

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSING AUTHORITY
of the City of Long Beach

521 E. 4TH STREET • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802 • (562) 570-6985 • FAX: (562) 499-1052

July 12, 2011

AGENDA ITEM 5

HONORABLE HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMISSION
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Request authorization to open the Housing Authority Project-Based Voucher Waiting List for the Palace Hotel Project. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The Housing Authority receives federal funds designated for low-income families under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. These funds provide rental assistance.

The Housing Authority of the City of Long Beach (HACLB) Project-Based Voucher (PBV) Rental Assistance Program was established and approved by the Housing Authority Commission on October 15, 2002 and revised on June 23, 2009. This established a program designed to allow HCV to be used for project-based rental assistance. In addition to tenant-based rental assistance under HCV, this project-based rental assistance may be used for housing that is either new construction, rehabilitation construction, or existing housing. The vouchers are attached to that selected development instead of to the family.

In 2009, we solicited proposals for the PBV Program and the Palace Hotel Project submitted by LINC Housing Corporation was selected. The Palace Hotel Project is an innovative approach to providing affordable housing to a special needs population (youth aging out of foster care). This is the first project of its kind in Long Beach and it has taken the collaboration of many agencies including the Long Beach Housing Development Company, United Friends of the Children, and the Home Depot Foundation. This property, which is being fully rehabilitated, will house 13 youth and will provide them with extensive onsite social services to ensure their success as they move from foster care to independence.

This will be the initial opening of the PBV list to accept applications to accommodate the vacancies in the Palace Hotel Project. As with the HCV Program, local Long Beach residents will be given preference.

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Authorization is requested to open the PBV waiting list only; the HCV waiting list will remain closed to new applicants at this time. It is planned that the PBV waiting list will open in August 2011, if authorized. Interested applicants will be notified that applications are being accepted via several local Long Beach media outlets, social service organizations, and the Housing Authority website. Applications must be submitted either online at www.longbeach.gov/cd/housing or by U.S. mail to the Housing Authority, 521 E. 4th Street, Long Beach, California 90802. Applications will not be accepted at the Housing Authority.

There are no new appropriations requested for this program. HUD does not allocate funding for PBV assistance. Instead, funding for PBV comes from funds already obligated by HUD to HACLB under its HCV annual contributions contract. The project-based assistance will also help HACLB meet the HUD required goal of maximizing leasing while controlling costs.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Linda Trang on June 23, 2011 and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on June 27, 2011.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Authorization is required at this time to enable the Housing Authority to open the waiting list to accept new applications for PBV at the Palace Hotel Project, which we expect to be completed by August 2011.

FISCAL IMPACT

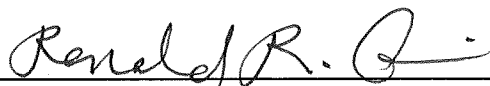
There is no fiscal or job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:



RONALD R. ARIAS
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PATRICK H. WEST
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR