

LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY

5 Year Plan 2025-2029



LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY

5-YEAR PLAN 2025-2029

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HUD Five-Year PHA Plan (PHA Form OMB No. 2577-0226)	p. 1-4
A PHA INFORMATION	
A.1 Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) Information	p. 1
B PLAN ELEMENTS	
B.1 LHA Mission	p. 2
B.2a LHA Goals and Objectives - FY 2025-2029 of 5-Year Plan (Attachment B.2a)	p. 5-10
B.2b FFY 2025-2029 (Attachment B.2b)	p. 11-12
B.3 LHA Progress Report - FY 2024 in Year 5 of 5-Year Plan (Attachment B.3)	p. 13-17
B.4 Violence Against Women (VAWA) Goals (Attachment B.4)	p. 18-24
C OTHER DOCUMENT AND/OR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
C.1a Significant Amendment or Modification	N/A
C.2a Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Public Notice (Attachment C.2a)	p. 25-26
C.2b (RAB) Agenda (Attachment C.2b)	p. 27
C.2c (RAB) Minutes (Attachment C.2c)	p. 28-30
C.2d (RAB) Attendance (Attachment C.2d)	p. 31
C.2e (RAB) No Comments	N/A
C.3 Certification by State or Local Officials (Attachment C.3)	p. 32
C.3a Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan HUD-50077-ST-HVC-HP	p. 33-35
C.4 Required Submission for HUD FO Review (Attachment C.4)	p. 36
C.4a Public Hearing Meeting Minutes (Attachment C.4a)	p. 39-46
C.4b Recording Officer's Certifications (Attachment C.4b)	p. 47
C.4c Recording Officer's Certifications (Attachment C.4c)	p. 48
D AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING (AFHA)	
D.1 Fair Housing Strategies and Action (Attachment D.1)	p. 49-51

5-Year PHA Plan (for All PHAs)	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing	OMB No. 2577-0226 Expires: 03/31/2024
-------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------

Purpose. The 5-Year and Annual PHA Plans provide a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA’s operations, programs, and services, and informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public of the PHA’s mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families.

Applicability. The Form HUD-50075-5Y is to be completed once every 5 PHA fiscal years by all PHAs.

A.	PHA Information.					
A.1	<p>PHA Name: Lowell Housing Authority PHA Code: ___MA001___</p> <p>PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): ___2025___</p> <p>The Five-Year Period of the Plan (i.e. 2025-2029): ___2025-2029___</p> <p>PHA Plan Submission Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5-Year Plan Submission <input type="checkbox"/> Revised 5-Year Plan Submission</p> <p>Availability of Information. In addition to the items listed in this form, PHAs must have the elements listed below readily available to the public. A PHA must identify the specific location(s) where the proposed PHA Plan, PHA Plan Elements, and all information relevant to the public hearing and proposed PHA Plan are available for inspection by the public. Additionally, the PHA must provide information on how the public may reasonably obtain additional information on the PHA policies contained in the Five-Year Plan, but excluded from their streamlined submissions. At a minimum, PHAs must post PHA Plans, including updates, at each Asset Management Project (AMP) and main office or central office of the PHA. PHAs are strongly encouraged to post complete PHA Plans on their official websites. PHAs are also encouraged to provide each resident council a copy of their PHA Plans.</p> <p>PHA Consortia: (Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete table below)</p>					
Participating PHAs		PHA Code	Program(s) in the Consortia	Program(s) not in the Consortia	No. of Units in Each Program	
Lead PHA:					PH	HCV

B.	Plan Elements. Required for <u>all</u> PHAs completing this form.
B.1	Mission. State the PHA's mission for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families in the PHA's jurisdiction for the next five years. (B.1) The Lowell Housing Authority team, working in partnership with other housing providers, local government, nonprofit organizations, provide quality housing and a variety of social service programs that assist residents in achieving their highest level of self-sufficiency.
B.2	Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA's quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families for the next five years. See attachment (B.2a)
B.3	Progress Report. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan. See attachment (B.3)
B.4	Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA's goals, activities, objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. See attachment (B.4)
C.	Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.
C.1	Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan. N/A
C.2	Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments. (a) Did the RAB(s) have comments to the 5-Year PHA Plan? Y N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (b) If yes, comments must be submitted by the PHA as an attachment to the 5-Year PHA Plan. PHAs must also include a narrative describing their analysis of the RAB recommendations and the decisions made on these recommendations. See attachments: RAB Public Notice (C.2a), RAB Agenda (C.2b), RAB Minutes (C.2c), RAB no comments (N/A)
C.3	Certification by State or Local Officials. Form HUD-50077-SL, <i>Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan</i> , must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan. Pending City Manager approval See attachment (C.3) and (C.3a)
C.4	Required Submission for HUD FO Review. i. Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan? Y N <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Pending until further notice See attachment (C.4) ii. If yes, include Challenged Elements.

D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).

D.1 Fair Housing
See attachment (D.1)

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. (Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

Provide a statement of the PHA's strategies and actions to achieve fair housing goals outlined in an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5). Use the chart provided below. (PHAs should add as many goals as necessary to overcome fair housing issues and contributing factors.) Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA is not obligated to complete this chart. The PHA will fulfill, nevertheless, the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) enacted prior to August 17, 2015. See Instructions for further detail on completing this item.

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Fair Housing
GOAL #1

Increasing and Preserving Affordable Housing:
See attachment (D.1)
a). Increasing
b). Preserving

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Fair Housing
GOAL #2

Modify Expand Management Priorities
See attachment (D.1)

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Fair Housing
GOAL #3

Resident/Participant Services Expansion/Communication Enhancements
See attachment (D.1)

GOAL #4

Seeking additional funding from the City of Lowell to develop & preserve affordable housing within the city. (D.1)

Instructions for Preparation of Form HUD-50075-ST 5-Year PHA Plan for All PHAs

A. PHA Information. All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR § 903.4)

A.1 Include the full **PHA Name**, **PHA Code**, **PHA Fiscal Year Beginning** (MM/YYYY), **Five-Year Period** that the Plan covers, i.e. 2024-2029, **PHA Plan Submission Type**, and the **Availability of Information**, specific location(s) of all information relevant to the hearing and proposed PHA Plan.

PHA Consortia: Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete the table.

B. Plan Elements.

B.1 Mission. State the PHA's mission for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families in the PHA's jurisdiction for the next five years. (24 CFR § 903.6(a)(1))

B.2 Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA's quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families for the next five years. (24 CFR § 903.6(b)(1))

B.3 Progress Report. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan. (24 CFR § 903.6(b)(2))

B.4 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA's goals, activities objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. (24 CFR § 903.6(a)(3)).

C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.

C.1 Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan. For modifications resulting from the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, refer to the 'Sample PHA Plan Amendment' found in Notice PIH-2012-32, REV 2.

C.2 Resident Advisory Board (RAB) comments.

(a) Did the public or RAB have comments?

(b) If yes, submit comments as an attachment to the Plan and describe the analysis of the comments and the PHA's decision made on these recommendations. (24 CFR § 903.17(b), 24 CFR § 903.19)

C.3 Certification by State or Local Officials.

Form HUD-50077-SL, *Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan*, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.

C.4 Required Submission for HUD FO Review.

Challenged Elements.

(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?

(b) If yes, include such information as an attachment to the Annual PHA Plan or 5-Year PHA Plan with a description of any challenges to Plan elements, the source of the challenge, and the PHA's response to the public.

D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

(Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

D.1 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. The PHA will use the answer blocks in item D.1 to provide a statement of its strategies and actions to implement each fair housing goal outlined in its accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5) that states, in relevant part: "To implement goals and priorities in an AFH, strategies and actions shall be included in program participants' ... PHA Plans (including any plans incorporated therein) ... Strategies and actions must affirmatively further fair housing ..." Use the chart provided to specify each fair housing goal from the PHA's AFH for which the PHA is the responsible program participant – whether the AFH was prepared solely by the PHA, jointly with one or more other PHAs, or in collaboration with a state or local jurisdiction – and specify the fair housing strategies and actions to be implemented by the PHA during the period covered by this PHA Plan. If there are more than three fair housing goals, add answer blocks as necessary.

Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA will not have to complete section D.; nevertheless, the PHA will address its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing in part by fulfilling the requirements at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(3) enacted prior to August 17, 2015, which means that it examines its own programs or proposed programs; identifies any impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; and maintain records reflecting these analyses and actions. Furthermore, under Section 5A(d)(15) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, a PHA must submit a civil rights certification with its Annual PHA Plan, which is described at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(1) except for qualified PHAs who submit the Form HUD-50077-CR as a standalone document.

This information collection is authorized by Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act, which added a new section 5A to the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, which introduced the 5-Year PHA Plan. The 5-Year PHA Plan provides the PHA's mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families and the progress made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 1.64 hours per year per response or 8.2 hours per response every five years, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Privacy Act Notice. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality.

ATTACHMENT (B.2a)

2025-2029 LHA FIVE-YEAR GOALS

Goals for 2025-2029	
Physical Facilities	
1. Creation of a mixed-use development on the Merrimack St. Corridor through the non-profit Revitalization Effort Toward New Urbanism (RENU). The Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) plans to build up to one-hundred-eighteen (118) units of affordable housing. Sixty (60) units will be set aside for PBV. Twenty (20) VASH, and up to twenty-five (25) Faircloth to RAD.	
2. LHA has completed the relocation of eighty-five (85) resident occupied units. There are currently 2 remaining units left, both are vacant and will remain vacant until disposed.	
3. The Lowell Housing Authority plans to complete the final phase of River's Edge on the Concord Development, by constructing up to thirty-two (32) 3-bedroom condominium homeownership units, to be sold to families with income between 80-100% AMI.	
4. As opportunities arise, LHA will federalize State Public Housing developments up to twenty (20) units under the Faircloth Amendment.	
5. As part of LHA's ongoing Capital Plan, we will continue to address aging infrastructure, including roofs, elevators, underground pipes/electrical conduit, and other major building systems.	
6. Revitalization of the Hadley House, a historic home in which the LHA intends to establish a supportive housing program for Veterans. LHA is pursuing the land title, currently pending the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) approval. Once approved, LHA will comply with Chapter 37 review to determine the structural integrity.	

Physical Facilities	
7. LHA plans to implement energy efficient and conservation tools that include networked geothermal heating/cooling systems, microgrids, that are part of an electrification program (removing local natural gas systems), electric vehicles, and, especially building envelope security. Multiple government agencies are releasing grant funds for such programs, including EPA, HUD, U.S. DoE, and U.S. Treasury tax incentives that government agencies may apply for and through counterintuitive, must nonetheless file a tax return to apply. LHA plans to enter into a feasibility study contract to identify building upgrade goals consistent with the new funding sources.	
8. LHA plans to surplus the non-resident federal land of 0.5 acres, located on 39 Quimby St. for development of new affordable housing.	
9. LHA plans to increase the number of handicap accessible units for elderly and disabled developments.	
10. The LHA plans to take full advantage of HUD's climate resilience grant fund. Our 5-year plan includes the following, but not limited to: a) Clean backup power. b) Floodproofing. c) Subsurface stormwater storage. d) Wind-and impact-resistant windows. e) Rainwater/greywater collection systems. f) Fire resistant roof, windows, & fencing.	
Management Operations	
11. Continue to provide training on new technology developments among all staff members for secure information storage and streamlining of administrative processes.	
12. LHA is in the process of converting resident files from paper to digital.	
13. LHA will provide ongoing training for management/facilities staff of any updated HUD regulations, including the new HOTMA regulations, NSPIRE inspection and Fair Housing Section 504 and FHA Compliance.	

Management Operations	
14. A new Exposure Control Plan has been written, approved by the BOD, shared and available at our facilities, included as part of our onboarding for new hires and reviewed annually by the Safety Committee.	
15. LHA plans to establish an on-line housing/section 8 resident portal for use to the general public.	
16. Expand grant writing and apply for additional funding from various sources to continue sustainability of the agency.	
17. Improve job performance at all levels and holding staff accountable for inadequate performance output.	
18. Continue to recruit and hire qualified minority applicants to expand diversity within the agency.	
19. In the attempt to increase more affordable housing in the city of Lowell, LHA plans to pursue additional project-based units by collaborating with private owners within the Lowell community.	
20. LHA plans to expand the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program participants up to 80.	
21. LHA plans to increase the Section 8 homeownership program, up to 30+ participants within the next 5 years.	
22. LHA plans to request more VASH vouchers from the local veteran affairs medical center to provide affordable housing for our veterans within the community.	
23. LHA will update the Personnel Policy manual for employees and new hire distribution.	
24. LHA plans to amend the Section 8 project based administrative plan, allowing the PHA and the owner to add units by mutual agreement without competitive selection as described in PIH 2017-21.	

Client Services	
25. LHA is establishing a Resident Service Division that provides additional services for our residents in public housing as well as Section 8 program participants.	
26. Create a set-aside of Housing Choice Vouchers for public housing residents participating in the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program and ready for homeownership.	
27. Collaborate with area non-profits organizations to identify additional services suitable for our resident/program participants.	
28. LHA to expand resident communications with ADA compliant web site, designed to improve resident accountability and improve lease enforcements.	

FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS

In an attempt to preserve and provide quality affordable housing within the city, the Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) established the Five-Year Capital Plan to address aging infrastructure including; building envelopes, underground piping, elevators, utility infrastructure and substantial renovation of the living quarters.

1. Roofs. Multiple roofing projects are planned in multi-phases at North Common Village, South Common Village and Centralville Gardens. The scopes generally address other building envelope repairs, such as window replacements. Roof replacements are the starting point for these envelope projects.

- a.) North Common Village (“NCV,” AMP1): Phased roofing and envelope projects in each of the five-years. General scope includes Roofs (asphaltic shingles, sheathing as needed with insulation and moisture protecting membrane), Dormer Panels, Louvre and Light Replacements/Gable End Repairs/Overhangs/Gutters, Brick Repointing, Brick Fill-In, Window Replacement/Repairs, Thermal Envelope, Moisture Protect and Control Repointing. The project will start in 2024 through 2029, beginning with units on Adams Street and moving each year though Market Street, Fenwick Terrace, Hancock Street, Garin Terrace, Lewis Street, Conlon Street, Suffolk Street and O’Brien Terrace. Window replacements are also planned. In tandem with these HUD-funded projects, in April 2024 we applied to the U.S. E.P.A. with two other housing authorities for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) to fund as many of these NCV roof/envelope projects as possible and replace row house boilers. The LHA portion of the grant is up to \$8M. The grant would allow us to redirect HUD CFP funds to other infrastructure projects.
- b.) Centralville Gardens (AMP4) Roof and Window Replacements. To address the building envelope at 111 Hildreth Street, a roof replacement is in the design phase starting in April 2024, with the roof project addressed in the FFY2023 budget. Window and door replacements are currently funded in FFY2025.
- c.) South Common Village (AMP3) high-rise flat, EPDM roof replacements are funded in FFY2025 (227 Gorham Street) Other buildings may be identified in the annual plans going forward, an additional building is carried in the FFY2027 budget.

2. Elevator Upgrades. The LHA elevators have long been targeted as past their lifecycle and require replacement based upon a feasibility study produced in 2019-2020. Up to this point (April 2024), we have replaced the elevators at 111 Hildreth Street, 43 Summer Street, 50 Summer Street, and 227 Gorham Street. The next elevator bid under FFY2022 funds are at 145 and 183 Gorham Street, which we expect to award in April 2024. The 198

South Street elevators may be financed with city funds during FFY2024. The 130 and 174 South Street, and 65 Summer Street elevators are scheduled for funding in FFY2025. The 2019-2020 feasibility study and current maintenance reports will assist use in determining when and the order in which elevators at Francis Gatehouse Mill (735 Broadway St.), City View Towers (637 Merrimack St.), and Belvidere Heights (117-137 High St.).

In tandem with elevator upgrades, the LHA will identify units that need substantial renovation and will complete the necessary upgrades accordingly.

3. Underground Pipes and Utility Lines. Pipe infrastructure for heat, domestic hot water, sewer, and gas. In most cases, we have original pipelines that are 80 years old at AMP1, 70 years old at AMP3 and other sites. We must step up this work to avoid failures that will result in emergency remediation, which could include temporary above-ground pipeline installations.

- a.) North Common Village (“NCV,” AMP1, Phase 2) Two rounds of work have been completed at NCV. The first was in 2017 by Force Account Labor (plumbers) at Market and Dummer Streets (Themeles Square). For this ongoing infrastructure replacement, after pipe replacements on 402-408 Adams Street were completed in April 2024, the next round is funded in FFY2024 for also at NCV. ARPA is supplementing capital funds for NCV pipeline engineering design in 2024.
- b.) City View Towers (AMP4, Phase 3) is funded in FFY2025.
- c.) Location TBD funded in FFY2027 (Phase 4)

4. Electrical Redistribution (AMP2, Phase 2. AMP3, Phases 3a through potentially Phase 3e).

- a.) Highland Parkway Electrical Redistribution (AMP2, Phase 2) will be bid with FFY2023 funds.
- b.) South Common Village Electrical Redistribution (AMP3, Phase 3). Most of the high-rise apartments need to be rewired to bring them up to code. The 2023 estimate to do this is \$22,000 each, in total, about \$5M. This will have to be done in four or five phases over time, or as units are individually renovated. The initial phase is carried in FFY2028. 11 units were rewired in 2024 due to circuitry issues during the Electrical Redistribution project, Phase 2.

5. Federalization of state “705-3” family sites¹ to the federal HUD portfolio. 40-58 Dublin Street (10 “705-2” family units) federalization preparation was completed, and an application was submitted to HUD on February 20, 2024. The next state properties we may address for federalization are 189 Walker Street (12 “705-3” family units) and 51 Lane Street (8 “705-3” family units).

6. Other Major Building Systems (MacRitchie HVAC Study, EV Charging Stations)

- a.) City View Towers (“CVT,” AMP4). The LHA contracted with MacRitchie Engineering, Inc. to conduct an HVAC update feasibility study in 2022. The original intent was to determine the potential for unit air conditioning installation. Multiple HVAC items are addressed with cost estimates (in 2022 dollars), and several include multiple options and recommendations for best practices and current code requirements. A budget allowance is identified in FFY2025.
 - i). A building-wide corridor and stairwell smoke evacuation system with associated fire alarm updates.
 - ii). IT Room and ground floor split cooling only air conditioning split system
 - iii). Basement area air handling units (support any new construction / basement build-out after demolition and cleaned former office area “shell space.”
 - iv). Community Room Ventilation System update to replace the c.2010 units as required for the room size under current air quality standards.
 - v). Apartment kitchen ventilation upgrades (all units), two options provided.
 - vi). Apartment bathroom exhaust upgrades (all), two options provided.
 - vii). Ground-floor offices (executive & property offices) – condensate drain pan & line inspection for clogs, ductwork cleaning.
 - viii). Basement trash room – continuously running inline exhaust fan to eliminate trash odors throughout basement and trash chute.

- b.) Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations (AMP2, Highland Parkway). Consistent with the LHA and approach to sustainable programs and projects, we are placing a funding marker in the FFY2025 for electric vehicle charging stations that will help support state requirements for such infrastructure.

ATTACHMENT (B.2b)

FFY24-28 Balanced Budget for BOC

6/6/24 BOC FINAL

FFY2024	\$4,489,869
ADA CONVERSIONS @ SCV	\$906,000
ID 0115 NCV (254 -262, 284-292, 312-320 Adams St) Roofs (3), Dormer Panels, Louvre and Light Replacements/Gable End Repairs/Overhangs/Gutters, Brick Repointing, Brick Fill-In (abandoned bathroom windows), Window Replacement/Repairs, Thermal Elevelope, Moisture Protect and Control Repointing, PH1	\$884,736
FGH Mailroom and Assistant Property Manager's Office	\$125,000
Mircom intercom replacements, AMP1 - all buildings	\$243,883
HPW Electrical Redistribution	\$644,000
SCV Elevator Upgrades (198 South) (AMP3)	\$0
Pipe Infrastructure. Heat, water, sewer, gas. AMP1, NCV PHASE2 (FAL)	\$1,100,000
ID 0112 SCV Unit Asbestos Removal	\$80,000
Centralville Gardens Generator, 1-19	\$156,250
Harold Hartwell Court 25-35 Temple St.Seating Area,Parking upgrade.MA 1-7	\$350,000
FFY2025 (Roofs and Elevators prioritized)	\$4,489,869
360-362, 374-380, 402 - 408, 430-438 Adams Street Roofs (4), Dormer Panels, Louvre and Light Replacements/Gable End Repairs/Overhangs/Gutters, Brick Repointing, Brick Fill-In (abandoned bathroom windows), Window Replacement/Repairs, Thermal Elevelope, Moisture Protect and Control Repointing, PH2/3	\$1,250,000
AMP2 EV Charging Stations	\$250,000
CVT MacRitchie HVAC Mechanical Feasibility Study Results, Programmable fire alarm devices with smoke evacuation system	\$250,000
SCV Roof Replacement EPDM (AMP3 227 Gorham)	\$515,000
Centralville Gardens Ex. Doors, Window Replacements MA 1-19	\$250,000
Pipe Infrastructure. Heat, water, sewer, gas. AMP1,2,3 or 4 (FAL) PH3	\$125,000
SCV Unit Asbestos Removal	\$80,000
SCV Elevator Upgrade - 130 South Street	\$511,697
SCV Elevator Upgrade - 174 South Street	\$466,780
SCV Elevator Upgrades -65 Summer St.	\$678,306
FGH Site Work (6,316 sqft) - Parking	\$173,433
FFY2026 (Roofs and Elevators prioritized)	\$4,489,869
638-642, 598-604, 588-506, 560-569 Market Street Roofs (4), Dormer Cheeks and Sidewall, Repointing, Brick Fill-In (abandoned bathroom windows?) PH2/3	\$1,250,000
AMP4 Outdoor patio off Common Room, Belvidere Heights	\$155,051
NCV Market Street Retaining Wall & Concrete Stairs	\$300,000
FGM K&B Modernizations Phase 5 (8 units deferred from FFY21) MA 1-11	\$520,011
AMP3 Hazardous Material Testing & Mitigation (MA1-4, Faulkner radon)	\$67,807
SCV Unit Asbestos Removal	\$80,000
HPW K&B Modernization Phase 7 (~6 units)	\$460,000
Suffolk Street Roof Replacements/Overhangs/Gutters	\$432,000
Remaining NCV Windows coordinated with roof replacements	\$250,000

FFY24-28 Balanced Budget for BOC (continued)

6/6/24 BOC FINAL

AMP 4 - 117-137 High St. (Belvidere Heights), Mechanical bathroom ventilation	\$325,000
AMP 4 - 117-137 High St. (Belvidere Heights), Window Replacements / Patio Sliders	\$650,000
FFY2027 (Roofs and Elevators prioritized)	\$4,489,869
2-6, 8-12 Fenwick Terrace Roof Replacements/Gable End, Dormer Cheeks and Sidewall, Brick Repointing and In-Fill (abandoned bathroom windows) Repairs/Overhangs/Gutters PH4	\$1,150,000
Pipe Infrastructure. Heat, water, sewer, gas. AMP 1,2,3 or 4 (FAL)	\$156,140
NCV Unit Renovations (FAL)	\$65,000
NCV, Fenwick Terrace Interior Stair Drains (CSO/Wastewater Utility)	\$90,000
NCV, Walk-ups (AMP1) Repair/Replace Interior Steel Stairs	\$140,000
NCV Window Frame, Sills, Bucks & Panning Repair/Replacement, Abatement (Walk Ups)	\$600,000
SCV Reduced Pressure Zone (RPZ) Backflow Preventors	\$272,633
SCV Roof Replacement EPDM, ~6,000SF, elevator penthouse cladding (ACM encapsulation)	\$400,000
AMP4 All Buildings (4) RPZ Backflow Preventors	\$200,000
FGM K&B Modernizations Phase 6 (8 units) MA 1-11	\$520,011
AMP4 Centralville Gardens & Francis Gatehouse Carpet Removal, LVT Tile (FAL)	\$150,000
Centralville Gardens Paving & Striping, EV Charging Stations	\$274,629
AMP4 Centralville Gardens Emergency Generator (100kW +/-)	\$171,456
AMP4 Camera Upgrades, Centralville Gardens, Francis Gatehouse, Belvidere Heights	\$250,000
AMP4 Belvidere Heights: Fayette Street parking lot water main replacement	\$50,000
FFY2028	\$4,489,869
ID 0113 NCV (2-20, 32-50 Hancock St. & 1-19, 21-39 Garin Ter. (4) Roof Replacements , Dormer Cheeks and Sidewall, Repointing, Brick Fill-In (abandoned bathroom windows) Repairs/Overhangs/Gutters PH5	\$2,000,000
Belvidere Heights (1-5) CVT Water - Fire - Sprinkler Main Repairs	\$20,000
SCV Electrical Redistribution Phase 3-Apartment branch circuit, fire alarm upgrades (multiple phases. Est. \$19K per apartment)	\$1,829,370
NCV Window Replacements (Row Houses)(FAL Painting)	\$190,499
CVT Brick Façade Moisture Study/Refastening	\$450,000
FFY2029	\$4,489,869
NCV Lewis, Suffolk St. Roof Replacements/Overhangs/Gutters (MA1-1) (PH6or7)	\$1,750,000
NCV Lewis, O'Brien, Conlon Roof Replacements/Gable End, Dormer Cheeks and Sidewall, Brick Repointing and In-Fill (abandoned bathroom windows) Window Repair/Replacement, Thermal Envelope PH4 Repairs/Overhangs/Gutters (MA1-1) PH6 or 7	\$1,750,000
HPW Site Improvements-runoff/drainage at 580 Chelmsford rear slope	\$162,500
HPW K&B Modernization (~12 units) Phase 8	\$827,369

ATTACHMENT (B.3)

2020-2024 LHA FIVE-YEAR GOALS PROGRESS MADE IN YEAR 5 (FY 2024) OF THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Goals for Year 1 2020-2024	2024
Physical Facilities:	
1. Creation of a mixed-use development on the site of the Mercier Center or other locations within the city through the non-profit Revitalization Effort Toward New Urbanism (RENU). The LHA received approval for the Special Application Center (SAC) of HUD. In August 2018 for the disposition of 87 scattered site units under AMP2. The LHA will dispose of these units in accordance with the directive issued by the SAC at HUD.	<p><i>LHA is in the process of pursuing the mixed used development on the site of the Mercier Center and other locations within the City of Lowell through the non-profit Revitalization Effort Toward New Urbanism (RENU).</i></p> <p><i>To date, LHA has disposed of 85 units, with 2 remaining of the total 87 scattered site units under AMP2. LHA in the process of disposed the remaining 2 units.</i></p>
2. Relocation of residents occupying scattered site units who choose to move to other public housing or lease with a private landlord utilizing a Housing Choice Voucher.	<p><i>LHA has completed the relocation of 85 resident occupied units. There are currently 2 remaining units left, one is family occupied, one is vacant. Once the 2 remaining units are disposed of, LHA will proceed with relocating the family.</i></p>
3. Complete housing development at the River's Edge on the Concord.	<p><i>LHA is currently awaiting legislative amendment approval.</i></p>
4. As opportunities arise, LHA will federalize State Public Housing developments based on the number of available units under the Faircloth Amendment. The LHA is currently in process of Federalizing 11 units that have been approved by the State and HUD.	<p><i>LHA is in the process of Federalizing 10 State- aided housing units located at 40-58 Dublin St. LHA has submitted the application to HUD pending completion of HUD review.</i></p>
5. Establish a comprehensive capital plan to address aging roofs, elevators, and other building systems	<p><i>Roofs, elevators, and other building systems addressed.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(b) Roof replacement at 111 Hildreth Street (MA1-19), Centralville Gardens now started in the FFY2022 budget for design.</i> <i>(c) Roof replacement at South Common Village high rises, esp. 227 Gorham and others. 227 Gorham is budgeted in the new 5-year plan 2025.</i> <i>(d) Multiple phases of almost all roofs at North Common Village. Laura developed a chart of priorities based on Brian Dean's observations. This also includes building envelope weatherproofing: brick pointing, widow replacements, etc.</i> <i>(e) We have an elevator feasibility study that ordered the replacements by priority. Of the 18 elevators, we have replaced:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>111 Hildreth St.</i> <i>43 Summer St</i> <i>50 Stackpole St.</i>

	<p>227 Gorham St 50 Summer St (2 cars)</p> <p>(f) Next elevators are 183 and 145 Gorham St. and 198 South St. FFY22, 23, 24 and ARPA funding.</p> <p>(g) Elevators at 65 Summer, 130 and 174 South St will follow.</p> <p>(h) We will then start looking at the AMP4 elevators.</p> <p>LHA hired Ameresco to replace boilers, lighting, and air handlers for most federal buildings. LHA is seeking grants to cover those we can't fund by HUD or other means. AMP1 domestic hot water boiler replacements are under contract via CDBG funds and mobilizing in April 2024. LHA also replacing hot water pipes in phases at AMP1, this needs to be done at most developments.</p>
<p>6. Revitalization of the Hadley House, a historic home in which the LHA intends to establish a supportive housing program for Veterans. This is contingent upon the award of site control by the City of Lowell.</p>	<p>The Hadley House is currently located at 719 Broadway St. LHA owns the physical structure; however, the land is owned by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). LHA is pursuing the land title, currently pending DCR approval. Once approved, LHA will comply with Chapter 37 review to determine the structural integrity.</p>
<p>7. Explore the technology behind, and benefits of, the creation of Smart Buildings for better efficiencies and cost savings.</p>	<p>Facilities Management drive the train when it comes to "Smart Building Technology." It starts with data and that data drives the decision for retrofits, computer operations, training, and maintenance. Centralized or decentralized DDC Controllers (Direct Digital Control) , sensors, software, and the blend of virtual and automated maintenance (such as with building climate technologies), and management team drive dynamic services, and can be responsive to building needs and occupants. These are commonplace in new 21st century schools and hospitals, for example. The cost benefits, if maintained properly, can yield up to 20% maintenance cost reductions.</p>
<p>8. Determine if implementation of the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program is feasible for the preservation of public housing properties.</p>	<p>Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program. After closely evaluating the pros and cons based on the demographic within our community, the LHA reached the conclusion that it would be in the best interest of our residents and the Lowell community to postpone the RAD conversion to a later date. Not to further explore.</p>

Goals for Year 1 2020-2024 Physical Facilities:	2024
9. Research energy programs for the replacement of building systems and structural fixtures for increase energy efficiencies.	<i>LHA is moving forward and continuing research for networked geothermal heating/cooling systems, and electrification program (reducing/eliminating natural gas carbon footprint) that is part of the state decarbonization program set for 2050. In a steady path toward this goal, the LHA completed a 20-year photovoltaic net metering credit contract for about 70% of its power supply (7.4MW) in 2014, photovoltaic hot water supply at AMP2 in 2022, and continues with the electrification process at the Faulkner Street apartments. This year, we won a grant for geothermal feasibility for the Merrimack Street Corridor project and applied for \$8M in decarbonization funding for North Common Village in a partnership with the Boston and Chelsea Housing Authorities.</i>
10. Revise the Mission Statement to reflect the goals and priorities of the agency.	<i>Lowell Housing Authority mission statement has been revised.</i> <i>The Lowell Housing Authority team, working in partnership with other housing providers, local government, nonprofit organizations, provide quality housing and a variety of social service programs that assist residents in achieving their highest level of self-sufficiency.</i>
11. Incorporate data driven decisions making in all areas of the Authority's operation.	<i>LHA hired a Data Analyst to prepare reports necessary for management utilization and decision making.</i>
12. Increase the use of technology among all staff members for secure information storage and streamlining of administrative processes.	<i>LHA implemented the use of mobile devices to implement administrative processes for work orders, inspections, digitizing applications, resident files, resident certifications, and other documents. Leasing department and waitlist is now completed.</i>
13. Update maintenance procedures for a more efficient operation and explore possible outsourcing of work through privatization.	<i>The LHA has implemented a mobile work order process whereby maintenance staff in the field can initiate or receive a work order utilizing an electronic device. The LHA has moved to SMART technology. All new maintenance staff are trained on the new mobile work order app. The LHA has established contracts for plumbing work that is requested after normal business hours. The LHA is looking to outsource unit turnovers in buildings where elevators are being replaced.</i>

Goals for Year 1 2020-2024 Management Operations:	2024
14. Restructure the Organizational Chart and update job descriptions and the Personnel policy to reflect the Authority/s needs.	<i>LHA reorganized the agency with a new organization chart and job descriptions according to the needs of the agency.</i>
15. Continue the rebranding efforts of the agency. This will include increasing staff participation on local non-profit boards and expanding social media efforts to reach new stakeholders, residents, and the general public.	<p><i>LHA has completed its rebranding efforts, that include renaming developments, creation of a new logo, and signage throughout all the developments and LHA vehicles. LHA encourages all employees to get involved with local Non-Profit organizations. Several LHA employees have been appointed to local Non-Profit Organization Boards including the City of Lowell Zoning Board of Appeals, Greater Lowell Food Pantry, Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, Common Ground Development, Red Cross Board of Directors, Pawtucketville Citizens Board Council, Meghan's House, Kaitlyn Kazanjian Foundation, and the City of Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust.</i></p> <p><i>LHA has also created a new Resident Services/Communications Director position. The Resident Service/Communications Director is also a Board Member for the local Non-Profit Alliance, which is made up of several area non-profit organizations. The Resident Service/Communications Director working with other LHA staff, is designing a new website and increasing our social media presence in an effort to expand outreach to residents, stakeholders, and the general public.</i></p>
16. Expand grant writing efforts for the sustainability of the agency.	<i>The Authority continuously seeks out grant opportunities. We have contracted with a third party for grant writing services. In addition, we are working with the City of Lowell to identify and apply for additional funding. We also work closely with Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) to identify additional grant opportunities.</i>
17. Improve job performance at all levels and holding staff accountable for inadequate performance output. Increase resident accountability through increased communication and better lease enforcement.	<i>LHA Human Resources department, developed in 2023, has been established to oversee various aspects of the employment process, including recruitment, interviewing job applicants and placement of newly hired workers. The department also handles compensation, benefits, training, and employee relations that also includes performance disciplinary actions.</i>
Goals for Year 1 2020-2024 Management Operations:	2024
18. Continue to recruit and hire qualified minority applicants to expand diversity within the agency.	<i>2022 - LHA hired a total of Nine (9) qualified employees. Seven (7) were minorities and included Four (4) Females: Three (3) were Hispanic, Two (2) were Black and Two (2) were of Asian descent.</i>

	<p><i>LHA had a need to advertise for a new Executive Director to take office in 2023. A total of 229 applicants applied through 7 different advertisements/online sources. The top Three (3) candidates were all minorities (1 Black, 1 Asian and 1 Hispanic/Female), all 3 were interviewed in public and asked identical questions in the interview process.</i></p> <p><i>2023 - LHA hired a total of Sixteen (16) qualified employees. Again, seven (7) were minorities and included Four (4) Females: Four (4) were Hispanic and Three (3) were Asian. In addition, LHA promoted Seven (7) employees (Four (4) were Female) of which Three (3) were Asian and One (1) was Black.</i></p> <p><i>LHA Board of Directors and HUD approved a five-year contract awarded to our highly qualified new ED who is of Asian descent.</i></p> <p><i>2024 - To date (January 2024 – March 2024) LHA has hired Four (4) qualified employees including Two (2) Females: Two (2) are Hispanic. In addition, LHA promoted Five (5) employees(all 5 are females) of which Two (2) are Hispanic and One (1) is Asian.</i></p>
<p>19. Expand and monitor staff development to increase productivity and ensure compliance with program regulations.</p>	<p><i>To improve and increase productivity and compliance, LHA provides staff with on-the-job training, online training. OSHA, NSPIRE, Rent calculation etc.</i></p>
<p>Goals for Year 1 2020-2024 Client Services</p>	<p>2024</p>
<p>20. Create a set-aside of housing Choice Vouchers for Public Housing residents graduating out of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program and ready for homeownership.</p>	<p><i>LHA set 5 vouchers aside for any public housing resident who participated in Self-Sufficiency Programs that allows them to pursue homeownership. Participants must graduate from programs.</i></p>
<p>21. Establish definitive protocols for communication information to applicants/residents in order to provide better customer service.</p>	<p><i>LHA is in the final stage of completing a new robust website, designed with ease of use for applicants/residents/employees. The site will be ADA compliant. The updated navigation will include a search mechanism with an improved layout, forms, downloads and contact information for customer service. Also include will be an alert banner for emergencies purposes accessible on all devices.</i></p>
<p>Goals for Year 1 2020-2024 Client Services</p>	<p>2024</p>
<p>22. Collaborate with area non-profits in the development of programs and activities for resident youth advancement.</p>	<p><i>LHA has successfully collaborated with non-profit organizations to expand the services for our residents and program participants. This includes working with MassHire for job training and employment opportunities, Alternative House Agency for women facing domestic violence, Merrimack valley food bank to help feed those in need. Merrimack housing partnership.</i></p>

ATTACHMENT (B.4)

Violence Against Women (VAWA) Goals

The Lowell Housing Authority Property Management Team initiated the process of notifying all residents of the established VAWA Policy. Residents are provided with a copy of the Emergency Transfer Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking, at the time of Resident Orientation. This document has been translated into Spanish and Khmer, for those requiring translation. The Transfer Policy has been amended to provide victims with an Emergency Transfer. In addition, residents are provided with contact information of two agencies in Lowell that provide emergency domestic violence counseling, assistance, and support.

In order to assist victims of domestic violence with access to emergency housing, the Authority established a preference for victims of domestic abuse for Public Housing Programs.

LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY EMERGENCY TRANSFER PLAN FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING

Emergency Transfers

Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) is concerned about the safety of its tenants, and such concern extends to tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. In accordance with the Violence Against Women Act (1994),¹ LHA allows tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to request an emergency transfer from the tenant's current unit to another unit. The ability to request a transfer is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.² The ability of LHA to honor such request for tenants currently receiving assistance, however, may depend upon a preliminary determination that the tenant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and on whether LHA has another dwelling unit that is available and is safe to offer the tenant for temporary or more permanent occupancy.

This plan identifies tenants who are eligible for an emergency transfer, the documentation needed to request an emergency transfer, confidentiality protections, how an emergency transfer may occur, and guidance to tenants on safety and security. This plan is based on a model emergency transfer plan published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Federal agency that oversees that the Low Rent Public Housing Program and the Housing Choice Voucher Program is in compliance with VAWA.

Eligibility for Emergency Transfers

A tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as provided in HUD's regulations at 24 CFR part 5, subpart L is eligible for an emergency transfer, if: the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same unit. If the tenant is a victim of sexual assault, the tenant may also be eligible to transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises within the 90-calendar-day period preceding a request for an emergency transfer.

A tenant requesting an emergency transfer must expressly request the transfer in accordance with the procedures described in this plan.

Tenants who are not in good standing may still request an emergency transfer if they meet the eligibility requirements in this section.

Emergency Transfer Request Documentation

To request an emergency transfer; the tenant shall notify LHA's management office and submit a written request for a transfer to the Property Manager's Office located at:

North Common Village, 21 Salem Street, Lowell, MA 01854

George Flanagan Development, 580 Chelmsford Street, Lowell, MA 01851

Bishop Markham Village, 198 South Street, Lowell, MA 01852
Dewey Archambault Towers, 657 Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA 01854
For the Housing Choice Voucher Program:
Division of Leased Housing Programs, 350 Moody Street, Lowell, MA 01854

LHA will provide reasonable accommodations to this policy for individuals with disabilities. The tenant's written request for an emergency transfer should include either:

1. A statement expressing that the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant were to remain in the same dwelling unit assisted under LHA's program; OR
2. A statement that the tenant was a sexual assault victim and that the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the tenant's request for an emergency transfer.

Confidentiality

LHA will keep confidential any information that the tenant submits in requesting an emergency transfer, and information about the emergency transfer, unless the tenant gives LHA written permission to release the information on a time limited basis, or disclosure of the information is required by law or required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance from the covered program. This includes keeping confidential the new location of the dwelling unit of the tenant, if one is provided, from the person(s) that committed an act(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against the tenant. See the Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act For All Tenants for more information about LHA's responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of information related to incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Emergency Transfer Timing and Availability

LHA cannot guarantee that a transfer request will be approved, or how long it will take to process a transfer request. LHA will act as quickly as possible to move a tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to another unit, subject to availability and safety of a unit. If a tenant reasonably believes a proposed transfer would not be safe, the tenant may request a transfer to a different unit. If a unit is available, the transferred tenant must agree to abide by the terms and conditions that govern occupancy in the unit to which the tenant has been transferred. LHA may be unable to transfer a tenant to a particular unit if the tenant has not or cannot establish eligibility for that unit.

If LHA has no safe and available units for which a tenant who needs an emergency is eligible, LHA will assist the tenant in identifying other housing providers who may have safe and available units to which the tenant could move. At the tenant's request, LHA will also assist tenants in contacting the local organizations offering assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are attached to this plan.

Safety and Security of Tenants

Pending processing of the transfer and the actual transfer, if it is approved and occurs, the tenant is urged to take all reasonable precautions to be safe.

Tenants who are or have been victims of domestic violence are encouraged to contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233, or a local domestic violence shelter, for assistance in creating a safety plan. For persons with hearing impairments, that hotline can be accessed by calling 1-800-787-3224 (TTY).

Tenants who have been victims of sexual assault may call the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network's National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800-656-HOPE or visit the online hotline at <https://ohl.rainn.org/online/>.

Tenants who are or have been victims of stalking seeking help may visit the National Center for Victims of Crime's Stalking Resource Center at <https://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>.

Attachment: Local organizations offering assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

[Lowell Housing Authority]

Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act¹

To all Tenants and Applicants

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. VAWA protections are not only available to women but are available equally to all individuals regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.² The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the Federal agency that oversees that **Lowell Housing Authority (LHA)** is in compliance with VAWA. This notice explains your rights under VAWA. A HUD-approved certification form is attached to this notice. You can fill out this form to show that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and that you wish to use your rights under VAWA.”

Protections for Applicants

If you otherwise qualify for assistance under **LHA**, you cannot be denied admission or denied assistance because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Protections for Tenants

If you are receiving assistance under **LHA**, you may not be denied assistance, terminated from participation, or be evicted from your rental housing because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Also, if you or an affiliated individual of yours is or has been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking by a member of your household or any guest, you may not be denied rental assistance or occupancy rights under **LHA** solely on the basis of criminal activity directly relating to that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Affiliated individual means your spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child, or a person to whom you stand in the place of a parent or guardian (for example, the affiliated individual is in your care, custody, or control); or any individual, tenant, or lawful occupant living in your household.

Removing the Abuser or Perpetrator from the Household

LHA may divide (bifurcate) your lease in order to evict the individual or terminate the assistance of the individual who has engaged in criminal activity (the abuser or perpetrator) directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

If LHA chooses to remove the abuser or perpetrator, LHA may not take away the rights of eligible tenants to the unit or otherwise punish the remaining tenants. If the evicted abuser or perpetrator was the sole tenant to have established eligibility for assistance under the program, LHA must allow the tenant who is or has been a victim and other household members to remain in the unit for a period of time, in order to establish eligibility under the program or under another HUD housing program covered by VAWA, or, find alternative housing.

In removing the abuser or perpetrator from the household, LHA must follow Federal, State, and local eviction procedures. In order to divide a lease, LHA may, but is not required to, ask you for documentation or certification of the incidences of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Moving to Another Unit

Upon your request, LHA may permit you to move to another unit, subject to the availability of other units, and still keep your assistance. In order to approve a request, LHA may ask you to provide documentation that you are requesting to move because of an incidence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or

² Housing providers cannot discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. HUD-assisted and HUD-insured housing must be made available to all otherwise eligible individuals regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

stalking. If the request is a request for emergency transfer, the housing provider may ask you to submit a written request or fill out a form where you certify that you meet the criteria for an emergency transfer under VAWA. The criteria are:

(1) You are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If your housing provider does not already have documentation that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, your housing provider may ask you for such documentation, as described in the documentation section below.

(2) You expressly request the emergency transfer. Your housing provider may choose to require that you submit a form or may accept another written or oral request.

(3) You reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your current unit. This means you have a reason to fear that if you do not receive a transfer you would suffer violence in the very near future.

OR

You are a victim of sexual assault and the assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period before you request a transfer. If you are a victim of sexual assault, then in addition to qualifying for an emergency transfer because you reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your unit, you may qualify for an emergency transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises of the property from which you are seeking your transfer, and that assault happened within the 90-calendar-day period before you expressly request the transfer.

LHA will keep confidential requests for emergency transfers by victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and the location of any move by such victims and their families.

LHA's emergency transfer plan provides further information on emergency transfers, and LHA must make a copy of its emergency transfer plan available to you if you ask to see it.

Documenting You Are or Have Been a Victim of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking

LHA can, but is not required to, ask you to provide documentation to "certify" that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Such request from LHA must be in writing, and LHA must give you at least 14 business days (Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays do not count) from the day you receive the request to provide the documentation. LHA may, but does not have to, extend the deadline for the submission of documentation upon your request.

You can provide one of the following to LHA as documentation. It is your choice which of the following to submit if LHA asks you to provide documentation that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

- A complete HUD-approved certification form given to you by LHA with this notice, that documents an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The form will ask for your name, the date, time, and location of the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and a description of the incident. The certification form provides for including the name of the abuser or perpetrator if the name of the abuser or perpetrator is known and is safe to provide.
- A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency that documents the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Examples of such records include police reports, protective orders, and restraining orders, among others.
- A statement, which you must sign, along with the signature of an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, a medical professional or a mental health professional (collectively, "professional") from whom you sought assistance in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of abuse, and with the professional selected by you attesting under penalty of perjury that he or she believes that the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are grounds for protection.

- Any other statement or evidence that LHA has agreed to accept.

If you fail or refuse to provide one of these documents within the 14 business days, LHA does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

If LHA receives conflicting evidence that an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has been committed (such as certification forms from two or more members of a household each claiming to be a victim and naming one or more of the other petitioning household members as the abuser or perpetrator), LHA has the right to request that you provide third-party documentation within thirty 30 calendar days in order to resolve the conflict. If you fail or refuse to provide third-party documentation where there is conflicting evidence, LHA does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

Confidentiality

LHA must keep confidential any information you provide related to the exercise of your rights under VAWA, including the fact that you are exercising your rights under VAWA.

LHA must not allow any individual administering assistance or other services on behalf of LHA (for example, employees and contractors) to have access to confidential information unless for reasons that specifically call for these individuals to have access to this information under applicable Federal, State, or local law.

LHA must not enter your information into any shared database or disclose your information to any other entity or individual. LHA, however, may disclose the information provided if:

- You give written permission to LHA to release the information on a time limited basis.
- LHA needs to use the information in an eviction or termination proceeding, such as to evict your abuser or perpetrator or terminate your abuser or perpetrator from assistance under this program.
- A law requires LHA or your landlord to release the information.

VAWA does not limit LHA's duty to honor court orders about access to or control of the property. This includes orders issued to protect a victim and orders dividing property among household members in cases where a family breaks up.

Reasons a Tenant Eligible for Occupancy Rights under VAWA May Be Evicted or Assistance May Be Terminated

You can be evicted and your assistance can be terminated for serious or repeated lease violations that are not related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking committed against you. However, LHA cannot hold tenants who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to a more demanding set of rules than it applies to tenants who have not been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

The protections described in this notice might not apply, and you could be evicted and your assistance terminated, if LHA can demonstrate that not evicting you or terminating your assistance would present a real physical danger that:

- 1) Would occur within an immediate time frame, and
- 2) Could result in death or serious bodily harm to other tenants or those who work on the property.

If LHA can demonstrate the above, LHA should only terminate your assistance or evict you if there are no other actions that could be taken to reduce or eliminate the threat.

Other Laws

VAWA does not replace any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. You may be entitled to additional housing protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking under other Federal laws, as well as under State and local laws.

Non-Compliance with The Requirements of This Notice

You may report a covered housing provider's violations of these rights and seek additional assistance, if needed, by contacting or filing a complaint with **Massachusetts Housing and Urban Development, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02222.**

For Additional Information

You may view a copy of HUD's final VAWA rule at www.hud.gov.

Additionally, LHA must make a copy of HUD's VAWA regulations available to you if you ask to see them.

For questions regarding VAWA, please contact **Dennis Mercier, Management/Facilities Director at (978) 364-5314**.

For help regarding an abusive relationship, you may call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or, for persons with hearing impairments, 1-800-787-3224 (TTY). You may also contact **Alternative House at 888-291-6228**.

For tenants who are or have been victims of stalking seeking help may visit the National Center for Victims of Crime's Stalking Resource Center at <https://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>.

For help regarding sexual assault, you may contact **Alternative House at 888-291-6228**.

Victims of stalking seeking help may contact **Alternative House at 888-291-6228**.

Attachment: Certification form HUD-5382

ATTACHMENT (C.2a)
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LOWELL
LEGAL NOTICE

On April 16, 2024, the Five-Year Plan 2025-2029, Capital Fund Program budget (CFP budget) for Federal Fiscal Years 2024-2028 and the Federal 2024 Annual Plan (AP) revision, of the Lowell Housing Authority (LHA), as required under Sections 511 and 519 of the Federal Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act (QHWRA) of 1998, is available for a forty-five (45), day public review and comment period. The AP and CFP budget will be submitted to the U.S. Department of housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or before July 15, 2024.

On April 16, 2024, the draft State Annual Plan (AP), Capital Improvement Plan Budget (CIP budget) for Massachusetts Fiscal Years 2025-2029 of the Lowell Housing Authority (LHA), is available for a forty-five (45), day public review and comment period. The AP and CIP budget will be submitted to the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) on or before July 31, 2024.

Draft copies of each document are available for review at the LHA Executive Office, located at 350 Moody Street, Lowell, MA during regular business hours and can be found on the website at www.lhma.org. The Executive Office is wheelchair accessible. Reasonable accommodation will be made for person(s) requesting assistance. The Lowell Housing Authority (In-person) Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Mercier Center (21 Salem Street, Lowell, MA). Written/Oral comments will be accepted during the Public Hearing and can be submitted in advance to the Lowell Housing Authority Executive Office until 12:00 p.m. on June 12, 2024.

Hearing locations:

IN-PERSON MEETING
Wednesday, June 12, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.
The Mercier Center
21 Salem Street
Lowell, MA 01854

Anyone seeking further information should contact the LHA at (978 364-5311 (Tel). TDD: 1-800-545-1883, Extension 178.

April 16, 2024

ATTACHMENT (C.2a)

4/11/24, 12:58 PM

Ad portal Self Advertising Confirmation

THANK YOU for your ad submission!

Your ad has been submitted for publication. Below is a confirmation of your ad placement. You will also receive an email confirmation.

ORDER DETAILS

Order Number:

NY0111537

Order Status:

Submitted

Classification:

General Legal Notices & Bids

Package:

Legal MA

Final Cost:

380.95

Payment Type:

Account Billed

User ID:

W0014265

Username:

1379728

ORDER DETAILS

LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY MA Legals

Iris Rivera

LOWELL, MA 01853

978-837-3500

irivera@lhma.org

LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY

TRANSACTION REPORT

DATE

April 11, 2024 12:58:17 PM EDT

Amount:

380.95

SCHEDULE FOR AD NUMBER NY01115370

April 16, 2024

The Lowell Sun Legals

PREVIEW FOR AD NUMBER NY01115370

LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY, LOWELL MA LEGAL NOTICE

On April 16 2024, the Five-Year Plan 2025-2029, Capital Fund Program Budget (CFP budget) for Federal Fiscal years 2024-2028 and the Federal 2024 Annual Plan (AP) revision, of the Lowell Housing Authority (LHA), as required under Section 511 and 519 of the Federal Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act (QHWRA) of 1998, is available for a forty-five (45), day public review and comment period. The AP and CFP budget will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or before July 15, 2024.

On April 16, 2024, the draft State Annual Plan (AP), Capital Improvement Plan Budget (CIP budget) for Massachusetts Fiscal Years 2025-2029 of the Lowell Housing Authority (LHA), is available for a forty-five (45), day public review and comment period. The AP and CIP budget will be submitted to the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) on or before July 31, 2024

Draft copies of each document are available for review at the LHA Executive Office, located on 350 Moody Street, Lowell, MA during regular business hours and can be found on the website at www.lhma.org. The Executive Office is wheelchair accessible. Reasonable accommodations will be made for person(s) requesting assistance. The Lowell Housing Authority (In-person) Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Mercier Center (21 Salem Street, Lowell, MA) Written/Oral comments will be accepted during the Public Hearing and can be submitted in advance to the Lowell Housing Authority Executive Office until 12:00 p.m. on June 12, 2024.

4/16/2

#NY0111537

ATTACHMENT (C.2b)

RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, February 27, 2024
12:00 PM

The (RAB) meeting will be an in-person meeting, and will be taking place at 12:00 pm on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. A copy of the proposed Five-Year Capital Budget is available at www.lhma.org and will be readily available for distribution to all (RAB) member.

AGENDA

1. Welcome / Introductions
2. Annual Plan: Topics for Discussion are as follows:

Tha Chhan, Executive Director

- a) HOTMA Implementation
 - 1) Asset Limitation
 - 2) Calculating Income
 - a) Annual Income
 - b) Income Calculation
 - c) Deduction
 - d) Exclusion
 - e) Other
 - 3) Fair Housing
 - 4) Household Composition and Verification
 - 5) Certification Process

Sherry Giblin, Chief Financial Officer

- b) Increase number of Handicap Accessible Units for Elderly and Disabled Developments
- c) Establish a Resident Services Division to help residents connect with community resources and to provide needed customer service.
- d) Pursue additional funding opportunities through the City of Lowell

Alisen Purtell, Chief Admissions Officer

- e) Section 8 Project Base - Enter into an AHAP
- f) Veteran Housing
- g) Housing/Section 8 Compliance

Kevin Forsley, Director of Admissions

- h) Electronic Application Portal

Dennis Mercier, Management/Facilities Director

- i) NSPIRE/REAC Inspections
- j) Maintenance and Property Management Training
- k) Smoke Detectors

Mark Briere, Administration Assistant to Executive Director

- l) New Development of Affordable Housing Units

Jonathan Goldfield, Capital Asset Management Director

- m) Five-Year Capital Fund Program (CFP) Review

3. Resident Input/Concerns
4. Next Steps

The Lowell Housing Authority will set up a Notice of public Hearing addressing the CFP. We expect the Public Hearing will take place no later than Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at the Mercier Center and plan to advertise in the Lowell Sun on Mid-April.

ATTACHMENT (C.2c)

RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024 2:00 PM

1. Welcome/Introductions

Tha Chhan, Executive Director, opened the meeting at 12:15p.m. by extending a warm welcome to all residents in attendance. He emphasized the significance of resident feedback in the development of the Annual Plan, a component of the agency's five-year strategy. Additionally, he took the opportunity to introduce the staff members present. Please refer to the attached attendance list for further details.

2. Topics for Discussion

Tha Chhan, Executive Director, led the discussion, by addressing the new (HOTMA) Housing Through Modernization Act of 2016 implementation, which will take effect for residents when having to submit/report the necessary paperwork required by the LHA to determine income determinations, recertifications and reexaminations, which will require less paperwork, provides the opportunity for family self-sufficiency, a hardship exemptions for health and medical care expenses, and phased-in relief efforts for participant families affected by the income increase threshold.

Sherry Giblin, Chief Financial Officer, provided a Finance Update, which included having recently received an increase of ROSS Grant funding to fund an additional Resident Service Coordinator for AMP's 2,3, & 4. With the additional funding received, The Lowell Housing Authority will now have 2 Residential Service Coordinators for our Federal properties, and 1 Resident Service Coordinator for our State properties. In addition, Ms. Giblin provided an announcement stating LHA will add a new Resident Service Director to the team. Katie Sadlier, who currently serves as the Jobs Plus Director, will be the new Resident Services Director. In her current role, Katie has forged many relationships within the community to provide needed resources to our residents and we are excited to expand our resident services division to better serve the needs of our residents. Furthermore, Ms. Giblin made mention of the Lowell Housing Authority working towards increasing the number of handicapped accessible units at South Common Village with the goal to increase the number of accessible units by at least 10 within the next 5 years. The plan is to convert three-bedroom units to two-bedroom accessible units utilizing capital funds. Ms. Giblin then announced the Lowell Housing Authority working in collaboration with the City of Lowell to secure additional grant funding. To date we have been awarded \$1. 7M in ARPA funding, which will fund a new elevator at South Common Village, Smoke Detectors at North Common Village, and some underground pipe work at North Common Village. In addition, we have been awarded CDBG grant funds in the amount of \$550,000 to fund new boilers for North Common Village. CDBG funding is an annual grant appropriation to the City of Lowell. We have applied for an additional \$700,000 for this fiscal year's grant to fund a portion of the electrical redistribution project at Highland Parkway. We will continue to work with the City to identify and secure additional funding as it becomes available.

Alisen Purtell, Chief Admissions Officer, led a brief discussion regarding the growth of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program and stated that over the next 5 years, the LHA will expand the program by obtaining two additional positions, these positions will serve more of our resident population by building new community outreach partnerships to help our participants excel in the program and reach their goals successfully. The FSS expansion will a. w our homeownership program to grow as LHA is in the process of increasing the Homeownership Vouchers by adding 3 additional participants per year

over the next 5-years to bring our total voucher count to 30 plus. Furthermore, Ms. Purtell mentioned that LHA will enter into an AHAP for 16 Project Based Vouchers at Jaycee Place in 2024 by entering into a fully executed contract in 2025 for the 16 project-based units. In addition, a goal of the Lowell Housing Authority is to work in conjunction with the Veterans Association in order to receive additional VASH Vouchers to assist veterans with services and housing to help increase our Section 8 Project Based Voucher Program. In addition, Ms. Purtell discussed the need to accurately report our data to (HUD) at a higher accuracy rate. The LHA will add a Fraud Compliance position to bring down the number of fraud cases that the Lowell Housing Authority sees across all programs. Funds collected through our fraud cases directly benefit our agency. Ms. Purtell ended her discussion by stating that LHA will train staff in Reasonable Accommodation to meet the expectations and requirements necessary for our residents.

Kevin Forsley, Director of Admissions, addressed the need for Electronic Application Portals and expressed that LHA is working towards providing electronic application workstations at every AMP, making the process when potential applicants apply, a user-friendly experience.

Dennis Mercier, Management/Facilities Director, led a discussion on NSPIREIREAC Inspections, highlighting the new federal rule proposed by (HUD). This rule aims to establish a unified annual inspection that focuses on the curb appeal of LHA housing units, both inside or outside, with an emphasis on the residents' needs and expectations. Additionally, Mr. Mercier announced a HUD-mandated rule requiring the installation of smoke detectors in every bedroom or primary sleeping area. The LHA plans to begin installing battery-operated smoke detectors in the bedrooms of all housing units starting in May. Moreover, Mr. Mercier noted that the LHA Property Managers and Associate Property Managers are commencing HOTMA Regulation Training, while the Maintenance staff will soon start their required Safety Training.

Tha Chhan, Executive Director led a discussion on the new development of affordable housing units and stated that the LHA plans to complete the work slated to be performed to finish the final phase of the River's Edge on the Concord Development, which will provide up to thirty-two units, to be sold to families with an income of 80-100% AMI. The River's Edge on the Concord Development is awaiting legislature approval. Additionally, Mt. Chhan announced the creation of a mixed-use development on the Merrimack Street Corridor the LHA plans to construct 118 units of affordable housing, of which sixty units will be set aside for PBV, 20 set aside for VASH, and up to 25 Faircloth to Rad.

3. Review of the 5-Year Capital Fund Program (CFP)

Jonathan Goldfield, Capital Asset Director discussed the capital need for Lowell Housing Authority's properties for 2025-2029, and the remaining years of the 5-year capital plan. (Please see attached capital log).

4. Resident Input & Concerns

A discussion had taken place surrounding resident concerns regarding capital projects and other needs. The following is a list of the concerns recorded among residents.

- Request to relocate all Handicapped Accessible Units to 1st Floor in every building.
- Request for protocols to be placed regarding residents who are smoking in their units.
- Camera locations and unauthorized access into the building at City View Towers.
- Cameras and door access: North Common Village.
- Walk areas and repairs at Hancock, Dublin, and O'Brien.

- Parking Lots Lights & Telephone Pole lights: North Common Village, Highland Parkway.
- Concerns for cleaning and removal of dog feces, urine on door - Dog feces bags, signage: Highland Parkway & South Common Village.
- Concerns over Marijuana use designated smoking areas City View Towers.
- Request to repair parking lot potholes - tenants cannot park, trash dumping: Highland Parkway - Temple Street.

5. Next Steps

Tha Chhan, Executive Director, closed the meeting by explaining that resident comments/concerns will be used to formulate both the Annual and 5-year plan moving forward. He invited all residents who participated to join in the public hearing process for the Plan which will be held on (TBD).

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

ATTACHMENT (C.2d)

RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD
SIGN-IN SHEET 2.27.24

	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	ADDRESS
1	Jennifer Das Santos	978-942-1863	Jennifer_d15@hotmail.com
2	Linda Bucksjune	978-427-1640	657 MERRIMACK #115
3	Wayne Scivigny Sr	978-799-4099	657 Merrimack #35
4	PAUL DAVIDSON	(978) 876-4242	36 HANCOCK AVE 13
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			
37			
38			
39			
40			
41			
42			
43			
44			
45			
46			
47			
48			

m
85
76
87
88
10
11
12
13
14
15

- 33 IHA Chan, Executive Director
- 34 Sherry Gubin, Chief Financial Officer
- 35 Cori Willis, Executive Assistant
- 36 Mary Alice Metallone, Program Outreach & Compliance Specialist
- 37 Lisa Krikorian, Capital Administrative Assistant.
- 38 Laura Watts, Capital Asset Manager.
- 39 Sarita Berrias, Property Manager
- 40 Amy Dalton, Property Manager
- 41 Denise
- 42 Virab
- 43 Rosa
- 44 Kevin
- 45 Dennis
- 46 Jonathan
- 47 Alisen
- 48 Katie

ATTACHMENT (C.3)

Certification by State or Local Official of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan (All PHAs)	U. S Department of Housing and Urban Development
	Office of Public and Indian Housing
	OMB No. 2577-0226
	Expires 3/31/2024

**Certification by State or Local Official of PHA Plans
Consistency with the Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan**

I, Thomas Golden, the City Manager
Official's Name *Official's Title*

certify that the 5-Year PHA Plan for fiscal years 2025-2029 and/or Annual PHA Plan for fiscal year _____ of the Lowell Housing Authority is consistent with the
PHA Name

Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan including the Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice or Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) as applicable to the

City of Lowell
Local Jurisdiction Name

pursuant to 24 CFR Part 91 and 24 CFR § 903.15.

Provide a description of how the PHA Plan's contents are consistent with the Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan. See attached.

I hereby certify that all the information stated herein, as well as any information provided in the accompaniment herewith, is true and accurate. **Warning:** HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)

Name of Authorized Official: Thomas Golden	Title: City Manager
Signature: 	Date: <u>7/2/24</u>

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality. This information is collected to ensure consistency with the consolidated plan or state consolidated plan.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 0.16 hours per year per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

ATTACHMENT (C.3a)

Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan and Related Regulations <i>(Standard, Troubled, HCV-Only, and High Performer PHAs)</i>	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing OMB No. 2577-0226 Expires 3/31/2024
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed

Acting on behalf of the Board of Commissioners of the Public Housing Agency (PHA) listed below, as its Chairperson or other authorized PHA official if there is no Board of Commissioners, I approve the submission of the X 5-Year and/ or Annual PHA Plan, hereinafter referred to as "the Plan", of which this document is a part, and make the following certification and agreements with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the PHA fiscal year beginning 2025, in connection with the submission of the Plan and implementation thereof:

1. The Plan is consistent with the applicable comprehensive housing affordability strategy (or any plan incorporating such strategy) for the jurisdiction in which the PHA is located (24 CFR § 91.2).
2. The Plan contains a certification by the appropriate State or local officials that the Plan is consistent with the applicable Consolidated Plan, which includes a certification that requires the preparation of an Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice, or Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) when applicable, for the PHA's jurisdiction and a description of the manner in which the PHA Plan is consistent with the applicable Consolidated Plan (24 CFR §§ 91.2, 91.225, 91.325, and 91.425).
3. The PHA has established a Resident Advisory Board or Boards, the membership of which represents the residents assisted by the PHA, consulted with this Resident Advisory Board or Boards in developing the Plan, including any changes or revisions to the policies and programs identified in the Plan before they were implemented, and considered the recommendations of the RAB (24 CFR 903.13). The PHA has included in the Plan submission a copy of the recommendations made by the Resident Advisory Board or Boards and a description of the manner in which the Plan addresses these recommendations.
4. The PHA provides assurance as part of this certification that:
 - (i) The Resident Advisory Board had an opportunity to review and comment on the changes to the policies and programs before implementation by the PHA;
 - (ii) The changes were duly approved by the PHA Board of Directors (or similar governing body); and
 - (iii) The revised policies and programs are available for review and inspection, at the principal office of the PHA during normal business hours.
5. The PHA made the proposed Plan and all information relevant to the public hearing available for public inspection at least 45 days before the hearing, published a notice that a hearing would be held and conducted a hearing to discuss the Plan and invited public comment.
6. The PHA certifies that it will carry out the public housing program of the agency in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d-2000d-4), the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), and other applicable civil rights requirements and that it will affirmatively further fair housing in the administration of the program. In addition, if it administers a Housing Choice Voucher Program, the PHA certifies that it will administer the program in conformity with the Fair Housing Act, title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other applicable civil rights requirements, and that it will affirmatively further fair housing in the administration of the program.
7. The PHA will affirmatively further fair housing, which means that it will take meaningful actions to further the goals identified in the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) conducted in accordance with the requirements of 24 CFR § 5.150 through 5.180, that it will take no action that is materially inconsistent with its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing, and that it will address fair housing issues and contributing factors in its programs, in accordance with 24 CFR § 903.7(o)(3). The PHA will fulfill the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) and 24 CFR § 903.15(d). Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA will fulfill the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) promulgated prior to August 17, 2015, which means that it examines its programs or proposed programs; identifies any impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; and maintains records reflecting these analyses and actions.
8. For PHA Plans that include a policy for site-based waiting lists:
 - The PHA regularly submits required data to HUD's 50058 PIC/IMS Module in an accurate, complete and timely manner (as specified in PIH Notice 2011-65);

- The system of site-based waiting lists provides for full disclosure to each applicant in the selection of the development in which to reside, including basic information about available sites; and an estimate of the period of time the applicant would likely have to wait to be admitted to units of different sizes and types at each site;
 - Adoption of a site-based waiting list would not violate any court order or settlement agreement or be inconsistent with a pending complaint brought by HUD;
 - The PHA shall take reasonable measures to assure that such a waiting list is consistent with affirmatively furthering fair housing; and
 - The PHA provides for review of its site-based waiting list policy to determine if it is consistent with civil rights laws and certifications, as specified in 24 CFR 903.7(o)(1).
9. The PHA will comply with the prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of age pursuant to the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.
 10. In accordance with 24 CFR § 5.105(a)(2), HUD's Equal Access Rule, the PHA will not make a determination of eligibility for housing based on sexual orientation, gender identify, or marital status and will make no inquiries concerning the gender identification or sexual orientation of an applicant for or occupant of HUD-assisted housing.
 11. The PHA will comply with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 and 24 CFR Part 41, Policies and Procedures for the Enforcement of Standards and Requirements for Accessibility by the Physically Handicapped.
 12. The PHA will comply with the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Employment Opportunities for Low-or Very-Low Income Persons, and with its implementing regulation at 24 CFR Part 135.
 13. The PHA will comply with acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24 as applicable.
 14. The PHA will take appropriate affirmative action to award contracts to minority and women's business enterprises under 24 CFR 5.105(a).
 15. The PHA will provide the responsible entity or HUD any documentation that the responsible entity or HUD needs to carry out its review under the National Environmental Policy Act and other related authorities in accordance with 24 CFR Part 58 or Part 50, respectively.
 16. With respect to public housing the PHA will comply with Davis-Bacon or HUD determined wage rate requirements under Section 12 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.
 17. The PHA will keep records in accordance with 2 CFR 200.333 and facilitate an effective audit to determine compliance with program requirements.
 18. The PHA will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act, the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, and 24 CFR Part 35.
 19. The PHA will comply with the policies, guidelines, and requirements of 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Financial Assistance, including but not limited to submitting the assurances required under 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 107.25 by submitting an SF-424, including the required assurances in SF-424B or D, as applicable.
 20. The PHA will undertake only activities and programs covered by the Plan in a manner consistent with its Plan and will utilize covered grant funds only for activities that are approvable under the regulations and included in its Plan.
 21. All attachments to the Plan have been and will continue to be available at all times and all locations that the PHA Plan is available for public inspection. All required supporting documents have been made available for public inspection along with the Plan and additional requirements at the primary business office of the PHA and at all other times and locations identified by the PHA in its PHA Plan and will continue to be made available at least at the primary business office of the PHA.
 22. The PHA certifies that it is in compliance with applicable Federal statutory and regulatory requirements, including the Declaration of Trust(s).

Lowell Housing Authority

MA001

PHA Name

PHA Number/HA Code

 Annual PHA Plan for Fiscal Year 2025

 5-Year PHA Plan for Fiscal Years 2025 - 2029

I hereby certify that all the information stated herein, as well as any information provided in the accompaniment herewith, is true and accurate. **Warning:** HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802).

Name of Executive Director

Name Board Chairman

Tha Chhan

Mony Var




form HUD-50077-ST-HCV-HP (3/31/2024)

Signature

Date

6/12/2024

Signature

Date

4/12/2024

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality. This information is collected to ensure compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and related laws and regulations including PHA plan elements that have changed.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 0.16 hours per year per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

ATTACHMENT (C.4)



Tha Chhan
Executive Director

Board of Commissioners
Mony Var, Chairperson
Rodney Elliott, Vice Chairperson
Joanie Bernes
Matt Marr
William Samaras

June 27, 2024

I am writing to inform you of the outcomes of the recent Lowell Housing Authority Federal 5-year plan and Annual plan process. The public announcements and notices were advertised in the Lowell Sun utilizing print and online versions on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, with an additional post on the Lowell Housing Authority website to ensure transparency and community participation in this important process. We are pleased to report that a substantial number of residents from the Lowell Housing Authority participated in this year's proceedings.

During the Resident Advisory Board meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 12:00pm, and the subsequent public hearing on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 4:00pm, the Lowell Housing Authority diligently reviewed the proposed plan put forth by the administration. I am pleased to inform you that, following thorough deliberation and feedback from our community members, there were no significant challenges or objectives that were identified in relation to the proposed plan.

This positive outcome underscores the collaborative efforts and commitment of our community members, the Lowell Housing Authority, and the administration in working towards the betterment of our housing programs. We are committed to continuing our efforts to enhance the quality of housing services we provide to the residents of Lowell.

If you have any further questions or require additional information regarding the Federal 5-year plan Annual plan, or our future initiatives, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tha Chhan", is written over a large, light-colored scribble.

Tha Chhan, Executive Director

A Foundation for Stability and Opportunity

350 Moody Street, PO Box 60, Lowell, MA 01853-0060 • Tel 978.937.3500 • Fax 978.937.5758 • TDD 1.800.545.1833 Ext. 178 • www.lhma.org

ATTACHMENT (C.4a)

Lowell Housing Authority
Public Hearing
June 12, 2024

Mercier House
21 Salem Street
Lowell, Massachusetts

Lowell Housing Committee:

Tha Chhan, Executive Director

Sherry Giblin, Chief Financial Officer

Presentations by:

Jonathan Goldfield, Capital Asset Manager

Tha Chhan, Director of Leased Housing

Katie Sadler, Resident Services & Communications Director

Kevin Forsley, Director of Admissions

Dennis Mercier, Management/Facilities Director

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

Mr. Goldfield: Good afternoon,

My name's Jonathan Goldfield. I'm the director of capital asset management for the Lowell Housing Authority. Welcome to our hearing today. There are two hearings being had today. One is our capital fund program and annual plan, and five-year plan for federal budget, which is roughly \$6 million. That's what we spend on our buildings roughly. And also, our state annual plan, five-year and capital improvement plan. Same idea. Same church, different pew, but it's state money as opposed to federal.

Today's meeting is really an open hearing, and what we're to basically do is review what we've done in the past. This is the final public hearing, if you will, for those two documents, and this meeting will conclude around 5:00 p.m. when the Board of Commissioners will be in attendance in full quorum, and that will be on the agenda for both of those items, the federal and the state plans, and budgets will then be voted.

I'm calling the meeting to be open now at seven past four, and I'm going to turn the podium over to our executive director, Mr. Tha Chhan.

Ms. Sadlier: Good Evening, I'm Katie Sadlier, Resident Services & Communications Director. Our team includes Heather Barker and Andrea Hall both Resident Service Coordinators and Kiss Quick, The Self Sufficiency Program Coordinator and State Resident Services Coordinator. Thank you very much for coming to this meeting.

Everyone should have gotten a yellow ticket for a raffle and the end of the meeting. The raffle is for three \$50 Target gift cards. We're going to try to share the information as quickly as possible, because we do have a meeting at 5:00. If anybody would like contact information for each of the resident service coordinators, we're happy to share, please provide any feedback at any point. Thank you.

Mr. Chhan: Well, hello. How is everyone this evening?

Well, thank you for coming. Once again, I don't know if we have met before, but many of you were at the resident advisory board meeting back in March to discuss the five-year plan and the annual plan. So welcome back again. If you weren't here, welcome.

Now, what is the five-year plan? Technically the five-year plan is the policy to serve as the skyline for us. Strategically set in a way for every program, anything to do in the next five years. The five-year plan is consistent with the city consolidated plan. Whatever we do, we need to seek approval from the city manager. The city manager has the final approval. During the process of preparing the five-year plan, we met with the planning committee of the City of Lowell numerous times. We did not initially agree on a few issues but continue to review three important parts of the plan. One is to identify the need of affordable housing in the City. Second is to establish the strategy on how we're going to achieve the increasing demands of affordable housing service here within our city. Third is to come up with a policy or improved policy of fair housing. So that's the five-year plan.

We also have a one-year plan. Technically it's exactly the same thing as the five-year plan. The process is similar. The one-year plan is a short-term goal. Each year we have to establish the goals of the year.

The other plan is the state annual plan. It's the policy that guides us through every year, on what we need to do based on the available funding and based on the need for affordable housing within our city.

At this point I would like to invite Sherry Giblin to map out the component in the five-year plan.

Ms. Giblin: Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Sherry Giblin. I'm the chief financial officer for the Lowell

Housing Authority. As the chief financial officer, I oversee the finance department, the procurement department, the capital asset department, and the newly formed resident services department.

A couple things I would like to highlight included in the five-year plan that I believe would be of interest to most residents. Lowell Housing Authority has identified three-bedroom units that we were having trouble leasing up at South Common Village. We have also identified the need of more handicapped accessible units. In an effort to meet that need, the Housing Authority is proposing to take some of the three-bedroom units that are unoccupied and rehabilitate them, turning them into handicapped accessible two-bedroom units. This is a big project that included as part of the five-year capital project plan.

Next, I'd like to talk about additional funding. I'm not sure if many of you are aware, but the Housing Authority recently received arbor funding from the City of Lowell in the amount of \$1.7 million. This money is going towards multiple projects including elevators, pipe replacement at AMP 1, and smoke detectors at AMP 1. The reason I bring this up is because the Housing Authority is -- as part of our five-year strategic plan, working closely with the City to identify funding sources that the City has, and the Housing Authority could tap into and use. A large portion of the money that flows from HUD to the City is specifically for affordable housing. The Housing Authority wants to work with the City to tap into those resources so that we can provide our residents with much needed upgrades using these additional funding sources. As Jonathan previously mentioned, we have a little over 1,600 federal units, and for 1,600 units we get roughly \$6 million a year. That is not enough to do all the improvements necessary at this time. Both HUD and Lowell Housing Authority recognize this. The Housing Authority is constantly pursuing additional funding sources to continue to provide much needed improvements to our infrastructure and buildings within all of our developments.

Lastly, I'd just like to introduce our new resident services director, Katie Sadlier. The Housing Authority has established a new resident services division. I think most of you are aware that we have had on staff one resident service coordinator, Andrea Hall, who works mainly in our AMP 4 building. We've expanded that department now. We now have Heather Barker, who will be working with our residents at AMP 2, which is Highland Parkway, as well as South Common Village. We also have Kiss Quick who has come on board and will be working with our state resident population. So, without further ado I'd like to introduce our resident services director, Katie Sadlier.

Ms. Sadlier: I just wanted to quickly and say hello again and share that with you that I'm available for you at any point. I'm currently in the process of getting new business cards, but happy to write down my phone number and office location for anyone. I look forward to working with you guys.

Ms. Purtell: Hello, everyone, My name is Alisen Purtell. I am the chief admissions officer, overseeing the Section 8 department and currently the wait list. I'm going to talk a little bit about what is in the five-year plan for my department. Currently the bigger programs and things that are in the five-year plan for my department is; we are actively seeking to enter into an AHAP for potentially up to 16 project-base vouchers. We are looking to secure more affordable housing for the City of Lowell by adding the 16 project-based units within the City.

Project-based vouchers are crucial to ensure affordable housing stays within the City. We are also looking to work with the VA. A goal of the Housing Authority is to work with the VA to secure more VASH vouchers that will potentially be project-based and serve the veterans of the community, providing the veterans with services within the community.

Lastly, the Lowell Housing Authority is always looking for new ways to accurately report our data to HUD. When our data is accurate and reported in a timely manner, we are able to support the residents of the agency at a better rate. In January 2024 we created a new position within the Housing Authority, it is a compliance specialist. This individual has been working with both the Section 8 department and within the AMPs, so all of the AMPs throughout all of your developments and has been reviewing the misreporting of data and income within the Housing Authority. We are working with these departments to ensure that the data is entered into our software as income and annual interim and certifications in vacant units are being reported correctly to HUD monthly. We will continue to utilize and grow this position to ensure we are moving in the right direction to help residents and the Housing Authority alike.

Mr. Forsley: Hi, everyone. Thank you for coming today. It's good to see some familiar faces in the crowd. Paulette, very happy to see you here. She's a fairly new tenant. I forget how long you've been in here now. Six months. And she

seems very happy with everything that's going on, and happy to give you a leg up. And one of our all-time favorites, you know who you are, Ramone. Quite a bit over the years, and he's familiar with all our staff. My name is Kevin Forsley and I'm the director of admissions. A lot of you have dealt with me or the staff in public housing over the years.

In the past few years we've had a significant increase, an influx of applicants for housing. I'm sure you're all aware of the housing crisis, and you can see with your own eyes what is going on out there. To help ease the burden of all the paperwork that comes along with it, that most of you are familiar with on our end as well as yours, we're hoping to go back to the kiosk and workstations in our admission office and the site-based offices. We're hoping this will make it easier for people when they come in to apply, using a workstation and a kiosk. Applicants will be able to check their status, make changes, update their phone number, add family members, take away family members, change the bedroom sizes and do all those necessary things without really much interaction with the staff. We're hoping this makes it easier on our staff as well as the public that we serve.

Mr. Mercier: How is everyone today? Thank you for coming. My name is Dennis Mercier, the director of management/facilities. I see a lot of familiar faces here, so don't get mad at me. I just wanted to touch on a couple of things as far as the management and facilities departments. For anyone that was in our last meeting, we had discussed the Housing and Urban Development (HUD), who's our regulatory board, more or less, federal. HUD has redeveloped a new inspection protocol that use to be the yearly REAC inspections, now called NSPIRE inspections. We will be concentrating more on this new protocol, which is better because the focus is now on the unit itself, being considered part of the common areas, which is more helpful.

HUD has also come out with a lot of new regulations called the HOTMA program. My team, the managers, assistant managers, and others will be going through training and certification to be up to date. As we learn more about it, we will be able to identify, and explain to the tenants, the new rules and regulations.

Also, as the Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer mentioned, we will be in discussion with the City for funding. Part of that was a fund to install smoke detectors which started last week. By the end of summer everybody will be notified by their manager, of the smoke detector installations in every bedroom throughout the authority. This is a new regulation, that the City was kind enough to provide a grant to cover the cost. We will be able to have professionals, install the smoke detectors, providing more safety and more confidence for the tenant. Thank you for your time. If you have any questions, I am here to answer them for you.

Mr. Chhan: Well, it's supposed to be Mark Briere doing this presentation. This is about the new project. This is what I just mentioned from talking to the planning department, and we identified that there's more affordable housing needed in the City of Lowell, the State of Massachusetts and throughout the country.

In response to that demand Lowell Housing Authority plans to develop 116 units within the city. You can see where we park cars, right, there's a piece of land, we can park over there. We hope around 83 units behind this building and across the street. If you live around here, you're well aware of this. On the corner of Cabot and Merrimack Street, we want to put between 30 to 38 units. These will all be affordable housing.

The other project we're working on and waiting for legislative approval, is the 32 condo units. This will be at the Rivers Edge. I think if anyone here that grew up in Lowell, you know where the former Julian Steele project is. It's up Gorham Street. this will be 32 new condos. We are waiting for the senate to vote and approve changing -- receiving the amendment. If they vote and approve, and the governor signs it, we'll move forward with the construction of the condo units, including three bedrooms.

The other thing that we're working on, hoping that it gets done within the next five years, is the possibility of more units in the Highland Park area. Somewhere along Central Street. The federal government, HUD owns this land. We want to service that land and see if we can seek funding to develop state housing or affordable housing.

Those are the three projects that we hope we can accomplish within the next five years.

The other thing that we are looking to do is -- the project on Broadway Street, the Hadley House. I don't know if you

know, but there's five-unit there. Our plan is to see this in progress within the next five years. That's our goal, what we want to do in response to the affordable housing issue. That is something we present to you so that you have an idea of what Lowell Housing is working on.

The next individual to come up to talk is someone that plays a significant role within the state and federal housing. Jonathan Goldfield, the director of capital asset management. Jonathan is the one that makes sure we spend every penny, effectively and efficiently. He he's the one that make sure that we continue to serve federal and state housing for our residents.

Mr. Goldfield: Thank you. I'm going to go down a list of things, you may have heard of if you attended the resident advisory board meeting. This is strictly on the federal side, and the budget is \$6,414,099. Some of that's used for administrative costs, some of it's used for operational costs. We ultimately spend about 4.3, 4.4 million on our roughly 127 buildings. And we don't do them all at the same time. We reach out to you folks, we reach out to our facilities department, we reach out to the property managers, city employees, our maintenance department and we try to keep a pulse of what needs to be done with the \$4 million that we have. What do we need to do in a time frame of over a five-year period.

So, what we've done, and you've seen this every year, we create a very nice synopsis of projects that, as a snapshot, we need to address over a five-year period. As I've said every year, these priorities change. There can be pipes that let go, something we weren't, obviously planning on. We built those budget items into this so that if it something unexpected happens we can move from one year into the next if needed. We want to make sure you folks are aware, and if you're walking down the street in your development and you see something that needs to get fixed, it's a really a good idea to let us know.

For example, we were asked -- "Faulkner Street out on Lawrence Street, are you going to replace the windows there?" Well, that's in our FY '22. Last year it was scheduled for FY '25 in the FY '22 five-year budget. So, when we got into this year's reality, we have other things that we have to do that got put off. And the person saw me at our building and said yeah, yeah, yeah, you're the one who told us about this project. And I said I had to move that one back. It's still on the plan, but we couldn't keep it on the same schedule because there's other things that were critical-- we have a lot of old buildings. We have building from 1937 across the street, we have have 1940 buildings, we have 1950s buildings and things break. We try to stay on top of it and do major replacements.

What this tries to do is address the capital improvements. The large scale. So very quickly, this is starting with federal fiscal year '24, Sherry mentioned that we're going to do some ADA, American Disability Act, accessible unit conversions. We're going to start working on roofs here at North Common Village, and we've prioritized -- and it's not just the roofs, it's the whole building envelope. The windows, the doors, the brick siding so that it is, you know, sealed from the weather. And I put in for -- actually, we worked together to put a grant, you've heard of the Inflation Reduction Act, that was recently passed. Billions of dollars to go towards, in our case, public housing improvements. So old buildings to keep them safe and decent and sanitary.

And we partnered with Boston Housing Authority, Chelsea Housing Authority, put in a grant for our use. Our piece of it is eight and a half million. And we hope to hear in July from the EPA, Environmental Protection Agency, whether we've won that grant. In which case we'll be able to accelerate what we're going to do here at North Common Village. That's the plan. And including potentially adding new boilers, new air source heat pumps as opposed to the old gas boilers that are in this building for heat.

As you probably already remember, if you're North Common, we've already completed -- I'm going to steal some of Tha's fire, but we just finished a \$650,000 boiler replacement for your hot water, your showers and sinks and things for North Common. And that went online May 31st. It was phenomenal. That was CBDG funds from the City.

Other projects we have, besides the roofs among most of the buildings at North Common Village and the exterior, we're going to update the mailroom at Francis Gate House, we're going to update the intercoms at all the buildings here at North Common Village, AMP 1. Highland Parkway, there's a very large electrical redistribution project that we're doing there because some of the underground wires are just out of date, and they let go. We had to do an emergency repair a few years ago. We plan do the rest of it so we don't have to wait for an emergency and react. We've already planned to get that one fixed.

There are pipes underneath the ground here at North Common Village that have to be replaced for hot water and things like that are original and they have to be replaced. Out at Centerville Gardens, which is Pawtucketville, which is Hildreth Street, we're going to add a new electric backup generator. There is no generator there. So, when the power goes out, the power goes out. Many of our buildings have a backup generator that at least keeps the lights on, at least keeps the emergency lights, the elevator running.

So, and then up on Temple Street we're going to address the common area in the middle, the parks, the seating area, the parking area and upgrade those. In '25, again, we're prioritizing roofs and elevators. By the way, we've replaced a lot of elevators and we're continuing. Eventually every elevator will be replaced. We're focusing on South Common Village. We've already done 111 Hildreth Street, we've already done 50 Stackpole Street. We've done four, five at South Common Village, and we'll do the rest of them at South Common Village as well.

Continuing to do the roofs as we move from Hancock Street out to Dummer Street along the North Common. We're thinking of adding charging stations for electric vehicles at Highland Parkway on Chelmsford Street. We have some -- we had a feasibility study done for the City View Towers, it used to be Archambault Towers, there's a lot of work in there that needs to be done with heat, ventilation, air conditioning and we've got some projects targeted to bring some of those things up to code in that building.

We have other roof replacements at South Common Village planned, more door and window replacements in Centerville Gardens out in Pawtucketville, pipe repairs underground here. Every year we're doing that. A piece of that. And more elevators at South Common, and site work at Francis Gate House. In '26 more roofs, moving out to Market Street, outdoor patio at Belvidere Heights which is up on High Street. 117 High Street. It used to be Father Norton Manor. The North Common Village Market Street, the retaining wall and the steps, those are going to get replaced.

We're going to do some kitchen, bath modernizations at Francis Gate House. Faulkner Street, some hazardous material testing and mitigation. We also carry some asbestos removal because we need that as support, mostly for projects that run into asbestos. Anything built prior to 1974 probably has asbestos somewhere. We have to carry money every year to make sure we can abate that. That's important. It's not -- it's no risk to you. It's no risk to anybody because it's basically under the floor usually. And we close off the building, put ventilation in and take out that stuff and it doesn't affect anybody. As long as -- the asbestos is fine when it's like sealed in, and we keep it that way. Once we take it out it's, you know, kept in a safe environment so nobody's ever at risk. So, whenever we talk about asbestos, that's usually the situation. It's nothing that puts you at risk. I know everybody gets scared of it. There's no reason to be scared of it. It's underneath the floors and closed off with plastic, air pressure that keeps the air from circulating outside of the closed-in area. You've seen them before, the enclosures, and we cut them out and remove it and it's all clean and air tested.

We also have more kitchen and baths at Highland Parkway. We're going to do some roof replacements up on Suffolk Street. More windows here at North Common, and mechanical ventilation up at Belvidere Heights up on Pine Street. I have two pages of this. Almost done. Any questions so far on this, for your developments or anything like that?

In '27 more of the exteriors here, we'll be out at Fenwick Terrace at that point. More of what you already heard, unit renovations that will be continuing, windows and things like that at North Common. Backflow preventers, which is sort of a thing that you'll never see. It keeps water from backflowing into the water supply. More kitchens and baths, which is always a priority. Paving and striping out at Centerville Gardens in Pawtucketville and Hildreth Street. Adding a generator there that we haven't had before, and camera upgrades as well for security. And then they'll be moving on more, again, more -- this is now fiscal '28, one more year.

More of the exterior here at North Common Village. And Belvidere Heights, some water and sprinkler work. Electrical redistribution at South Common Village. The final step of that will be actually rewiring all the apartments in the high-rises. That's a huge project. It will be multiple phases, as it's a 1950s -- they're all 1950s buildings. Some of the updates were done in the '80s, they have to be rewired to code, and's about \$5 million in today's dollars to do it. So, we can't do it, obviously, in any one year. We'll probably break it into three, four, five years to get those all done.

More windows, brick facade at City View Towers. And then finally fiscal '29, again, we'll be finishing off the roof project, Lewis Street, Suffolk area, roofs and the siding and windows. Site improvements at Chelmsford Street, there's a slope back there, and some more kitchens and baths at Highland Parkway.

And that's -- like I said, all of those projects can be moved around, and any of the other projects we've had within the last five-year plan, if something pops up, we try to identify things that could go wrong so we can get in front of it. If you see things out there that needs to be repaired that's on a large scale, please let Mr. Chhan's office know about it. 364-5313. Or send us an email, drop us a note, I saw this. I think it's wearing out. Especially big scale things that we need to deal with, and we'll get it on the plan. And, you know, it's good to know about it in advance, because then we can estimate the work and get it planned a year in advance, two years in advance, because then we can make it happen. But it takes time to put things in a budget. It's never good to do in an emergency. If you plan for it, it's not an emergency, right? So, if we know about it, we can plan for it. And that's sort of my last word for you.

We are now opening for questions? Okay, great.

Mr. Chhan: So, at this point we open up any questions. If you have any questions with regard to the project that we're working on, or anything that we are contemplating working on, or something that we are still planning, just let us know. Any suggestions? Any comments? Any questions so far? Yes. No? Which one?

The farmer market. Okay. I'm not sure if that is part of our strategic plan. It's not anything that we have in our plan. And any recommendation or any challenge to our plan would have been required to be submitted by 12 o'clock yesterday. But yes, that is interesting. We can follow up with that.

Okay, what I can answer -- the question is, what happened to the farmer market that was available throughout the community before. That has nothing to do with our five-year or strategic plan here. However, we have a resident service coordinator and resident service director here, that probably can speak about that. Talk about that. We are engaging with the community partner with everything else besides housing, -- I invite Katie Sadlier or Heather to speak on that.

Ms. Sadlier: Yeah, you have to sign up for that, and that's on a schedule that's already started. They're going to be starting their farm share, it's all farm shares pretty soon, but I can definitely get you the schedule because there's definitely farmer's markets all throughout Lowell. I can get you that information. Sometimes they move them to different locations, but there's definitely several within the city. I will get that information to you.

Mr. Chhan: Well, the other thing that I really wanted to stress, I wanted to highlight a few things, that especially within the new department that the Lowell Housing Authority just established, the resident service component, we are trying to promote self-sufficiency. Technically promote homeownership program. And that topic was touched upon by the chief admission officer, Alisen Purtell, in the past. I spoke about that with regard to Section 8 homeownership program. What it is that -- anyone from Section 8 here? Kathy, Alisen, who else? Okay. Oh, Carol is up there too. All right. We have the leased housing program over at 89 Appleton Street, I think you're from Section 8? Do you have Section 8 voucher?

So, the program, of course, if you're on Section 8, you understand that. Okay, Lowell Housing Authority paid rent to the landlord on your behalf. But you can use Section 8 voucher to buy a house. Instead of having Lowell Housing Authority send the subsidy to the landlord, you can be the landlord and you can be the tenant. And if anyone on Section 8 program who is a Section 8 participant interest in that program, homeownership program, make sure you speak to Alisen Purtell, the director -- the chief admission officer there. That's what I want to highlight, that component. And if you want to talk about how, you become self-sufficient, we have Katie Sadlier, Heather, and Kiss here who can work with you, ranging from seeking employment, obtaining training, improve your skill set. We have the department that we just newly established and will establish the policy and send it out, inform everyone. Any questions?

Section 8 is a federal program. If you are living in public house and if you're living in a family project, you can participate in the family self-sufficiency program. And that individual, the family self-sufficiency coordinator is working within the leased housing program under Alisen Purtell too. We can provide you with the information,

contact her, try to understand what family self-sufficiency program is, and we'll move forward from there.

By participating in the family self-sufficiently program you will be qualified to obtain the Section 8 voucher. Lowell Housing Authority set aside between 5 to 10 vouchers. Anyone that lives in family public housing project will qualify to participate in the program during the process of being a family self-sufficiency participant. And if you're ready to buy a house, we'll work with you on that.

Ms. Sadlier: I was approached with an anonymous question, if it's okay that he asked. I'm hoping one of my colleagues can help answer it. It was about surveillance at South Common in order to help with safety there. If anyone would like to help answer --thanks, Dennis.

Mr. Mercier: Good Afternoon. Regarding the cameras. I know over at South common Village I think we have 35 or 36 cameras right now. We're always looking to upgrade them. And obviously you can always use more. We're trying to get more of them. It has a lot to do with funding. We're actually looking at trying to get some funding for this and looking at all the AMPs, all the buildings, better camera quality and more cameras. Right now, Jonathan's department, the capital planning, is going to be doing an upgrade where we're able to get some money for Highland Parkway. They're next on the list, only because their cameras are so old. It's something we keep working on and it's all about funding. As funding comes in, we keep trying to improve, the quality of cameras and get more cameras in place.

Mr. Goldfield: like I said, this is a two-part hearing and meeting, so we're going to close out the federal portion, the capital funding program from HUD, which we've talked about initially, and we're going to open the state program.

Now, our state funding program has 148 state units, and we're working on converting 10 of them over to the federal portfolio. We're looking at others to convert over to the federal. So, we don't get as much money -- nobody gets very much money for state repairs across the state. You probably heard about the bond bill that's in the legislature, that's going to help, it's a very underfunded program. We try to do the best we can, and this budget, it averages out to about \$200,000 a year. We're done some pretty amazing things with our program. We had a program at Lakeview, Lakeview Ave where we spent three and a half million. A lot of it came from other grants that we were able to completely renovate all of those buildings and add a handicapped unit on. What I wanted to do is point out, we actually have a quorum of our Board of Commissioners. We have our chair, Mony Var; we have our member, Joanie Bernes; and Matt Marr who is also our trade member, and Joanie is our tenant member. And I have to note that Wayne Sevigny is here, who is a retired commissioner as our tenant representative here. And I have to notice former Chairman Phil Shea, who just retired from the Housing Authority, and we're so honored to have you here, Mr. Shea. But formally I'm going to ask that Mr. Chairman Var formally open the state hearing for the state annual plan and five-year.

Mr. Var: I would like to open the state meeting portion at this moment. Thank you.

Mr. Goldfield: Okay. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. That will make the folks in Boston very happy. So, I want to talk about this very quickly. Is there anybody here -- I know there's at least one person here from a state site. Is anybody else here from a state site? You're all federal site folks. So, we've already had a hearing on this once, this is sort of the final piece of it to make sure that we've made a transparent process for everybody, so they know what's going on. For the first year the state sets -- unlike the federal government, the state sets how much we can spend, and they have a formula. So, for the year 1, FY '25, they sent us to spend \$652,684. The second year, now what's different about the state project is the money rolls from year to year. So, they'll front in -- in this case they front-end loaded the budget, and then it looks like there's nothing in the third year. But what's really happening is those projects that we're launching now and next year will continue. Then the funding starts again after year three. It's a very strange formula, but it's how it works.

So, it's \$652,684 in year one. Only 24,767 in year two. Nothing in year three, like I just said. And then they funded another \$188,391 in year four, and \$224,509 in year five, which is about the average we ever get. \$200 to \$300,000. So, it all averages out and projects will keep going.

So, the projects, for example, we have rolling right now, we're going to be doing a new roof at 189 Walker Street and that's going out to bid again in August. At the same time, we're getting a grant from National Grid in the City of

Lowell to put in a new heating system called a geothermal system and that's going to be going in at 189 Walker Street.

We have a number of improvements going at 24 -- 22, 24 Ware Street, where those bathrooms are being renovated. A new roof is going on and the siding is being replaced.

We have another program going at 108 Grant to 104 Grant Street where we're improving the drainage, so it doesn't have an environmental problem. We're doing roofs and siding -- excuse me, roofs -- new roofs and insulation and bathroom fans at upper Lakeview, 129 Lakeview and Pleasant Street, which are very similar. They all look kind of the same, single level brick buildings.

We are, of course, in the process of federalizing 40 to 58 Dublin, and that application is on multiple grants and funding and that application is complete, and has been completed since April basically, but it's with HUD for evaluation. So, they'll be coming out to inspect and converting that building over to the federal portfolio. As Mr. Chhan mentioned earlier, we have another property in the Highlands that we're looking at to federalize as well. Why do we want to federalize it? There's more money in the federal portfolio than the state and we can do a lot better job of upgrading and maintaining those properties.

We have a number of other projects that we're doing. We're looking at doing some kitchen and bath renovations as well, but most of what we're trying to do is envelope. So, we focus on these buildings, and we try to do as much as we can in each building with the funds that we have.

My next focus is really staying at 189 Walker, besides putting that roof on this year, next year we're going to do all the windows, the siding, the balconies, the sliders. At the same time, this year, National Grid and the City of Lowell are putting in that geothermal system that's affecting the whole neighborhood by doing this geothermal underwater -- underground water that gets recirculated to heat and cool the buildings using electricity. We're trying to get away from natural gas. That's called an electrification project.

Those are most of the projects we have going on right now. There are more in the pipeline. If you are in state property and there's things specifically that you know about because you live there that we may not have noticed, we're pretty good at catching up on those state properties. Ashley Penner, who's the property manager, does a great job of staying on top of it, as does the facilities department. Brian Berard, I saw him here somewhere. He was here a minute ago. He's the facilities supervisor for the state sites. And we do pretty well keeping on top of those things and try to fix things as they break, but we try to see what the long-term repairs are as well and stay on top of those. We can take any questions, but I'll turn this over to Tha. And that is basically the state plan in a nutshell.

Mr. Chhan: Thank you. Any questions? Any comments? None? Any questions? Any comments? At this time, it's 5:02, we can conclude the state and the federal five-year plan, annual plan, and state annual plan. Thank you very much for coming.

Ms. Sadlier: I just want to reiterate thanking you all for coming. We really appreciate you being here. If you want to take out your yellow tickets, we'll pull the gift card winners now. And you are all welcome to stay for the next meeting, if you'd like, but you're not obligated to. It's our monthly board meeting. The first winning number is 005051. Woo-hoo. Want to bring it up? Do you mind coming up with it? Congratulations.

All right, we have two more tickets to pull. Jonathan, if you don't mind pulling the ticket from the bowl.

Mr. Goldfield: The second winning number is 005049.

Ms. Sadlier: Congratulations. Thank you for coming.

All right, we have one more. Mary Alice, you're up.

Ms. McParlane: The third winning number is 005057.

Ms. Sadlier: Great. Again, you are all welcome to stay, but not obligated to. And please, please, please take some pizza. We have six pizzas there for everyone. Thank you. Have a great night everyone.
(Whereupon the Lowell Housing Authority public meeting adjourned.)

ATTACHMENT (C.4b)
2024 Recording Officer's Certification 7.1.1



RECORDING OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, duly appointed, qualified and Secretary of the
Lowell Housing Authority, do hereby certify:

THAT the below extract from the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the members of the Lowell Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, held on **June 12, 2024**, is a true and correct copy of the original minutes of said meeting on file and of record, insofar as said original minutes relate to the matter set forth in said extract; and

THAT on the date of the meeting, each member present and voting was a resident of the City of Lowell, Massachusetts; THAT notice of a regular meeting was duly filed at least 48 hours prior to such meeting thereto, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays with the Clerk of the City of Lowell, Massachusetts, in accordance with the requirements of Sec 20, Chapter 30A of the General Laws, as amended (Acts of 2009, Ch. 28, sec. 20).

Extract of Meeting Minutes

7.1.1 MOTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY'S PROPOSED FEDERAL (HUD) FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2025-2029 AND CAPITAL FUND PROGRAM BUDGET FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2024-2028.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner William Samaras and seconded by Commissioner Joanie Bernes

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Yeas: Chairperson Var, Vice-Chairperson Elliot, Commissioner Bernes, Commissioner Marr, Commissioner Samaras

Nays: 0

The Chairperson declared the motion carried and the vote adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of said Authority this 12th day of June 2024.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tha Chhan".

Tha Chhan, Secretary

A Foundation for Stability and Opportunity

ATTACHMENT (C.4c)
2024 Recording Officer's Certification 7.1.2



RECORDING OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, duly appointed, qualified and Secretary of the
Lowell Housing Authority, do hereby certify:

THAT the below extract from the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the members of the Lowell Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, held on **June 12, 2024**, is a true and correct copy of the original minutes of said meeting on file and of record, insofar as said original minutes relate to the matter set forth in said extract; and

THAT on the date of the meeting, each member present and voting was a resident of the City of Lowell, Massachusetts;
THAT notice of a regular meeting was duly filed at least 48 hours prior to such meeting thereto, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays with the Clerk of the City of Lowell, Massachusetts, in accordance with the requirements of Sec 20, Chapter 30A of the General Laws, as amended (Acts of 2009, Ch. 28, sec. 20).

Extract of Meeting Minutes

7.1.2 MOTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY'S PROPOSED (HUD) FEDERAL ANNUAL PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

A motion to approve was made by Vice Chairperson Rodney Elliott and seconded by Commissioner William Samaras

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Yeas: Chairperson Var, Vice Chairperson Elliot, Commissioner Marr, Commissioner Bernes, Commissioner Samaras
Nays: 0

The Chairperson declared the motion carried and the vote adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of said Authority this 12th day of June 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tha Chhan", is written over a horizontal line.

Tha Chhan, Secretary



A Foundation for Stability and Opportunity

350 Moody Street, PO Box 60, Lowell, MA 01853-0060 • Tel 978.937.3500 • Fax 978.937.5758 • TDD 1.800.545.1833 Ext. 178 • www.lhma.org

ATTACHMENT (D.1)

Fair Housing Strategies and Actions

Our mission in the Lowell Housing Authority is to provide safe, decent, and sanitary affordable housing for the residents of Lowell. To achieve this goal, the LHA met with city officials, and reviewed the City's Consolidated Plan identifying challenges: such as cost and rent burden, and housing affordability affecting the low-income households surrounding our community.

The challenges present a significant concern affecting the low-income population, which also include Black, Hispanic, and Asian/Other non-Hispanic households. These groups are moderately to severely cost and rent-burdened, paying an average of 30-50% or more of their income on housing. Consequently, low-income population allocates a substantial portion of their income to rent, which restricts their ability to afford essentials such as food, healthcare, clothing, and transportation necessary for survival in an inflated economy.

To bridge the gap between rent and cost burdens for low-income households, the Lowell Housing Authority's focus is to improve housing affordability and stability. To achieve this, LHA is developing Housing Strategies and goals to comply with (HUD) rules, regulations, and guidelines that aim to end the affordable and disparity housing crisis in the City of Lowell. The four (4) goals are as follows:

Goal #1: Increasing and preserving affordable housing

1. Increasing affordable housing by achieving the following:

- (a) Creation of a mixed-use development on the Merrimack St. Corridor through the non-profit Revitalization Effort Toward New Urbanism (RENU). The Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) plans to develop one hundred eighteen (118) units of affordable housing within the next five (5) years.
- (b) The Lowell Housing Authority plans to complete the Rivers Edge on the Concord Development, by constructing up to thirty-two (32) 3-bedroom condominium homeownership units, to be sold to families with an income between 80-100% AMI.
- (c) Revitalization of the Hadley House, a historic home in which the LHA intends to establish a supportive housing program for veterans. LHA is pursuing the land title, currently pending the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) approval. Once approved, LHA will comply with Chapter 37 review to determine the structural integrity.
- (d) LHA plans to surplus the non-resident federal land of 0.5 acres, located on 39 Quimby St. for development of new affordable housing.
- (e) LHA has completed the relocation of eighty-five (85) residential occupied units. There are currently two (2) remaining units left, both are vacant and will remain vacant until they are sold.
- (f) In the attempt to increase more affordable housing in the City of Lowell, LHA plans to pursue additional project-based units by collaborating with private owners within the Lowell community.

2. Preserving affordable housing by achieving the following:

- a) As part of LHA's ongoing Capital Plan, we will continue to address aging infrastructure, including roofs, elevators, underground pipes/electrical conduit, and other major building systems.
- b) LHA plans to implement energy efficient and conservation tools that include networked geothermal heating and cooling systems, microgrids, that are part of an electrification program (removing local natural gas systems), electric vehicles, and building envelope security. Multiple government agencies are releasing grant funds for such programs, including EPA, HUD, U.S. DOE, and U.S. Treasury Tax incentives that government agencies may apply for and though counterintuitive, must nonetheless file a tax return to apply. LHA plans to enter into a feasibility study contract to identify building upgrade goals consistent with the new funding sources.
- c) The LHA plans to take full advantage of HUD's climate resilience grant fund. Our 5-year plan includes the following, but not limited to:
 - a.) Clean backup power.
 - b.) Floodproofing.
 - c.) Subsurface stormwater storage.
 - d.) Wind and impact resistant windows.
 - e.) Rainwater/greywater collection systems.

- f.) Fire resistant roof, windows & fencing.
3. As opportunities arise, LHA will federalize State Public Housing developments up to twenty (20) units under the Faircloth Amendment.

Goal #2: Modify Management Priorities

1. LHA will provide ongoing training for management/facilities staff of any updated HUD regulations, including the new HOTMA regulations, NSPIRE inspection and Fair Housing Section 504 and FHA Compliance.
2. LHA plans to establish an on-line housing/section 8 resident portal for public use.
3. Expand grant writing and apply for additional funding from various sources to continue sustainability of the agency.
4. Continue to recruit and hire qualified minority applicants to expand diversity within the agency.
5. LHA plans to expand the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program participant number to eighty (80).
6. LHA plans to increase the Section 8 homeownership program, up to thirty+ (30+) participants within the next 5 years.
7. LHA plans to request more VASH vouchers from the local Veteran Affairs Medical Center to provide affordable housing for our veterans within the community.
8. Any existing PBV HAP contract, including a contract entered prior to April 18, 2017, may be amended to add units by mutual agreement of the PHA and owner without competitive selection. This is subject to all PVB requirements including those requirements described in Attachment J of PIH 2017-21.

Goal #3: Resident/Participant Services Expansion/Communication Enhancements

1. LHA is establishing a Resident Service Division that provides additional services for our residents in public housing, as well as Section 8 program participants.
2. Create and set-aside Housing Choice Vouchers for Public Housing residents participating in the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program and ready for homeownership.
3. Collaborate with area non-profits organizations to identify additional services suitable for our resident/program participants to advance in becoming self-sufficient.
4. LHA has developed a new ADA compliant website designed to enhance service quality and increase resident and potential applicant accessibility.

Goal #4: Seeking additional funding from the City of Lowell to develop & preserve affordable housing within the city.

As mandated by HUD, the Lowell Housing Authority's 5-year plan must be consistent with the City of Lowell's consolidated plan. To achieve this goal, the LHA will seek additional city funding to develop & preserve affordable housing within the city.

Examination of LHA Programs

1. The LHA has an Emergency Transfer Preference for victims of domestic violence and victims of civil rights violations. In addition, the LHA established an applicant preference for victims of domestic violence.
2. On an annual basis, the LHA invites all residents to participate in Resident Advisory Board Meetings.
3. The LHA currently has a contract with a translation agency to provide interpretation services to applicants and residents who do not speak English. Program documents and policies are translated into Spanish and Khmer with interpreters available at residential meetings.
4. The LHA provides Fair Housing information to new Housing Choice Voucher program participants and new Public Housing residents during orientation. A copy of the Civil Rights Policy is provided to new Public Housing residents at the time of orientation.
5. The LHA established Fair Housing Training on a regular basis for management and facility staff.
6. The LHA established Safety training on a regular basis for management and facility staff.
7. Depending upon the de-concentration data, the LHA may on a quarterly or annual basis, conduct a de-concentration analysis, and when necessary, will implement the skipping technique to ensure households with incomes below or above the combined average will be given first preference for vacancy at each respective development.
8. To promote a safe living environment, new surveillance systems and access door locking systems are being installed.
9. The LHA seeks bilingual applicants, with an understanding of the cultural barriers of the residents we serve, to fill vacant positions within the agency.
10. The LHA continues to reserve and set-aside 5 Housing Choice Vouchers to be provided to Public Housing Family Self Sufficiency participants who is interested in pursuing homeownership.

11. With the award of the ROSS Grant and State funding, the LHA has been able to hire three Resident Coordinators to deal with multiple resident issues related to rental payments, mental health, and substance abuse throughout our developments.
12. The Authority established a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Lowell to fund a full-time police officer who will monitor LHA developments.
13. The Lowell Housing Authority Executive Director and Team serve on the City of Lowell's Housing Task Force Committee.
14. The Authority established a Memorandum of Understanding with Lowell Public Schools McKinney-Vento Department and will attend partnership meetings to conduct workshops related to housing stability and provide families with public housing resources including, information related to housing choice voucher and/ or public housing application process, when applicable.
15. To align Lowell housing Authority with the new HUD and HOTMA regulations LHA provides all management and Leasing and Occupancy employees with 3+ hours of free Fair Housing Accessibility Requirements Training and Fair Housing Section 504 and FHA Compliance Admissions and Occupancy training. Training is also being added as part of the onboarding/orientation process for new hires.

Fair Housing Analysis

The Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) has reviewed the admission policies and procedures to ensure equal access to housing programs by all applicants to ensure that discrimination of protected classes does not occur. The LHA does not discriminate because of race, color, sex, religion, familial status, age, disability, national origin and does not use any of these factors to:

1. Deny any family the opportunity to apply for housing, nor deny any qualified applicant the opportunity to participate in any housing program administered by the Lowell Housing Authority.
2. Provide housing that is different from that provided to others.
3. Subject anyone to segregation or disparate treatment.
4. Restrict anyone the access to any benefit enjoyed by others in connection with housing programs.
5. Treat a person differently in determining eligibility or other requirements for admission.
6. Steer an applicant or tenant toward or away from a particular area based on these factors.
7. Deny anyone access to the same level of services received.
8. Deny anyone the opportunity or right to participate in a planning or advisory group that is an integral part of the housing program.
9. Discriminate in the provisions of residential real estate transactions.
10. Discriminate against someone because they are related to or associated with a member of a protected class.
11. Publish or cause to be published, an advertisement or notice indicating the availability of housing that prefers or excludes person(s) who are members of a protected class.