

Board Matters

February 22, 2024

Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2025 Advertised Budget

Commissioner Bloom asked for clarity on the breakdown of the County's advertised budget and potential impacts to the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). In response, Tom Fleetwood, Director, HCD, stated that the Commissioners should anticipate a presentation at the FCRHA's meeting in March 2024 from the Department of Management and Budget (DMB). DMB's presentation will provide a more fulsome briefing on the County's advertised budget.

Mr. Fleetwood noted that at the direction of the County Executive, HCD went through a reduction exercise, through which three positions were eliminated. With that, five positions will be added to HCD to support development and financial management functions. These actions were consistent with budget guidance HCD received last year. Director Fleetwood also noted that the Affordable Housing Development and Investment Fund has remained steady at one penny in the advertised budget.

Voting Accessibility for FCRHA Residents

Commissioner Solomon requested that the FCRHA have a discussion at an upcoming meeting regarding how the FCRHA can increase voting access for its residents ahead of the upcoming November elections.

New Commissioner for the Hunter Mill District

Vice Chair Lardner informed her colleagues that Michael McRoberts has been appointed as the new FCRHA Commissioner for the Hunter Mill District. Mr. McRoberts' background is in commercial real estate finance.

HUD Special Administrative Fees for Housing Mobility-Related Services Plan

Tom Fleetwood, Director, HCD, shared that over the last several years, HUD has increased its efforts in supporting housing mobility programs. One of those efforts was by way of a Notice of Funding Opportunity for Housing Mobility-Related Services for which the FCRHA applied but was not selected for an award. To further support the expansion of comprehensive housing mobility programs, HUD issued a new funding opportunity in February 2024. Public housing agencies that administer tenant-based Housing Choice Vouchers may apply for special administrative fees to support the development of housing mobility-related services plans (HMRP).

HUD anticipates making approximately \$1.5 million in HMRP awards, with an estimated award size of \$60,000. HCD staff received notification that the FCRHA is eligible to receive HMRP funding and staff have informed HUD of the FCRHA's interest in

receiving funding. If the FCRHA is awarded HMRP funding, staff will bring forward an Action Item requesting the FCRHA's approval of a draft housing mobility plan.

2024 FCRHA Scholarship Program

Director Fleetwood announced that on March 1, 2024, staff will begin accepting applications for the 2024 FCRHA Scholarship Program. The FCRHA will award up to ten applicants with a \$5,000 scholarship for postsecondary education or technical training for the 2024-2025 school year. Scholarships are awarded to County residents who live in FCRHA supported housing. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. HCD staff are seeking volunteers to serve on this year's Scholarship Selection Committee. Two FCRHA Commissioners are needed to serve alongside a member of HCD senior staff.

A number of Commissioners showed interest in being on the Scholarship Selection Committee, next steps will be forthcoming from the Chair.

2024 Housing Symposium

Director Fleetwood stated that on March 6, 2024, the FCRHA, in partnership with the George Mason University Costello College of Business, will be hosting the annual Housing Symposium from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will be held in the Harris Theater, located on the Fairfax Campus. This year's agenda includes a tour of One University, which is located adjacent to Mason's campus in the Braddock District. There will also be a session highlighting the critical work and impact of the FCRHA and attendees will also hear from individuals sharing their stories on the importance of affordable housing. All are welcome to attend.

Grand Opening of Ilda's Overlook

Director Fleetwood announced that on March 21, 2024, the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing will be hosting the grand opening of Ilda's Overlook located in the Braddock District. Ilda's Overlook will deliver 85 new units of affordable senior housing on the site of the former Northern Virginia Training Center. The event will begin at 3 p.m. and all are welcome.