receive written notification of the Agency's determination on your claim. Your appeal must be in writing. However, if you need help, the Agency will assist you in preparing your appeal.

If you are a low- or moderate-income person and are dissatisfied with the Agency's determination on your appeal, you may have an additional right to request administrative review of that decision (e.g., by HUD or the State).

You can expect a fair decision on any appeal. However, if you are not satisfied with the final administrative decision on your appeal, you may seek review of the matter by the courts.

I Have More Questions. Who Will Answer Them?

If you have further questions after reading this booklet, contact the Agency and discuss your concerns with an Agency representative. Call your local HUD office for assistance. Go to www.hud.gov to find out about your local HUD office.

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(Previous Edition Obsolete)