

Community Development Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 24, 2014

Subject: Approval of the 2015 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the 2015 Five (5) Year and Annual Public Housing Agency (PHA), authorize the Metropolitan Council Chair to execute the required certifications and direct staff to submit the final Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Several general questions about the HRA programs were asked and answered. Motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: Monday, September 15, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 24, 2014

Subject: Approval of the 2015 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Code of Federal Regulations Title 24, Part 903

Staff Prepared/Presented: Terri Smith, HRA Manager

Division/Department: Community Development / HRA

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the 2015 Five (5) Year and Annual Public Housing Agency (PHA), authorize the Metropolitan Council Chair to execute the required certifications and direct staff to submit the final Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Background

The PHA Plan is a document required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for any agency administering a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. The Plan serves as a guide to the Metropolitan Council Housing and Redevelopment Authority's (Metro HRA) programs, policies, operations and strategies for serving the needs of very low and extremely low income households. The Plan is intended to be a source of information for program participants, HUD and the general public.

There are two parts to the PHA Plan. The Five (5) Year Plan is submitted every 5th year and describes the mission of the agency and the agency's long-range goals and objectives for achieving its missions over a five-year period. The Annual Plan is an update relating to the general policies and procedures for providing service in the coming year. Both portions of the Plan are due in 2015 and the subject of this approval.

A public hearing was held at the Community Development Committee meeting on Monday, August 18, 2014, in order to receive public comment on the Plan. Although no comments were received at the public hearing, written comments were submitted by Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid and are addressed in Part 11.0 (g) of the 2015 PHA Plan.

The comments from Legal Aid focus on issues in the Administrative Plan associated with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), general policy suggestions as well as other comments not related to the Plan.

Staff recommends approval of the 2015 PHA Plan as proposed. The Plan and its main attachments, the Administrative Plan, can be found at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/housing/publications-resources.aspx>.

Rationale

Federal regulations for the Section 8 Program require submittal of the PHA Plan each year.

Funding

Not applicable.

Known Support / Opposition

Comments as noted above.