

**Chicago Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners Public Session
July 17, 2012
Chicago Housing Authority – 60 E. Van Buren**

	Name	Question/Comment	Response
1	Paul McKinley	Thank you for having a meeting with us the other day. We have a follow-up with the General Counsel. The proposal you just signed off on, violates the Housing Act. You are steering African Americans to certain areas.	The CHA believes that it is in compliance with Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (the Fair Housing Act), and all other applicable federal laws and regulations.
2	Ms. Morgan	1) I am homeless and my kids have been abused by their father who lives at Stateway. I called 311 to come out and do an inspection, and I got asthma from my unit at 8240 S. Paulina and you can't find the record. 2) My kids were taken from me and sold by their father. You are all under investigation. I want a report. Just like that man said, I am tired of paying you all money. You get big checks and make bad decisions.	1) 8240 S. Paulina is not a CHA or Section 8 unit and we are therefore unable to comment on the condition of this unit. 2) If your children have been abducted this is a very serious matter and CHA recommends contacting the Chicago Police Department as quickly as possible.
3	Francine Washington	We have Mr. Whitfield here, and I am glad to see you are doing okay. I would like to say thank you all. I have complaints, but I will say them at the working group tomorrow.	Thank you for your comment.
4	T. Holt	I have a question, I am Resident Owned Business (ROB) and a resident, I understand CHA has to be transparent when putting out contracts, why isn't that language trickling down to property management companies? They are spending federal funds. Don't management companies have the same kind of guidelines for contracts?	Property Managers that procure goods or services to fulfill CHA site requirements are subject to the same federal requirements as CHA. Property Managers report their planned procurement activity to CHA on a monthly basis. Property Managers are required to post procurement opportunities on CHA's website, http://www.thecha.org/pages/private_property_contract_opportunities/133.php . In instances when there is a site related emergency, emergency procurement procedures may be approved which include bypassing the required posting on CHA's website.

5	John Mounce on behalf of Annie Ricks	My name is John, Ms. Ricks attorney. She got moved to Wentworth Gardens. Her family has been attacked and her home was invaded this weekend. I have been trying to get her relocated on emergency basis. I called the main number, and I got dropped off. I called Wentworth management, they said call Victims Assistance (VA). I called Liz Silas and never heard back. I sent a letter by mail to the General Counsel and nobody called me back. Victims Assistance refused to speak with me so Ms. Ricks called the VA person. My question, is there an order or request not to talk to Ms. Ricks' lawyer? Why is nobody speaking with me?	CHA's counsel has met with Ms. Ricks' counsel to resolve this matter.
6	Joseph Perry	I want to talk about procedure. Residents have the right to be represented by anyone of their choosing. I have gone to grievance procedure hearings where residents are not able to be represented. Why is this the case if it says that residents can be represented?	A resident can be represented at the grievance hearing but it is their responsibility to find that person to represent them and bring the person to the hearing. Representation is not provided by CHA.
7	Michelle Townes	<p>1) I am a Resident Owned Business (ROB). Who is a part of the working group? Residents are not aware of the working group, they don't know what it is.</p> <p>2) How can a person be a LAC President and a HCV resident? Can an HCV participant be on the LAC?</p> <p>3) Will LAC get power back in mixed-income developments, specifically in Rockwell?</p>	<p>1) A working group is comprised of public housing resident leaders, the developer, CHA staff, community partners and representatives from the City of Chicago.</p> <p>2) HCV participants cannot be elected to a Local Advisory Council; the LACs represent public housing families only. For more information, please visit the CAC's website: http://tellingourstory.org/</p> <p>3) Recognizing that mixed-income communities offer new opportunities and challenges for CHA families transitioning from traditional public housing developments, CHA created the Office of the Ombudsman to assist families living in public housing units in mixed-income communities, to have their voices heard and concerns addressed. The Office of the Ombudsman will serve the residents at West End (formerly Rockwell Gardens), in lieu of a Local Advisory Council.</p>

8	Dennis Hood	Everyone knows my plight, it's to get contracts. I'm from ABLA. I can't get a meeting with you (CHA's CEO). I am trying to put something in place for ROB. There needs to be some way for us to communicate. I've had to get everything myself for my business, insurance and license included. I'm trying to get contracts and nothing has been done. What is the problem and where can we go from here?	Vendors can register with CHA in BuySpeed and indicate if they are a small business or Section 3 business (which includes ROB). BuySpeed allows potential vendors to view open solicitations and download CHA bid opportunities. To stay updated with CHA's contract opportunities, please visit the following link: http://www.thecha.org/pages/open_solicitations/110.php
9	Robert Davidson	Good morning. (Passes something to Commissioner Beverley to be passed down to all Board members). Commissioners, I am here this morning so you will reconsider the Lathrop redevelopment. You say we can remain during the planning process, residents are upset and coming to me about what will happen. No decision has been made concerning redevelopment. We will be displaced. We were consolidated at Lathrop to the south side. We will not obstruct rehab on the north side, we won't affect them.	The CHA expects that residents will be able to remain on-site during redevelopment at Lathrop. However, the Relocation Rights Contract (RRC) specifically provides for relocations in the event of an emergency, or for safety or security concerns. In the event that an on-site situation becomes unsafe due to construction or other unexpected occurrences, the RRC stipulates that families will have to relocate, without any change to their priority status upon their return to Lathrop after redevelopment.
10	Mary Gill	I am from Northeast Scattered Sites. I am here today to ask permission to assist my seniors in scattered site apartments. With the heat like this, we have a senior care club. I have been assisting, can we utilize the room at 4429 as a cooling room? It's the community room on the second floor, we want to use this as a cooling room for seniors.	The CHA responded to this inquiry during the Board meeting, with the resident. The management office located at 4429 N. Clifton Ave is designated as a cooling center to alleviate heat related issues for seniors, CHA residents and the general public when a heat advisory is issued by the City of Chicago.
11	Tracey Champion	My heart goes out to staff and I came up here to say, we need to try and get on one accord. There is a lack of communication. Residents are still suffering, especially in North Lawndale. There is money, but we need help here. We need financial backing. We have nothing over there, the buildings are terrible. HUD is coming up this week and North Lawndale is not on the agenda. I am LAC President of Scattered Sites West. We need financial ability - management is helping and it has been improving. Just to let you know, the LAC Presidents do work. We are all volunteers. We have to fight and people harass us.	Thank you for your comment.

12	John Mounce	<p>Ms. Ricks was given 30 days to relocate, the second time she got an eviction notice. Her son was jumped and he was the victim. When the case got dismissed they tried to evict for rent and they wouldn't collect. Ms. Ricks got an eviction notice in the restroom. When I got the case it was dismissed. I find it incredible that the system moves fast when you are evicting people, but slowly when people are trying to save their homes.</p>	<p>CHA's counsel has met with Ms. Ricks' counsel to resolve this matter.</p>
13	Robert Whitfield	<p>1) I would like to comment on the bylaw changes. I think it is important that you hear from the residents before you make this change. I will recommend that the CAC Board hold a special meeting and that LAC holds special meetings as well. You should hear from the residents before you make the decisions regarding bylaws.</p> <p>2) I would also like to echo the comments about the eviction changes as well. The process does move quickly when you are trying to evict and residents are not aware of their rights.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p>