

## **AGENDA**

# FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025, 12:00 PM

## **Primary location:**

LACDA Headquarters 700 West Main Street Alhambra, California 91801

## Alternate location (teleconference only):

West Hollywood Library
Study Room C
652 N San Vicente Blvd
West Hollywood, California 90069

To join via phone, dial **(747) 200-6781**, then enter **525 710 562#** when prompted. Click here to join the meeting

## 1. Call to Order

## 2. Roll Call

Zella Knight, Chair
Ruthie Myers, Vice Chair
Tara Barauskas
James Brooks
Mary Canoy
Crystal Clark
Renee Contreras
Connor Lock
Takao Suzuki
Anna Swett
Pamela Williams





## 3. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Regular Meeting of February 19, 2025

Regular Meeting of March 19, 2025

### 4. Report of the Executive Director

## 5. **Presentations**

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Action Plan

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget

### 6. Public Comments

#### Regular Agenda

## 7. Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget (All Districts)

#### Recommend that the Board of Commissioners:

Find that the approval of the LACDA's Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Budget is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the activities are not defined as a project under CEQA.

Adopt the Resolution approving the FY 2025-26 Budget totaling \$994,460,800.

Adopt the Public Housing Agency (PHA) Board Resolution approving the operating budget and certifying submission of the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Instruct the Executive Director, or designee, to do the following:

- a. Implement the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget and take all related actions for this purpose, including execution of all required documents regarding the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget.
- b. Execute funding agreements with the County of Los Angeles (County) to accept funding for the following programs: \$475,000 for the Cooperative Extension Program, \$1,007,000 for the Community Policing Program (CPP), \$425,000 for South County Public Housing Scattered Sites, \$11,357,000 for Measure H (Homeless Prevention Initiative), and \$216,000 for the Homeless Coordinator and ancillary

services, and execute, as necessary, all future amendments, modifications, extensions, and augmentations to such funding agreements.

- c. Execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and any necessary amendments to the MOU, with the County and all required documents necessary to accept \$668,947 for the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA).
- d. Add positions during the fiscal year as needed to respond to unanticipated mid-year funding allocations or to expedite existing programs, subject to the availability of sufficient administrative funds to cover the associated expenses and alignment with program requirements.

## 8. Agency Plan (All Districts)

Continued from the Housing Advisory Committee meeting of March 19, 2025, for concurrence with the Board of Commissioners item of April 8, 2025:

Find that approval of the Agency Plan is not subject to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because it will not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

Approve the Agency Plan, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to update the Los Angeles County Development Authority's (LACDA) program goals, major policies, and financial resources, including the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy for the Public Housing Program (ACOP), and the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV) Administrative Plan.

Adopt and instruct the Chair to sign a Resolution approving the Agency Plan for submission to HUD and authorize the Executive Director or designee to take all actions required for the implementation of the Agency Plan.

Authorize the Executive Director or designee to execute all documents required to receive HUD-allocated 2025 CFP grant funds.

Authorize the Executive Director or designee to incorporate into the Agency Plan all public comments received and approved for inclusion by the Board; and authorize the Executive Director or his designee to submit the Agency Plan to HUD by April 17, 2025.

## 9. Commissioner Comments or Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

Access to the agenda and supporting documents are available on the LACDA website. Agendas in Braille are available upon request. American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters, or reasonable modifications to Housing Advisory Committee meeting policies and/or procedures, to assist members of the disabled community who would like to request a disability-related accommodation in addressing the Commission, are available if requested at least four business days prior to the meeting. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent possible. Please contact the Executive Office of the LACDA by phone at (626) 586-1855 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, or by e-mail at nick.teske@lacda.org.

## MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Wednesday, February 19, 2025

The meeting was convened at LACDA headquarters, located at 700 West Main Street in Alhambra, California.

Digest of the meeting. The Minutes are being reported seriatim.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Knight at 12:14 p.m.

Roll Call	Present	<u>Absent</u>
Zella Knight	X	
Ruthie Myers	X	
Tara Barauskas	X	
James Brooks	X	
Mary Canoy	X	
Renee Contreras	X	
Connor Lock		Χ
Takao Suzuki		Χ
Anna Swett	X	
Pamela Williams		Χ

## Agenda Item No. 3 – Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

On motion by Commissioner Brooks, seconded by Commissioner Myers, with Commissioner Barauskas abstaining, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 18, 2024, were approved as presented.

#### Agenda Item No. 4 – Report of the Executive Director

Executive Director Emilio Salas provided an update on the LACDA's response to the January 2025 wildfires. LACDA staff proactively reached out to assisted families living within the burn scar and surrounding area:

- 814 calls were performed to families living within 15 Cities.
- 71 Families mentioned they were impacted, but only 60 were evacuated.
- 394 Families responded that they were not impacted.
- 349 Families were not reachable despite 2 separate attempts, leaving voicemails if available. Eventually, some of those families returned our calls; others had their phones disconnected.

LACDA did receive confirmation of 29 families that lost their unit, all in the Altadena area. Of these, 26 families have already been issued vouchers, and there were three voucher issuances pending as of this meeting.

LACDA staff also reviewed applicants on the waitlist to determine if they had been impacted in anticipation of gaining approval to issue Housing Choice Vouchers. In Supervisorial District 3, there are 543 families on the waiting list, but none living within the burn scar area. In Supervisorial District 5, there are 558 families on the waiting list, and five lost their units.

Emilio reported that no LACDA public housing sites were damaged during the fires. Foothill Villa in La Crescenta was very close to the burn scar and was evacuated. Emilio thanked Melvin Batrezchavez, Maintenance Supervisor, and Sandra Sanchez, Resident Manager, for their assistance in evacuating residents.

Orchard Arms in Santa Clarita was under evacuation watch and we also had a team there that went door to door to tell residents to prepare their go back and be ready. Emilio thanked the team in North County for their actions.

LACDA also had developments in Santa Monica and West Hollywood that were under evacuation warnings. Emilio thanked the Housing Operations team who looked out for residents and monitored the Office of Emergency Management websites for the latest updates.

Emilio reported that one affordable housing development, Altadena Vistas, did sustain damage and was evacuated. The building is still yellow tagged. The Business Technology Center in Altadena survived but surrounding homes burned. LACDA staff put out vegetation fires at the site.

Emilio reported that in the aftermath of the fires, the LACDA immediately submitted a series of waiver requests to HUD. These included HUD's "Mega Waiver" of pre-approved waivers that were made available. We simply had to go online and select all of the specific categories. We selected all of them to ensure maximum flexibility. Waivers were for programs to include Continuum of Care (CoC). Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and a select few others. For CBDG, the waiver removes the required comment period for a Consolidated Plan amendment, and allows new construction as an eligible activity, but does not provide any new money. The waivers make HOME funds easier to use for Tenant Based Rental Assistance, suspends the 10% cap on administrative costs, suspends the 15% of grant set aside for Community Housing Development Organizations, and allows use for self-certification of income. For ESG, the waiver eliminates restriction to fair market rents and eliminates minimum habitability standards for housing as well as shelters. For CoC, the waiver removes the 24-month limit on rapid rehousing and eliminates the requirement for a one-year lease and limit on moving costs.

Separate from the Mega Waiver, the LACDA submitted an individual waiver request to HUD to create a super preference of 50 Housing Choice Vouchers for families who lost their homes in the fires. The LACDA received both Board of Commissioners and HUD approval for this request. As of this meeting, no other local public housing agencies have followed suit. The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) is in shortfall, and Pasadena indicated they plan to take a similar action in the future. The LACDA is working with local providers to allocate the vouchers via a referral system.

Emilio reported that he was asked to head the County's Housing Task Force, which has been meeting weekly since late January to address short- and long-term housing needs in the aftermath of the fires. Task Force efforts were focused initially on helping to find housing solutions for the hundreds of households in Red Cross Shelters. As of this meeting, there were still nearly 200 households in shelters.

Emilio reported on the ESG-RUSH grant that HUD provided to current ESG recipients LA County, LA City, Long Beach, Pasadena, Pomona, Glendale. The State of California also received \$3M which they are sending to the LACDA to deploy. We will work with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to address pre-disaster unhoused populations in impacted areas.

Emilio provided an update on federal funding, including the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) announcement of freeze on federal funds and subsequent rescindment. Emilio reported that the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) has been deployed to HUD and we're now starting to hear of retirement announcements of key staff. The stated goal of DOGE is to cut staffing by 50%. LACDA relies heavily on HUD staff and their expertise to successfully administer our programs.

Emilio reported that the federal government was still operating under a Continuing Resolution until March 14, 2025. Appropriators had hoped at least to reach a topline spending agreement for defense and domestic accounts by the beginning of February, but everything was thrown off by the OMB funding freeze memo. Absent a final Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025 agreement by March 14, 2025, Congress will need to enact another Continuing Resolution to extend Federal funding and avoid a partial shutdown of the Federal government. Congress will have until the end of April to reach a final FFY 2025 agreement; under the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, failure to enact final FFY 2025 spending bills will result in mandatory, across-the-board spending cuts, known as "sequestration."

Emilio reported that House Republicans were actively working on a bill that would extend expiring tax cuts and want to use a Reconciliation Bill to accomplish this. Such a bill would put further strain on funding for benefit programs because the lost revenue has to be made up somewhere. Republicans were planning on moving the bill through a process known as "budget reconciliation," which speeds up the legislative process by limiting debate time on a bill and allowing the bill to pass through the Senate with a simple majority of 51 votes rather than the 60 votes usually required. Because Republicans control both

chambers of Congress and the White House, they can enact a reconciliation package without bipartisan support.

Emilio reported on two State bills related to housing including that were recently introduced. AB 239 (County of Los Angeles Disaster Housing Task Force) was modeled after a hurricane-response plan in Texas and aims to speed up housing recovery by coordinating Federal, State, and local responses through a State-led task force to address the Palisades and Eaton Fires. That group would appoint a state disaster housing coordinator to oversee the distribution of money, coordinate efforts between different levels of government, and report housing recovery progress in the impacted areas to the legislature quarterly. If passed and signed into law, it would go into effect immediately. Los Angeles County has already established a short-term housing task force, specifically for wildfire recovery, led by the LACDA. We are also engaging with different property owners and apartment associations to get the word out about the need for rental housing within a 10-mile radius of the wildfire zones.

AB 246 (State of Emergency: Residential Rent Increases: County of Los Angeles: Price Gouging: Enforcement by District Attorney) would prohibit an owner of residential real property from increasing the rental rate for a dwelling or a unit in Los Angeles County more than the rental rate for the dwelling or unit charged on January 7, 2025. The bill would authorize the District Attorney to enforce these provisions and subject a violation to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000. The bill would remain in effect until 12 months after the State of Emergency, proclaimed by the Governor on January 7, 2025, and would be repealed as of that date.

Emilio reported on the LACDA's implementation of Small Area Fair Market Rents as mandated by HUD, and some of the feedback received so far from landlords. The LACDA plans to request a waiver of this implementation.

Emilio reported on the projected shortfall for the Housing Choice Voucher program and deficit in the Housing Operations Division. Staff is going through each program and will need to make difficult decisions about some programs like the Community Policing Program.

Finally, Emilio reported that Norma Clarke was appointed as the permanent Administrative Manager in the Housing Operations Division effective December 30, 2024.

## Agenda Item No. 5 - Presentations

None

## Agenda Item No. 6 - Public Comments

None

## <u>Agenda Item No. 7 – Commissioner Comments or Suggestions for Future Agenda</u> Items

Commissioner Barauskas requested ongoing updates on fire recovery efforts and the impacts of Trump administration actions on LACDA operations.

Commissioner Myers requested an update on the South Bay Gardens parking lot renovation, and assistance with the South Bay Gardens Resident Council.

Commissioner Knight requested a presentation about the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, and a presentation on building capacity for Resident Councils.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

EMILIO SALAS

Executive Director Secretary-Treasurer

# MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Wednesday, March 19, 2025

The meeting was convened at LACDA headquarters, located at 700 West Main Street in Alhambra, California.

Digest of the meeting. The Minutes are being reported seriatim.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Knight at 12:11 p.m.

Roll Call	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Zella Knight	X	
Ruthie Myers		Χ
Tara Barauskas	X	
James Brooks		Χ
Mary Canoy	X	
Crystal Clark	X	
Renee Contreras		Χ
Connor Lock	X	
Takao Suzuki		Χ
Anna Swett	X	
Pamela Williams	X	

Due to lack of quorum at the primary meeting location, the meeting proceeded with informational presentations only, and no official business.

## Agenda Item No. 3 – Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

No action taken

### Agenda Item No. 4 – Report of the Executive Director

Chief of Programs Tracie Mann provided an update on the Joint County-State Housing Task Force and the Task Force Steering Committee, which meets weekly to address both short-term and long-term housing needs in the aftermath of the January 2025 fires. Tracie has been attending the LA Wildfire Recovery Health & Social Task Force, convened by the Department of Public Health, to explore areas of overlap in conversations regarding the housing needs of wildfire victims. Efforts were initially focused on helping to find housing solutions for the hundreds of households in Red Cross Shelters. A subgroup has been convened to focus on housing solutions specific to senior citizens. The first area of focus is on the reverse mortgage issue. The Task Force is launching another subgroup to focus on developing multifamily affordable housing.

The LACDA finalized the plan to accept applications for the 50 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) being made available to wildfire victims. LACDA staff anticipate an influx of inquiries and must ensure that the appropriate staffing is in place to handle various phone calls, emails, and in-office visits.

Tracie reported that the House and Senate passed the full-year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act of 2025, which funds federal agencies through September 30, 2025. The bill includes additional funding for the HCV Program, signaling bipartisan support. However, the bill funds public housing programs at current Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 levels (\$8.811 billion), which equates to a de facto cut when considering increased costs for construction and materials. The bill also grants HUD the authority to draw on funds from the tenant-protection voucher account, the administrative fee account, the new HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing account, and the new Foster Unification Program and Foster Youth to Independence account, as needed, to cover public housing agency (PHA) shortfalls. The bill provides level funding for not only public housing capital and operating funds, but also for administrative fees, the FSS program, Community Development Block Grant, and the HOME Investment Partnerships program. The Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Renewals will see a \$3.654 billion increase, from \$28.491 billion to \$32.145 billion.

The HUD Secretary, Mr. Scott Turner, visited the fire-impacted areas on March 6, 2025, and met with the faith-based community and other public officials, including LACDA Executive Director Emilio Salas and Lourdes Castro Ramirez, the head of the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA). The focus of the meeting was on improving efficiency, reviewing all of HUD's programs, and reaffirming the commitment to bringing HUD's resources to disaster survivors. Emilio anticipates seeing the Secretary again when he travels to Washington, D.C. with the Board of Supervisors in May 2025, and he plans to present a list of requests for regulatory and statutory relief, as well as other flexibilities and disaster relief funding.

Tracie reported that housing authorities administering Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) were notified that HUD will issue the remaining 2025 and 2026 funds as a final allocation of available funds this year. No additional EHV funds will be allocated; therefore, PHAs should be judicious in administering the remaining vouchers, including employing cost-saving measures and recognizing that no further funding is available. HUD expects these funds to last through 2026; thereafter, PHAs will need to make difficult decisions about how to allocate resources to their EHV families. The LACDA has conducted a cursory analysis and anticipate that the funds we expect to receive will last through December 2026, considering that an average of 10-15 families leave the program each year.

Since last year, the LACDA's HCV program was projected to be in a shortfall, which will limit any leasing activities. HUD informed us preliminarily that they no longer project a shortfall, and we may end the FFY with a surplus. This would have a positive impact on our ability to lease to new families and allow us to consider an alternative housing resource for the EHV families before the funding is completely exhausted.

Following up on a question posed by Commissioner Knight, Tracie reported that HUD officially terminated its \$1 billion Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP), which funded renovation projects at affordable housing units across the country. Congress approved the GRRP in 2022 as part of the Inflation Reduction Act, which included funding to owners of HUD-assisted multifamily housing to reduce carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency, incorporate renewable energy sources, and enhance property resilience to climate-related hazards. The termination of GRRP will impact the Lancaster Homes and Kings Road properties, which were recently awarded \$18 million in GRRP funds. The grant award was slated for improvements at the Lancaster Homes housing development, including the construction of energy-efficient windows and doors, heat-resistant roofs, energy-efficient heating and cooling, solar, and lighting, as well as ADA-related improvements. At Kings Road, we planned to use the grant to fund energy-efficient heating and cooling measures in units at the development and other energy-related improvements such as windows, lighting, HVAC, and solar carports.

### Agenda Item No. 5 - Presentations

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Agency Plan

## Agenda Item No. 6 - Public Comments

None

### Agenda Item No. 7 – Agency Plan

No action taken

## <u>Agenda Item No. 7 – Commissioner Comments or Suggestions for Future Agenda Items</u>

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

EMILIO SALAS
Executive Director
Secretary-Treasurer



April 16, 2025

Housing Advisory Committee TO:

Medina D. Johnson-Jennings, Director Wedina Johnson Janings FROM:

Housing Assistance Division

**FSS PROGRAM UPDATE -MARCH 1, 2025** RE:

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program is a HUD initiative intended to assist Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing participants achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITIES							
NUMBER CURRENTLY ENROLLED	320	As of March 1, 2025, there were 285 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and 35 Public Housing (PH) FSS participants.					
NEW ENROLLMENTS	2	(2) Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and (0) for Public Housing (PH).					
CONTRACTS EXPIRED	3	FSS contracts expired for Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) (3) and (0) for Public Housing (PH).					
DIRECT ASSISTANCE REFERRALS	449 558 310 129 240 308 330 97 0 124 0	Job Referrals Work Source/Job Fairs Educational/Vocational/Job Training Financial Literacy Home Ownership Counseling Credit Repair Other/Utility/Legal Aid /Childcare Services Computer Training Small Business Youth Services IDA					
OUTREACH & COMMUNITY EVENT	2	Voucher Issuance FSS Presentation					
GRADUATIONS	1	(0) Request for Graduation for Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and (1) for Public Housing (PH).					

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (626) 586-1670.

# **Los Angeles County Development Authority**Contract Status Report



District	Project Name	PMWeb No.	Contractor Name	Original Contract	Current Contract Amount	% COR	Approved Payments	% Complete	Status
1st	Herbert ADA Kitchens & CA Upgrades	160	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$156,971.11	\$156,971.11	0%	\$156,971.11	100%	Construction
1st	Herbert ADA Kitchens & CA Upgrades	160	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$195,991.36	\$195,991.36	0%	\$195,991.36	100%	Construction
1st	Herbert ADA Kitchens & CA Upgrades	160	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$766,239.21	\$766,239.21	0%	\$496,834.79	65%	Construction
1st	East County Senior Patio Furniture/Shade Structure Project	189	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$21,877.97	\$21,877.97	0%	\$21,877.97	100%	Construction
1st	East County Senior Patio Furniture/Shade Structure Project	189	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$149,898.93	\$171,776.90	13%	\$142,051.37	83%	Construction
1st	East County Senior Patio Furniture/Shade Structure Project	189	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$185,881.52	\$185,881.52	0%	\$183,092.50	98%	Construction
1st	Unit Rehab from Tree Root Damage (4851 Pinos, Bldg #9)	319	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$134,733.97	\$134,733.97	0%	\$51,198.91	38%	Construction
1st	Unit Rehab from Tree Root Damage (4809 Pinos, Bldg #8)	320	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$136,787.10	\$136,787.10	0%	\$51,979.12	38%	Construction
1st	Vacant Unit Abatement & Rehab Project	321	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$127,423.75	\$127,423.75	0%	\$127,423.75	100%	Construction
1st	Maravilla Electrical Unit Sub Panel Replacement	331	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$1,479,977.75	\$1,479,977.75	0%	\$702,989.44	48%	Construction
1st	Maravilla Admin Cabling & Rosas Community Center Roof Leak Repair	340	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$42,452.76	\$42,452.76	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
2nd	Marina Manor Unit Rehabs (A508-A708)	344	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$130,188.83	\$130,188.83	0%	\$98,943.50	76%	Construction
2nd	Marina Manor Unit Rehabs (A108-A408)	345	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$24,208.33	\$24,208.33	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
2nd	West County Heater Replacement	330	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$103,169.41	\$103,169.41	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
2nd	South Bay Gardens Unit A/C Replacement	327	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$466,938.64	\$466,938.64	0%	\$386,117.91	83%	Construction
2nd	Marina Manor I & II Fire Alarm Replacement	277	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$378,856.40	\$378,856.40	0%	\$287,930.86	76%	Construction
2nd	Southbay Gardens Carport PV's	132	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	0%	\$11,000.00	100%	Construction
2nd	Southbay Gardens Carport PV's	132	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$48,739.07	\$48,739.07	0%	\$48,739.07	100%	Construction
2nd	Southbay Gardens Carport PV's	132	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$67,436.57	\$67,436.57	0%	\$67,436.57	100%	Construction
2nd	Southbay Gardens Carport PV's	132	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$2,301,454.01	\$2,301,454.01	0%	\$1,466,527.54	64%	Construction
3rd	Marina Manor Generator Replacement	112	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$80,855.22	\$80,855.22	0%	\$38,406.23	48%	Construction
3rd	Marina Manor Generator Replacement	112	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$127,354.66	\$127,354.66	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
3rd	Marina Manor Kitchen Rehab	127	IDS GROUP INC	\$16,503.00	\$16,503.00	0%	\$0.00	0%	Bidding
3rd	Palm Apartment Balcony Repair - SB721	273	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$29,058.55	\$29,058.55	0%	\$19,185.55	66%	Construction

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# **Los Angeles County Development Authority**Contract Status Report



3rd	Palm Apartment Balcony Repair - SB721	273	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$114,888.95	\$114,888.95	0%	\$84,120.08	73%	Construction
3rd	RHCP Roof Replacement Project	282	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$455,772.35	\$455,772.35	0%	\$407,523.41	89%	Construction
3rd	West County Tripping Hazards	289	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$114,465.79	\$114,465.79	0%	\$108,742.50	95%	Construction
3rd	Ocean Park Vacant Units #14-15	332	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$30,260.82	\$30,260.82	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
3rd	Ocean Park Vacant Units #14-15	332	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$88,953.96	\$88,953.96	0%	\$73,183.13	82%	Construction
3rd	Ocean Park Apartment Tub Re-Glazing	307	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$122,856.24	\$122,856.24	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
3rd	Marina Manor Unit 215 Leak	314	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$6,687.50	\$6,687.50	0%	\$6,687.50	100%	Construction
3rd	Marina Manor Unit 215 Leak	314	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$64,099.03	\$64,099.03	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
4th	Harbor Hills Admin Office Upgrades	79	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$38,914.89	\$38,914.89	0%	\$0.00	0%	Construction
4th	Harbor Hills Admin Office Upgrades	79	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$69,928.50	\$69,928.50	0%	\$69,928.50	100%	Construction
4th	Harbor Hills Admin Office Upgrades	79	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$1,585,588.20	\$1,585,588.20	0%	\$350,386.68	22%	Construction
4th	HOD Vacant Unit Flooring (10 Units)	310	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$96,371.40	\$96,371.40	0%	\$96,371.40	100%	Construction
4th	HOD Vacant Unit Flooring (10 Units)	310	PUB CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$405,241.67	\$405,241.67	0%	\$405,241.67	100%	Construction
4th	Carmelitos Playground Repairs	216	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$58,587.21	\$58,587.21	0%	\$52,997.85	90%	Permitting
4th	Carmelitos Playground Repairs	216	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$146,937.81	\$146,937.81	0%	\$132,611.37	90%	Permitting
4th	Carmelitos Playground Repairs	216	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$524,183.77	\$524,183.77	0%	\$81,124.74	15%	Permitting
4th	Carmelitos (Senior) Generator Design	171	ANGELES CONTRACTOR INC.	\$178,147.03	\$178,147.03	0%	\$0.00	0%	Bidding
4th	Harbor Hills Playground Upgrades	265	HARRY H JOH CONSTRUCTION INC	\$79,857.54	\$79,857.54	0%	\$73,204.66	92%	Plan Development
5th	North County Senior Patio Furniture/Shade Structure Project	190	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$4,535.84	\$4,535.84	0%	\$4,535.84	100%	Construction
5th	North County Senior Patio Furniture/Shade Structure Project	190	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$10,296.00	\$10,296.00	0%	\$10,296.00	100%	Construction
5th	North County Senior Patio Furniture/Shade Structure Project	190	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$92,136.58	\$92,136.58	0%	\$52,084.02	57%	Construction
5th	North County Senior Patio Furniture/Shade Structure Project	190	THOMASVILLE CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$152,403.48	\$152,403.48	0%	\$152,172.66	100%	Construction
5th	Foothill Villa Apartment Generator Design	170	ANGELES CONTRACTOR INC.	\$81,357.53	\$81,357.53	0%	\$0.00	0%	Bidding
5th	Orchard Arms Generator Design	236	ANGELES CONTRACTOR INC.	\$174,047.92	\$174,047.92	0%	\$0.00	0%	Bidding

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## **Los Angeles County Development Authority**Contract Status Report



**Totals:** \$11,880,518.13 \$11,902,396.10 \$6,715,909.56

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April 16, 2025

Housing Advisory Committee Los Angeles County Development Authority 700 West Main Street Alhambra, California 91801

**Dear Commissioners:** 

# FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 BUDGET OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (ALL DISTRICTS)

#### **SUBJECT**

This letter recommends approval of Los Angeles County Development Authority's Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Budget which totals \$994,460,800.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMITTEE:

- Recommend that the Board of Commissioners find that the approval of the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the activities are not defined as a project under CEQA.
- 2. Recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt the Resolution approving the FY 2025-26 Budget totaling \$994,460,800.
- 3. Recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt the Public Housing Agency (PHA) Board Resolution approving the operating budget and certifying submission of the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).





- 4. Recommend that the Board of Commissioners instruct the Executive Director, or designee, to do the following:
  - a. Implement the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget and take all related actions for this purpose, including execution of all required documents regarding the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget.
  - b. Execute funding agreements with the County of Los Angeles (County) to accept funding for the following programs: \$475,000 for the Cooperative Extension Program, \$1,007,000 for the Community Policing Program (CPP), \$425,000 for South County Public Housing Scattered Sites, \$11,357,000 for Measure H (Homeless Prevention Initiative), and \$216,000 for the Homeless Coordinator and ancillary services, and execute, as necessary, all future amendments, modifications, extensions, and augmentations to such funding agreements.
  - c. Execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and any necessary amendments to the MOU, with the County and all required documents necessary to accept \$668,947 for the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA).
  - d. Add positions during the fiscal year as needed to respond to unanticipated mid-year funding allocations or to expedite existing programs, subject to the availability of sufficient administrative funds to cover the associated expenses and alignment with program requirements.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The purpose of the recommended actions is to establish the FY 2025-26 appropriation authority for LACDA operations and activities.

The recommended FY 2025-26 Budget of the LACDA totals \$994,460,800, a decrease of 9% over the approved FY 2024-2025 Budget of \$1,095,380,200. The decrease is driven by anticipated reduction in Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program; reduced state revenue from a weakened real estate market, the lack of ongoing No Place Like Home funding, and the depletion of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and American Rescue Plan (Act) relief funds. Despite level federal funding for FFY 2024, future funding is uncertain, and housing needs remain a concern, especially following local wildfire impacts. To address these challenges, the LACDA is strategically focusing on operational efficiency, core program delivery, and long-term sustainability through prudent resource management, actively seeking additional funding, and technological improvements, ensuring we continue to embody our mission" Building Better Lives and Better Neighborhoods" for the residents and businesses we serve daily.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The FY 2025-26 Budget includes \$160 million in County funds consisting of the following: Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF), County Departments, Measure H, and other Countywide Initiatives.

#### **BUDGET OVERVIEW:**

The total FY 2025-26 Budget of \$994,460,800 consists primarily of Federal funding provided by HUD for housing and community development programs. Over half of the budget is in support of the Housing Assistance and Public Housing programs for low-income families, seniors, persons with disabilities, and veterans. Local revenue sources include County funds, public housing rental income, and other grants received in support of housing activities.

HUD funds are budgeted at \$724.3 million and consist of the following: \$514.5 million in Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher and Emergency Housing Vouchers funding to provide rental assistance for families; \$47.8 million in CoC funding to provide rental assistance and supportive services to families and individuals experiencing homelessness; \$34.8 million in Public Housing Operating Fund funding to manage and maintain public and affordable housing units; \$37.6 million in Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing funding to provide rental assistance to homeless veterans; \$31.7 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons; \$18.0 million in Capital Funds funding to rehabilitate and provide site improvements at the public housing sites: \$16.4 million in HOME funding to increase homeownership and affordable housing opportunities for lowand very low-income households; \$5.9 million in Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funding for rapid rehousing for persons who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness; \$4.3 million in Mainstream funding to provide rental assistance to nonelderly persons with disabilities; \$4.1 million in lead based paint funding for remediation of multi-family units with children; \$3.1 million in funding for the rehabilitation of the Norwood Library; \$2.6 million in Multi-Family Housing Assistance Payments funding to provide rental assistance at Kings Road and Lancaster Homes: \$1.4 million in Family Self-Sufficiency funding to help assisted families achieve self-sufficiency; \$1.2 million in funding for HOPWA to provide rental assistance services to low-income individuals living with AIDS; and the remaining funding is to support other HUD initiatives.

County funds are budgeted at \$160 million and consist of the following: \$61.8 million in AHTF funding to develop supportive and affordable housing for the homeless and/or individuals and families with mental illness; \$57.2 million in County Departments funding to support lead-based paint mitigation activities, to provide rapid rehousing to families experiencing homelessness in cases involving Child Protective Services, and to rehabilitate and preserve existing adult and elderly residential care facilities; \$20.5 million in Measure H and Open Doors funding to provide sign-on bonus, security deposit

assistance, damage mitigation and vacancy loss incentives in support of unhoused individuals and families; \$13 million in Other County funding for various Housing Development Special projects to develop supportive and affordable housing and public housing improvements; \$3.1 million in County Capital Project funding to provide construction management services to complete Renovate business façade improvement projects; and the remaining funding is to support other County initiatives.

State funds are budgeted at \$85.6 million and consist of funding primarily from the California Department of Housing and Community Development to support affordable housing developments and to address unmet housing needs in local communities.

Other Federal funds are budgeted at \$4.9 million and consist of \$3.8 million in ARP funding to support the County's Stay Housed L.A. Program and the remaining funding is to support Other Federal initiatives.

Other funds are budgeted at \$19.7 million and consist of the following: \$15.3 million in LACDA General Fund funding for general activities such as legal and the Antelope Valley Office building improvements; \$3.6 million in Court funding to provide oversight of traffic administration services and to monitor the Community Services Referral Agencies on behalf of the courts; and the remaining funding is to support other LACDA program initiatives.

The LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget includes 685 positions, a decrease of 24 from the FY 2024-2025 adopted budget. This reduction reflects both the impact of reduced funding across various programs and a thorough review of staffing levels in relation to operational needs and efficiencies. All 24 positions were vacant.

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

In January 2001, the Community Development Commission and the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles, predecessors to the LACDA, with the concurrence of the County Auditor-Controller, developed an administrative policy for establishing a Capital Budget. The FY 2025-26 operating budget includes \$18.7 million in Capital Budget.

On June 3, 2025, the Board of Supervisors is considering the FY 2025-26 One-Year Action Plan (Action Plan) for the allocation of Federal funds, which includes the planned use of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding by the LACDA, County departments, participating cities, community-based organizations, and other public agencies. The Action Plan was created with citizen input, as required by Federal regulations.

Adoption of the attached Resolution approving the FY 2025-26 Budget (Attachment A) is necessary to establish new fiscal year appropriation authorities for the LACDA, to receive funding, and to comply with Federal Notice 94-66 (Public Housing Authority) from HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing, issued September 2, 1994. HUD Form 52574 (Attachment B) must also be approved by the Board of Commissioners to certify the

LACDA's operating budget. This letter also recommends authority for the Executive Director, or designee, to execute any other documents for implementation of the budget, such as financial reports, audit requests and related documents required by HUD or any other governing bodies.

We are recommending the Board authorize the Executive Director, or designee, (collectively, Executive Director) to execute and/or amend funding agreements with the County for the following:

- \$475,000 for the Cooperative Extension Program for direct and indirect support towards the offering of educational programs to residents in the Los Angeles County area.
- \$1,007,000 for CPP in public housing sites throughout the County to help pay for existing deputies and officers.
- \$425,000 for the South County Public Housing Scattered Sites operational costs.
- \$11,357,000 for the Measure H Program to offer monetary incentives to encourage landlords to rent their available units to homeless individuals and families with Section 8 vouchers.
- \$216,000 for the Homeless Coordinator position and ancillary services.

We are recommending the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute an MOU with the County for the JJCPA program to implement effective programs aimed at reducing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth and youthful offenders. These programs focus on prevention and intervention strategies to address juvenile delinquency and promote positive outcomes for young individuals.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

Approval of the LACDA's FY 2025-26 Budget is exempt from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 58, Section 58.34(a)(3) because they involve administrative activities that will not have a physical impact or result in any physical changes to the environment. The activities are not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15060(c)(3) and 15378(b) because they are not defined as a project under CEQA and do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of the FY 2025-26 Budget will enable the LACDA to conduct program activities to benefit low- and moderate-income residents of the County and participating cities and will support the County's Declaration of Emergency on Homelessness.

Respectfully submitted,

EMILIO SALAS Executive Director

ES:MF:sla

**Enclosures** 



March 19, 2025

Housing Advisory Committee Los Angeles County Development Authority 700 West Main Street Alhambra, California 91801

**Dear Commissioners:** 

## AGENCY PLAN FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (ALL DISTRICTS)

### **SUBJECT**

This letter recommends approval of the Los Angeles County Development Authority's Agency Plan which consists of an Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and a Five-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2025-2030 ("Agency Plan"). The Agency Plan is compromised of the LACDA's program goals, major policies, and financial resources. The Agency Plan is a strategic planning document that identifies the Los Angeles County Development Authority's goals for the next five years. Submission of the Agency Plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for receipt of Capital Fund Program (CFP) funds, operating funds for the Public Housing Program, and administrative fees for the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMITTEE:

- 1. Recommend that the Board of Commissioners find that approval of the Agency Plan is not subject to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because it will not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.
- Recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the Agency Plan, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to update the Los Angeles County Development Authority's (LACDA) program goals, major policies, and financial resources, including the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy





for the Public Housing Program (ACOP), and the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV) Administrative Plan.

- 3. Recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt and instruct the Chair to sign a Resolution approving the Agency Plan for submission to HUD and authorize the Executive Director or designee to take all actions required for the implementation of the Agency Plan.
- Recommend that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Executive Director or designee to execute all documents required to receive HUDallocated 2025 CFP grant funds.
- Recommend that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Executive Director or designee to incorporate into the Agency Plan all public comments received and approved for inclusion by the Board; and authorize the Executive Director or his designee to submit the Agency Plan to HUD by April 17, 2025.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On October 21, 1998, the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act (QHWRA) mandated Public Housing Agencies to submit an Agency Plan every five years to HUD and provide HUD an update as an Annual Plan every year.

The Agency Plan is a strategic planning document that identifies the LACDA's goals for the next five years. On June 23, 2020, the Board approved the current Five-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-2024.

The Annual Plan identifies major program policies and financial resources and updates information on housing needs, waiting lists, housing strategies, program policy changes, and other program and management data. The Annual Plan must be updated each year and was last approved by the Board on April 9, 2024.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no impact on the County general fund. Upon Board approval of the Agency Plan, the LACDA will submit the 2025 CFP grant funds agreement to HUD for management improvements, administrative costs, and housing rehabilitation for the Public Housing Program. Operating funds for the Public Housing Program and administrative fees for the HCV Program will be approved through the annual budget process.

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Included as part of the Agency Plan are the updated CFP Annual Statement, ACOP, and the HCV Program Administrative Plan. Significant changes to these documents are discussed below.

### **CAPITAL FUND ANNUAL STATEMENT**

The 2025 Capital Fund Annual Statement summarizes the LACDA's plan to use modernization funds for management improvements, administrative costs and to rehabilitate housing units at Public Housing Program developments.

As authorized by HUD, the Executive Director may amend the CFP Annual Statement as necessary to respond to needs such as housing emergencies, to safeguard property or protect health and safety, or to implement other changes that are in the interests of the LACDA and Public Housing residents. The Executive Director may also implement changes to the CFP Annual Statement in response to changes in federal funding.

## Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy for the Public Housing Program

The purpose of the ACOP for the Public Housing Program is to set guidelines to determine eligibility for admission and continued occupancy. The revised Public Housing ACOP reflects the following changes:

#### 1. Preference for Homeless Families

Currently, the LACDA provides a countywide waiting list preference for homeless families. The preference is limited to 30% of the number of vacant general occupancy Public Housing units available on July 1 of each fiscal year. The family must consist of two (2) or more persons, with one (1) member being under the age of 18 or a single elderly and/or disabled person. Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking receive the same admissions preference as homeless families.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA will provide an expanded waiting list homeless preference, limited to three (3) households per fiscal year, for each of the family housing developments at Carmelitos, Nueva Maravilla, and Harbor Hills.

To qualify for this preference, homeless families may be referred by a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), County agencies or Community Based Organizations (CBOs) with a contract or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place with the LACDA; or the family may self-certify homeless status. The LACDA will verify the family's self-certification in accordance with the Verification of Preference Status within this ACOP. The referring agency must provide a certification of the family's homeless

status pursuant to Section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302).

The LACDA will evaluate the results of admitting limited number of homeless families to determine necessary program adjustments in support of the long-term success of homeless families and LACDA communities.

## 2. Site-Based Waiting Lists (SBWL)

Currently, there are 13 SBWLs, of which seven (7) are designated for elderly families. The elderly designated SBWL are:

Carmelitos Senior Long Beach, CA
East County Senior East Los Angeles, CA
Foothill Villa Senior La Crescenta, CA
Marina Manor Senior Marina Del Rey, CA
Orchard Arms Senior Valencia, CA

South Bay Gardens South Los Angeles, CA West Knoll/Palm West Hollywood, CA

Effective July 1, 2025, the Palm Senior Apartments and West Knoll Senior Apartments will be separate SBWLs and will no longer be combined. In addition, Francisquito and Whittier Manor Senior Apartments will be separate SBWLs and will no longer be combined with East County Senior SBWL. This will increase the number of elderly designated SBWLs from seven (7) to ten (10), for a total of 16 Public Housing SBWLs (combined senior and family):

Carmelitos Senior

East County Senior

Foothill Villa Senior

Francisquito Villa

Marina Manor Senior

Crebert Arms Senior

Long Beach, CA

East Los Angeles, CA

La Crescenta, CA

Marina Del Rey, CA

Orchard Arms Senior Valencia, CA

Palm Senior West Hollywood, CA
South Bay Gardens South Los Angeles, CA
West Knoll West Hollywood, CA

Whittier Manor Whittier, CA

## 3. Tenant Payment Agreements (TPA)

Currently, the LACDA usually asks that the household pay an initial lump sum (in an amount determined by the LACDA), with the remaining balance to be paid in equal payments over a period of time not to exceed 12 months for amounts under \$2,400 or 24 months for any amount in excess of \$2,400.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA will not enter into a Settlement Agreement with the assisted family when the repayment balance debt exceeds \$2,400; however, LACDA may enter into a repayment agreement if the balance can be paid within 12 months of the contract execution date for amounts under \$1,200 or within 24 months for any amounts in excess of \$1,200 but not to exceed \$2,400. The LACDA will pursue termination of housing assistance and take legal proceedings for possession of the unit if the family does not meet the eligibility criteria for repayment plans or is in breach of the Agreement.

The LACDA reserves the right to waive the balance debt limit and to increase the repayment timeframe on a case-by-case basis, depending on the reason the household owes that debt. In such cases, the LACDA will document the reason for waiving the balance debt limit in the household's file.

## 4. Community Service and Self-Sufficiency Requirement (CSSR): Tenant Reporting Timeframe

Currently, when an exempt individual becomes non-exempt during the 12-month lease term, the family is responsible for reporting this change to the LACDA within five (5) business days.

Effective July 1, 2025, adult resident(s) must report within ten (10) calendar days changes in their circumstances that affect the CSSR non-exempt/exempt status (i.e., public assistance recipient, employment, student, disability status, etc.) during the 12-month lease term.

#### 5. CSSR: Staff Turnaround Timeframe

Currently, within ten (10) calendar days of a family reporting such a change or the LACDA determining such a change is necessary, the LACDA will provide written notice of the effective date of the requirement and a documentation form on which the family member may record the activities performed and number of hours contributed.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA will give the family written notice within 30 calendar days of receiving the reported change.

#### 6. Resident Unit Transfer Request

Currently, the beneficiary of a transfer must repay any debts owed to the LACDA related to the pre-transfer unit. To assure that a Resident who is the beneficiary of a transfer satisfies any debts owed to the LACDA related to their pre-transfer unit, the transferring resident shall enter into a repayment agreement that will be an Addendum to the Lease Agreement of the new residence.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA will not approve or authorize a resident-initiated unit transfer when the family has an outstanding balance due to the LACDA.

Except for emergency or LACDA mandatory transfers, under these circumstances, the transferring resident shall enter into a repayment agreement that will be identified as "Repayment Agreement Addendum to the Los Angeles County Development Authority Public Housing Lease Agreement." The failure of the transferring Resident to pay the debts owed to the LACDA related to their pre-transfer unit shall be a material breach of the Lease Agreement for the new residence.

## 7. Resident Request to Transfer Process

Currently, resident-initiated transfers, whether to another unit or development, require submitting a Resident Request to Transfer Form (RRTF) to the site Management office. Within ten (10) calendar days, the Property Manager will review the request and determine if the resident is in good standing with the LACDA, has met the 24-month residency requirement, and has not transferred within the last four (4) years.

Effective July 1, 2025, Public Housing resident(s) must submit a completed Resident Request to Transfer Form (RRTF) to their respective site Management Office. The LACDA will provide a written response within 30 calendar days from receipt of the RRTF. Except for emergency or LACDA mandatory transfers, the resident must be in good standing with the LACDA, have met the 24-month residency requirement, and have not transferred within the last four (4) years.

## 8. Criminal Background Check

Currently, the LACDA conducts criminal background screening for applicants and new member add-ons during the suitability and eligibility process.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA will complete a criminal background check and registered sex offender screening when member(s) declare that they have been cited, charged, arrested, and/or convicted for any drug-related, violent, sex-related, or other criminal activity between annual reexaminations. The LACDA will pursue the necessary action delineated in the current LACDA policies.

## 9. Preference for Tenant-Based and Project-Based Voucher (PBV) Families Displaced Due to Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Non-Compliance

Currently, there is no preference in the Public Housing waitlist for LACDA HCV families displaced due to the termination of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Contracts between the LACDA and the owner. HAP Contract terminations result

from HQS deficiencies noted on the unit and the owner fails to make the repairs within the period established by the LACDA in the notice of abatement.

Effective immediately, if a LACDA HCV family is unable to lease a new unit within the period provided by the LACDA, the LACDA will offer the family a place on the Public Housing waitlist(s) with a selection preference for the appropriate-size public housing unit. If the family accepts the offer, they will be granted the preference and must qualify based on the ACOP's suitability and eligibility criteria.

Below are the proposed policy changes for the Public Housing program based on the Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA).

## 10. LACDA Staff Trainings

Currently, the ACOP does not explicitly state training criteria for staff.

Effective July 1, 2025, LACDA's respective staff shall complete an annual Fair Housing Training (e.g., HUD or other Vendor training). Newly hired staff who become involved in any stage of the application, screening, and leasing process must complete a mandatory Fair Housing Training within 30 days of their hire date.

The training shall include Staff's obligations under Title VI, the Violence Against Women Act, the Fair Housing Act, and other civil rights requirements.

LACDA shall provide HUD with a written certification stating the training date and the name and position of each employee who attended and completed it.

## 11. Waiting List Registration Guidance

Currently, the LACDA provides guidance to registrants when requested, but it was not explicitly stated in the ACOP.

Effective July 1, 2025, The LACDA will provide registrants guidance on properly completing the initial registration, particularly for listing a residence, including a mailing address if the registrant is experiencing homelessness. The guidance shall also include information on how to update their residential/mailing address, including family composition. The LACDA will also inform the registrant on what to expect in future correspondences with the LACDA and how the LACDA plans to send future communications and notices to the registrant/applicant. The ACOP will be revised accordingly.

## 12. Waiting List Information

Currently, the waiting list contains preliminary information entered by registrants, including the family's address, social security number, date of birth, income, family composition, and disability status.

Effective July 1, 2025, the waiting list will now request from registrants and house the following information for each applicant listed:

- Residential, mailing, and/or employment address (if applicable) of the head of household;
- Name, date of birth, and social security number of head of household, cohead/marital type partner, and each additional member;
- Household's gross annual income;
- Referral from an Agency;
- · Disability status for each member;
- Veteran status;
- Homeless status;
- VAWA status;
- Accessibility requirement, if any (need for an accessible unit with specific features);
- Date and time of registration and registration/confirmation number;
- · Admission preference, if any;
- Race and ethnicity of the head of household;
- The specific Public Housing waitlist(s) selected;
- Email address and contact number;
- · Preferred designated contact method; and
- If applicable, a point of contact (i.e., emergency number, social services contact person, etc.).

## 13. Updating the Waiting List

Currently, to update the waiting list, the LACDA will send an update request via first-class mail to each family on the waiting list to determine whether the family continues to be interested in and qualifies for the program.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA shall utilize a variety of contact methods when attempting to communicate with an applicant who indicates in any initial registration material(s) that they are experiencing homelessness within the LACDA's jurisdiction, including, but not limited to mail notification, email, phone calls, and contact with a designated point of contact, such as a family member or a social service agency. The LACDA shall keep a record of attempts to contact an applicant.

## 14. Removal from the Waiting List

Currently, should an applicant fail to respond within the established due date, they will be removed from all selected waiting lists. If a letter is returned by the U.S. Postal Office with a forwarding address, it will be considered as 'returned undeliverable,' and the applicant will be subject to removal from all selected waiting lists.

Effective July 1, 2025, applicants who fail to respond by the established due date will be removed from all selected waiting lists. If a letter is returned by the U.S. Postal Office and no contact has been established via mail notification, email, phone calls, or contact with a designated point of contact, the applicant will be subject to removal from all selected waiting lists.

### 15. Registrants Indicating Homelessness

Currently, all registrants must submit verification(s) to support their preference(s).

Effective July 1, 2025, registrants experiencing homelessness within the LACDA's jurisdiction will not require residency verification until selected from the waitlist. Whenever a registrant has indicated homelessness and has not been referred to the LACDA by a Community-Based Organization (CBO), the LACDA will assign the registrant the Homeless Preference and verify the homeless status during the selection process.

#### 16. Verification of Preference Status

Currently, the LACDA has expanded the acceptable verifications for families claiming homelessness as well as residency.

Effective July 1, 2025:

1. Homeless families: May qualify for this preference via a referral by a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), County agencies, or CBOs with a contract or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place with the LACDA. Additionally, the LACDA will require partner agencies to use a Coordinated Entry System for homeless referrals. The referring agency must provide a certification of the family's homeless status. Homeless families may qualify for this preference whenever a registrant has

indicated in the initial registration materials living in homelessness and has not been referred to the LACDA by a JPA, County agency, or CBO; the LACDA agrees to assign this applicant the Homeless Families Preference. These applicants will go through a flexible system of allowable methods for verifying eligibility for this preference during the selection/application stage. The flexible verification methods include:

- a. Third-Party Verification ("TPV") from JPA, County agency, or CBOs with which the LACDA has an established contract or an executed Memorandum of Understanding; and/or,
- b. TPV from landlord/lessee, utility company, employer, school, DMV, State of California (voter registration, state-issued identification), credit reporting agency, financial institution, U.S. Postal Service, medical institution/provider, faith-based organization, social service organization, housing/transitional shelter, IRS, or California Franchise Tax Board.
- 2. Residency preference: Include families that live, work, or have been hired to work in the LACDA's jurisdiction.

The range of documentation and information considered in verifying all applicants' eligibility for the Residency Preference at the selection stage has been updated to increase opportunity and flexibility. Acceptable third-party documentation is deemed current if they are dated within 120 days and includes the following:

- a. Current rent receipts, leases, utility bills, employer or agency records, school records, driver's licenses, voter registration records, credit reports, and statements from a household where the family resides. At the LACDA's discretion, verification of residency may also include other documents, certifications, or declarations as needed to verify that a family lives or works in the jurisdiction;
- b. Utility bill includes cellular phones or internet or any utility service contract, statement, or payment receipts; financial statements, including credit card bills or bank statements;
- c. Mail received at residency address (must be verified with U.S. Postal Service certification);
- d. Employer records, including documentation such as paystubs or communications;
- e. Documentation or a written statement from a faith-based organization;
- f. Documentation or a written statement from a social service organization:
- g. Documentation or a written statement from a housing/transitional shelter or any housing assistance servicing agency;
- h. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or California Franchise Board (FTB) return;
- Any document issued by an entity, office, or authority governing over a country, state, county, city, municipality, district, agency, department, or any other political subdivision of a country or state that is typed and contains the agency name, department name, state seal, or is on official letterhead;
- j. DMV vehicle registration; and/or,
- k. Valid State-issued identification.

For purposes of this section, a credit report or a statement from a financial institution, such as a bank, cannot be used by themselves to demonstrate or deny eligibility for the Residency Preference. A credit report and/or statement from a financial institution may be used with other items on this list to verify residency.

## 17. Record Keeping

Currently, the LACDA maintains a written record of every termination and/or eviction in accordance with its record retention policy.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA shall retain files of all applicants denied the Homeless Families Preference or the Residency Preference. These files must include the applicant's initial registration, final application, results of any informal hearings, and all documentation submitted to the LACDA. This documentation should also detail the reason for denial and include any materials used in this determination.

The LACDA shall submit these files to the HUD annually upon request. Within 30 days of receipt of these files, HUD will inform the LACDA of any dispute with the determination, along with an explanation of the dispute. If HUD makes a final determination that an applicant was wrongfully denied, the LACDA agrees to reinstate the applicant to "Active" on the waiting list with the original application date and time and preferences claimed, and/or offer the applicant housing. If the LACDA does not agree with HUD's determination, the LACDA agrees to provide HUD an explanation for their reasoning in writing within 30 days.

At HUD's discretion, HUD may request a meeting with the LACDA to discuss the disagreement for a final resolution.

## Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program Administrative Plan

The purpose of the HCV (Section 8) Program Administrative Plan is to set forth the policies and procedures that govern the LACDA's administration of its rental assistance programs. This upcoming year, the LACDA will present changes with two effective dates: 1) Changes that are mandated to be in the Administrative Plan no later than June 6, 2025, by the additional streamlining Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 (HOTMA) changes released via a federal register on May 7, 2024; and 2) the LACDA's adopted policies for FY 2025-2026 effective July 1, 2025.

Effective June 1, 2025, the following changes will be incorporated into the LACDA's Administrative Plan to comply with HOTMA's mandated implementation date:

## **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program**

## 1. Information When a Family is Selected – Voucher Issuance

Currently, language access flyers are specific to tenant annual recertification packets.

Effective June 1, 2025, to meet HUD's requirements and address recommendations from community organizations, the LACDA will provide a Babel notice to families when they receive a voucher, request a reasonable accommodation, or during the application and recertification processes. This notice will inform families about available language access resources. Furthermore, information about language access will be accessible on the LACDA's website.

## 2. Manufactured Home Space Rentals – HAP Calculation

Currently, the LACDA does not specify how HAP is calculated for families who own a manufactured home and lease the space in its Administrative Plan.

Effective June 1, 2025, in accordance with HUD guidelines, the LACDA will revise its Administrative Plan to include language addressing the following:

- 1. Housing Assistance Payment: The HAP for a manufactured home space under the HCV Program will be the lower of the payment standard minus the Total Tenant Payment (TTP) *or* the family's eligible housing expenses minus the TTP.
- 2. Eligible Housing Expenses: A family's eligible housing expense will be the total of:
  - a. The rent charged by the owner for the manufactured home space.
  - b. Charges for maintenance and management of the space.
  - c. The monthly payments made by the family to amortize the cost of purchasing the manufactured home established at the time of application to a lender for financing the purchase of the manufactured home if monthly payments are still being made, including any required insurance and property taxes included in the loan payment to the lender.

The amortization cost does not include increases in debt service or changes to the loan term due to refinancing after a home purchase. Debt service from installation charges may be included in monthly payments. If payments are ongoing, installation charges incurred before a family receives assistance can also be part of the amortization cost.

Distribution of HAP: If the LACDA's HAP exceeds the portion of the monthly rent due to the owner, the LACDA will pay the balance of the HAP to the family.

## 3. Definition of Inspection Types – Extraordinary Circumstances

Currently, the LACDA does not have language in the Administrative Plan relating to inspections during extraordinary circumstances.

Effective June 1, 2025, in accordance with HUD, the LACDA will revise its current policy to state that in extraordinary circumstances, such as when a unit is located in a presidentially declared disaster area, HUD may grant an exception to the 24-hour inspection requirement for life-threatening deficiencies and the 15-day inspection requirement for non-life-threatening deficiencies until an inspection can be conducted.

#### 4. Tenant Relocation due to HQS Abatement

Currently, when a family receives a voucher due to an owner's failure to correct HQS deficiencies, they are given a 60-day voucher term and an automatic 60-day extension. The LACDA does not offer the family a selection preference for Public Housing if the family is unable to locate a unit within the voucher term.

Effective June 1, 2025, to comply with HUD requirements, the LACDA will modify its Administrative Plan to state that if a family's HAP contract is terminated due to the owner's failure to address HQS deficiencies, resulting in a unit abatement, the family will receive a 90-day voucher term with an automatic 90-day extension. The LACDA will continue its regular extension policy beyond the initial 180 days granted to the family, except that any extension granted will be for a minimum of 90 days. If the family is unable to lease a new unit within this time, the LACDA will offer the family a preference for an appropriate Public Housing unit that first becomes available after the voucher period expires.

### 5. HAP Contract Execution – Extenuating Circumstances

Currently, the LACDA may not execute a HAP contract more than 60 calendar days after the commencement of the lease term, and no payments will be made until the contract is executed.

HUD has provided clarification regarding the execution of the HAP contract. Effective June 1, 2025, the LACDA will update its Administrative Plan to indicate that in extenuating circumstances that prevent or prevented the LACDA from meeting the 60-day HAP contract execution deadline, the LACDA may submit a request for an extension to the HUD field office. The request must be submitted no later than two weeks after the 60-day deadline and include an explanation of the

extenuating circumstances and any supporting documentation. HUD will determine if the extension request is approved at its sole discretion.

#### 6. "Household" Members

Currently, the LACDA's Administrative Plan states the requirements for including a foster child, foster adult, or live-in aide are authorized as part of the family's household composition. However, it does not indicate the rules for continued occupancy for foster children and foster adult(s) who exit the foster care system.

Effective June 1, 2025, the LACDA will update its Administrative Plan to comply with HUD's mandate. This update will establish a process for following up with families that have a foster household member who has turned age 18 and continues to live in the home. In these situations, the LACDA will contact the family to determine whether the foster member is still under legal guardianship or custody of the state or county. If the member remains under such guardianship or custody and provides proper verification, they will continue to be classified as a foster household member within the LACDA's system. However, if it is determined that the member is no longer under legal guardianship or custody, the family will have the option to reclassify the member from a foster household member to a family member. Should the family choose to make this change, all program rules and regulations will apply to the entire family.

## 7. HAP Termination Due to Insufficient Funding

Currently, the LACDA will consider program funding insufficient if it is determined that the projected year-end subsidy falls short of the authorized budget amount. In these circumstances, proper documentation must be completed before making the decision to terminate HAP contracts due to insufficient funding. If necessary, the LACDA will determine how many families need contract termination and present a plan of action to the Board of Commissioners. After notifying the Board and HUD, the LACDA will terminate contracts, except those related to elderly and disabled families. Terminated families will be placed on the waiting list with a preference for future assistance.

Effective June 1, 2025, to align with the HUD mandate, the LACDA will update its Administrative Plan to enhance the factors considered when terminating HAP contracts due to insufficient funding. In addition to exempting elderly and disabled families, the LACDA will evaluate the administrative costs associated with housing a family, the length of a family's program participation, and a family's overall good standing within the program.

# **Project-Based Voucher (PBV) Program**

#### 1. Definitions

Currently, the PBV chapter of the Administrative Plan does not contain definitions specific to PBV.

Effective June 1, 2025, to comply with HUD's requirement, the LACDA will include a definition of "Project" in its Administrative Plan. A "Project" is defined as a single building, multiple contiguous buildings, or multiple buildings on contiguous parcels of land. "Contiguous" in this definition includes "adjacent to," as well as touching along a boundary or a point. "Building" is defined as a structure with a roof and walls that contains one or more dwelling units.

# 2. Eligible Housing for PBV Assistance

Currently, a single-family building is not identified as being eligible for PBV assistance.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's expanded list of eligible projects, the Administrative Plan will be revised to indicate that PBV assistance may be a multifamily building or single-family building, provided that all projects are of the same housing type (existing, rehabilitated, or newly constructed).

# 3. Impact Analysis

Currently, an impact analysis is not required.

Effective June 1, 2025, to comply with HUD's requirement, the Administrative Plan will be updated to state that if units under the cap plus units exempt from the cap exceed 50% of the total baseline, an analysis must be completed before selecting a project for PBV assistance. The analysis should consider the ability of the LACDA to meet the needs of the community across its tenant-based and project-based voucher portfolio, including the impact on, among others, families on the waiting list and eligible PBV families that wish to move after their 1 year of PBV tenancy.

The analysis performed by the PHA must be available as part of the public record.

Additionally, the requirement of notifying the HUD field office before a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued or a selection was made without issuing an RFP, has been removed. However, HUD must be notified when a HAP contract is executed, amended, or extended.

# 4. Units Subject to the Percentage Limitation

All PBV units which the LACDA has selected (from the time of the proposal or project selection date) or which are under an Agreement or HAP contract for PBV assistance count toward the 20 percent maximum or increased cap, as applicable, except units that are excluded from the program or project cap.

# 5. Increase Program Cap

Currently, the program cap is up to 20 percent of the amount of budget authority allocated to the LACDA by HUD in the voucher program. An additional 10 percent, (as adjusted for units excluded from the program cap) of the LACDA's vouchers may be project-based if the units are specifically made to house individuals or families that meet the definition of homeless, units are specially made available to families that include a veteran, units that provide supportive housing to persons with disabilities or to elderly persons, and/or units located in a census tract with a poverty rate of 20 percent or more.

These units must have been part of a HAP contract executed on or after April 18, 2017, or added on or after that date to any current HAP contract, including a contract entered prior to April 18, 2017.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to indicate that units that are exclusively made available to eligible youth also qualify for the higher program cap. Units that are exclusively made to serve eligible youth must be part of a HAP contract executed on or after December 27, 2020, or the units must have been added on or after that date to an existing HAP Contract, including a contract entered into prior to December 27, 2020.

Additionally, the Administrative Plan will be updated to replace the statement that if a project is located in a census tract with a poverty rate of 20 percent or more with a project that is located in an area where vouchers are difficult to use, count towards the additional 10 percent program cap. An area where vouchers are difficult is defined as:

- 1. A census tract with a poverty rate of 20 percent or less, as determined by HUD:
- 2. A ZIP code area where the rental vacancy rate is less than 4 percent, as determined by HUD or
- 3. A ZIP code area where 90 percent of the Small Area FMR is more than 110 percent of the metropolitan area or county FMR

The provisions that units made specifically to house individuals or families that meet the definition of homeless, units that are specially made available to families

that include a veteran, and/or units that provide supportive housing to persons with disabilities or elderly persons remain unchanged.

# 6. Higher Project Cap

Currently, the project cap is 25 percent of the total number of dwelling units (assisted or unassisted) in the project. Assistance may be provided to the greater of 25 units or 40 percent of the number of dwelling units (assisted or unassisted, as adjusted by exceptions to the project cap) if the project is located in a census tract with a poverty rate of 20 percent or more.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to replace the statement that if a project is located in a census tract with a poverty rate of 20 percent or more with a project that is located in an area where vouchers are difficult to use. An area where vouchers are difficult is defined as:

- A census tract with a poverty rate of 20 percent or less, as determined by HUD;
- 2. A ZIP code area where the rental vacancy rate is less than 4 percent, as determined by HUD; or
- 3. A ZIP code area where 90 percent of the Small Area FMR is more than 110 percent of the metropolitan area or county FMR.

# 7. Exceptions to the Project Cap

Currently, units exclusively made available for elderly families or units for households eligible for supportive services do not count towards the project cap.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to state that units exclusively made available to eligible youth will also not count towards the project cap.

HAP contracts in effect prior to December 27, 2020, when the exception of units made available to eligible youth came into effect, are governed by those HAP contracts' terms concerning the number and type of excepted units in a project. The owner must continue to designate the same number of contract units and assist the same number and type of excepted units as provided under the HAP contract during the remaining term of the HAP contract and any extension.

The owner and the LACDA may mutually agree to change the requirements for excepted units under the HAP contract to comply with the new and revised excepted unit requirements, however, any change to the HAP contract may only be made if the change does not jeopardize an assisted family's eligibility for continued assistance at the project.

The provisions that units that are exclusively available for elderly families or units for households eligible for supportive services continue to be excluded from the project cap.

Units excluded from program cap are also excluded from the project cap.

# 8. Units Excluded from the Program Cap

Currently, PBV units under the RAD program, HUD-VASH PBV set-aside vouchers, and units subject to certain federal rent restrictions or were receiving another type of long-term housing subsidy provided by HUD do not count towards the program cap.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to expand that units that are being rehabilitated or built to replace existing units already excluded from the program or project cap will continue to be excluded.

Additionally, units that previously qualified for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program are now considered as units that have had federally required rent restrictions and, therefore, also excluded from the program cap.

The new exclusion may only be made available to HAP contracts entered into on or after April 18, 2017.

# 9. Project Record Retention

Currently, HUD does not have a project record retention policy.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to specify the LACDA must maintain the following records throughout the HAP contract term and for three years thereafter:

- Records to document the basis for PHA selection of the proposal, if the selection is competitive, or project, if the selection is noncompetitive, including records of the PHA's site selection determination and records to document the completion of the review of the selection process in the case of PHA-owned units and copies of the written notice of proposal selection and the response of the appropriate party;
- 2. The analysis of impact, if applicable;
- 3. The subsidy layering determination, if applicable;
- 4. The environmental review record, if applicable;
- 5. The Agreement to enter into a HAP contract, if applicable;
- 6. Evidence of completion, if applicable;
- 7. The HAP contract and any rider and/or amendments, including amendments to extend the term of the contract;

- 8. Records to document the basis for PHA determination and redetermination of rent to owner;
- 9. Records to document HUD approval of the independent entity or entities, in the case of PHA-owned units;
- 10. Records of the accessibility features of the project and each contract unit; and
- 11. Other records as HUD may require.

#### 10. Environmental Review

Currently, all selected projects require an environmental review.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to specify that for existing housing, proposals selected in accordance with the site selection standards in effect on or after June 6, 2024, no environmental review is required before entering into a HAP contract, except to the extent a Federal environmental review is required by law or regulation relating to funding other than PBV housing assistance payments.

#### 11. Term of the HAP Contract

Currently, the HAP contract may only be extended within 24 months of its expiration date.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to specify the PBV HAP contract may be extended at any time during its life. However, the maximum term of the contract may not be more than 40 years.

# 12. PBV HAP Contract Termination or Expiration

Currently, the LACDA is not required to specify in the Administrative Plan that a tenant-based voucher had to be issued to families residing in a project where the owner terminated the HAP contract or declined to renew the HAP contract.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to specify that unless a termination or expiration without extension occurs due to insufficient funding or other extraordinary circumstances determined by HUD, the LACDA shall issue a tenant-based voucher to each family occupying a contract unit.

# 13. Family Rejection of the Unit or Owner Rejection of the Family

Currently, the Administrative Plan allows for removing the family from the site-based waiting list if the family rejects the unit or the owner denies the family.

Effective June 1, 2025, to be consistent with HUD's updated regulation, the Administrative Plan will be updated to specify this requirement is now a must unless the family has good cause.

#### Good cause is defined as:

- 1. The family determines the unit is not accessible to a household member with a disability or otherwise does not meet the member's disability-related needs.
- 2. The unit has HQS deficiencies.
- 3. The family is unable to accept the offer due to circumstances beyond its control (e.g., hospitalization, temporary economic hardship, or natural disaster).
- 4. The family determines whether the unit presents a health or safety risk to a household member who is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Effective July 1, 2025, the following changes are incorporated into the LACDA's Administrative Plan:

#### 1. Homeless Preference

Currently, the LACDA, under its homeless preference, commits 100% of expected annual voucher attrition to assist Los Angeles County-based homeless persons and families.

To qualify for the program, homeless individuals and families must be referred through the Continuum of Care (CoC), Coordinated Entry System (CES), or partner agencies contracted with the LACDA. These partner agencies must participate in homeless initiatives and may include those providing transitional or permanent supportive housing. The referring agency must verify the homeless status of those referred. Families already on the waiting list who claim homelessness but lack a referral must obtain certification from a CoC CES or a partner agency. The number of families eligible for this preference will be determined annually by the LACDA. Admission is on a first-come, first-served basis and subject to funding availability.

Moving forward, the LACDA will commit 50% of the expected annual voucher attrition to assist Los Angeles County-based homeless persons and families. The qualification criteria under the LACDA's homeless preference remain unchanged. The change in voucher attrition commitment to homeless persons and families will allow the LACDA to assist other vulnerable populations needing housing through its waiting list.

# 2. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Currently, the LACDA's Administrative Plan states that form HUD-5380, titled "Notice of Occupancy Rights Under VAWA," and form HUD-5380, titled "Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation," must be provided when a family is denied housing assistance and admission, specifically when applicants are briefed for a voucher.

Moving forward, the LACDA will add clarifying language in its Administrative Plan stating that families will receive HUD-required VAWA forms when they are denied admission and when they are admitted to the program, specifically when a family is leased up, and the HAP contract has been established with the owner, as well as when adult members are added to the program after the family has been admitted.

# 3. Letter of Authorization for HAP Contract Execution

Currently, the LACDA's Administrative Plan states that once the agency has received the appropriate authorization to enter a HAP contract with an owner, this letter of authorization will remain in effect until it is replaced by another authorization or until the HAP contract is terminated.

Moving forward, the LACDA will update the language in its Administrative Plan to clarify that once proper authorization has been obtained to enter a HAP contract with an owner, the letter of authorization will remain valid for the specified unit or building as detailed in the letter. This authorization will continue until it is terminated by the owner or replaced by a different authorization.

#### 4. Voucher Issuance

Currently, the LACDA's Administrative Plan allows families to request a waiver to rent a unit with fewer bedrooms than their voucher size, provided that the unit does not exceed the maximum occupancy requirements.

Moving forward, the LACDA will update its Administrative Plan to clarify that families are not required to request a waiver to lease an otherwise acceptable unit that complies with the maximum occupancy requirements.

The Administrative Plan and ACOP include additional language changes that are statutory, regulatory, and/or clarify existing policy.

# <u>Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP) and Administrative Plan</u> <u>Proposed Joint Policies</u>

The LACDA implemented major joint policy changes for the Public Housing and Section 8 tenant-based rental assistance programs. The revised Public Housing ACOP and the Section 8 Administrative Plan jointly reflect the following changes:

# 1. Waiting List Purge

Currently, the LACDA's policy allows the purging of the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) waiting lists at least once a year by a mailing to all applicants to ensure that the waiting list is current and accurate.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA will purge its waiting lists at least once every three (3) years by a mailing and email blast to all registrants to ensure that the waiting lists are current.

# 2. Waiting List Registration

Currently, when a family registers for the LACDA waiting list, preliminary information is collected, including the family's address, social security number, date of birth, income, family composition, and disability status.

Effective July 1, 2025, the LACDA will expand the information collected during a family's registration process. Additionally, registrants can update any changes in their circumstances or information at any time by reporting in writing or updating their online portal account in the LACDA's HARP system.

During the registration process, whether through the application phone line or website, the LACDA will obtain the following information:

- Residential, mailing, and/or employment address (if applicable) of the head of household:
- Name, date of birth, and social security number of head of household, cohead/marital type partner, and each additional member;
- Household's gross annual income;
- Referral from an Agency;
- Disability status for each member;
- Veteran status;
- Homeless status;
  - Registrants experiencing homelessness within LACDA's jurisdiction will not require residency verification until they are selected from the waitlist. Once selected, verified homeless registrants living within the LACDA's jurisdiction will qualify for the local preference.
- VAWA status;

- Accessibility requirement, if any (need for an accessible unit with specific features);
- Date and time of registration and registration/confirmation number;
- Admission preference, if any;
- Race and ethnicity of the head of household;
- The specific Public Housing waitlist(s) selected;
- Email address and contact number;
- Registrants preferred designated contact method; and
- If applicable, a point of contact (i.e., emergency number, social services contact person, etc.).

The Administrative Plan, and ACOP include language changes that are statutory, regulatory, and/or clarify existing policy.

Section 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part §903.17, requires a public hearing to approve the Agency Plan. Copies of the Agency Plan were made available for review and comment during a public review and comment period from December 30, 2024, to February 13, 2025, at twelve housing developments, LACDA administrative offices, and the LACDA website. Notices of the availability of the documents and the Board meeting date were also published in newspapers of general circulation during the public comment period. On March 19, 2025, the Housing Advisory Committee recommended approval of the Agency Plan.

The Summary of Public Outreach regarding the Agency Plan and a list of the eight (8) Public Housing Program developments are provided as Attachments A and B, respectively.

At the conclusion of the Public Review and Comment period, the LACDA will provide to the Board all public comments pertaining to the Agency Plan. Public comments received are included in the Board-approved Agency Plan and are submitted to HUD.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

Approval of the Agency Plan is exempt from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 58, Section 58.34 (a)(1), because it involves planning activities that will not have a physical impact on or result in any physical changes to the environment. The activities are also not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15060(c)(3) and 15378, because they are not defined as a project under CEQA and do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

Prior to implementation of any particular project, an Environmental Service Request will be submitted to the LACDA's Environmental Services Unit for review. Each project will receive an environmental clearance in accordance with CEQA Guidelines and NEPA regulations before proceeding with the project.

# **IMPACT ON CURRENT PROGRAMS**

Submission of the Agency Plan is required by HUD for the receipt of CFP funds and for the continuation of the Public Housing and HCV Programs.

Respectfully submitted,

EMILIO SALAS Executive Director

**Enclosures** 

#### Attachment A

# Summary of Public Outreach

Section 511 of the QHWRA instructs every Public Housing Agency to convene one or more Resident Advisory Boards (RABs) to assist and make recommendations on the development of the Agency Plan, as well as on any significant amendments or modifications. Residents of the Public Housing Program and Section 8 HCV Program, including participants of the Project-Based Program, were invited to join the RAB to learn about the programs outlined in the Agency Plan and to provide their input.

# **Summary of RAB Activities**

# Public Housing Program

The LACDA's regular annual RAB meetings were held virtually and in community rooms at our properties. This new format is to accommodate residents who do not have a means of transportation. This also assisted in providing peace of mind for residents due to the ongoing health concerns surrounding various diseases.

In addition to limited in-person meetings, individual telephone calls and an email blast with details and instructions were made to inform RAB members of the RAB meeting.

# Section 8 Program

To accommodate the LACDA's RAB members, the LACDA held two RAB meetings via a ZOOM conference call. An email with details and instructions was sent out to RAB members and calls were made in advance to ensure RAB members would be able to attend the RAB meeting remotely.

### Other Outreach Activities

- Overall, the RAB was content with the Agency Plan goals, as they are in line with Los Angeles County's housing needs. Given the uncertainty of the mandated HUD policy changes to the programs, there were no comments from the RAB. This has been noted under Section C.2 of the 5-Year PHA Plan (Form HUD-50075-5Y).
- As needed, translators are made available during the Public Housing and Section 8 RAB meetings.
- In December 2024, a public notice was posted to all Public Housing residents notifying them of the Public Review and Comment Period.
- In December 2024, an email to stakeholders and participating cities was sent announcing the commencement of the Public Review period and inviting them to comment.
- In December 2024, a public notice announcing the Public Review and Comment Period was published in the Los Angeles Times, La Opinion, the Daily News, Los Angeles Sentinel, the Daily Breeze, and the Long Beach Press Telegram.

- During the Public Review and Comment Period, the Agency Plan was made available at eight (8) housing developments, the LACDA Administrative Office in Alhambra, the Section 8 Palmdale office, and the LACDA website.
- Summaries of the Agency Plan were available during the Public Review and Comment Period in Russian and Spanish at the above locations and on the LACDA's website (https://www.lacda.org/section-8/shared-info/public-documents).

# **Attachment B**

Housing Development		<u>Address</u>	<u>District</u>
1.	Nueva Maravilla	4919 E. Cesar Chavez Los Angeles, CA 90022	1
2.	South Scattered Sites Management office	10901 Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044	2
3.	South Bay Gardens	230 E 130 <sup>th</sup> St Los Angeles, CA 90061	2
4.	Marina Manor	3405 Via Dolce Marina Del Rey, CA 90292	2
5.	Kings Road Apartments	800 N Kings Road West Hollywood, CA 90069	3
6.	Carmelitos Family	700 Via Wanda Long Beach, CA 90805	4
7.	Harbor Hills	26607 S. Western Avenue Lomita, CA 90717	4
8.	Orchard Arms	23520 Wiley Canyon Rd Valencia, CA 91355	5