Enhance Rental Assistance

Goal Leader: Dominique Blom
General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing

Theme: General Government; Income Security
Overview

Goal Statement

- Enhance and reform HUD’s rental assistance programs by providing sustainable models to empower communities to address local affordable housing needs. HUD will transform assisted housing by transitioning 105,000 additional Public Housing units to a more sustainable platform by the end of FY 2019.

Challenge

- Today, 9% of nearly a million Public Housing units are currently off-line and an additional 15% of the public housing portfolio is in poor condition, according to inspection scores.
- The regulatory structure for the public housing program is cumbersome and limits PHAs’ abilities to adequately address program needs.

Opportunity

- Maximize local decision-making and local control over both public housing assets and resources.
- Expand, improve, and streamline available tools – the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD), Demolition/Disposition, Voluntary Conversions, and Declaration of Trust (DOT) Release – for PHAs of all sizes to make better decisions about the long-term sustainability of their public housing portfolios.
Leadership

Core Team:

Dominique Blom, General Deputy Assistant Secretary
Public and Indian Housing

Milan Ozdinec, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Public and Indian Housing

Tom Davis, Director
Housing, Office of Recapitalization

Ben Hobbs, Special Policy Advisor
Public and Indian Housing

Danielle Bastarache, Director
Public and Indian Housing, Housing Voucher Management

Todd Thomas, Program Analyst
Public and Indian Housing
The Public Housing program provides affordable housing to nearly one million families nationwide. However, the current structure and fiscal constraints of the program limit the flexibility of Public Housing Agencies (PHA) to efficiently operate housing, minimize costs, and provide access to critical resources to recapitalize the portfolio.

HUD will conduct listening sessions to engage with PHA managers and industry experts on the repositioning of Public Housing units. HUD will also leverage existing programs and new supplemental notices on how best to transition hard-to-manage properties to more sustainable platforms. Under these new policies, PHAs and their communities will have more control over managing their housing needs.
Transform Assisted Housing
by transitioning 105,000 public housing units to a more sustainable platform by the end of FY2019

1.0
Engage with residents and external stakeholders

1.1
Hold listening sessions and other key meetings

2.0
Transition Public Housing units with significant capital needs to another platform

2.1
Increase flexibility of RAD Program

2.2
Revise and publish notices that respond to public needs

Milestone
9/30/2018: Publish revised Section 18 Notice, DOT Release Notice, and other notices

Milestone
3/1/2018: Held listening session on repositioning of Public Housing

Milestone
6/30/2018: Issue Supplemental RAD Notice providing additional flexibilities under the law to facilitate less burdensome conversion of public housing and expand potential applicability of RAD for properties on the margins of viability.
The Agency Strategic Plan and FY 2019 Annual Performance Plan were both published in February. These documents lay out HUD’s strategies for transforming assisted housing by transitioning 105,000 additional Public Housing units to a more sustainable platform by the end of FY 2019. The strategy to reposition Public Housing units is to utilize current statutory authority with added revisions of regulation and the publication of notices to allow for more PHA flexibility in operating properties.

Beginning with a baseline of 40,763 units at the end of FY 2017, HUD has transitioned 22,170 additional Public Housing units. Of these additional units, 16,529 units were converted to more sustainable platforms through RAD, and 4,919 units were transitioned out of the Public Housing portfolio through Section 18 Demolition and Disposition. HUD is on track to meeting its FY 2019 goal.
Engage with residents, PHA management, and industry thought leaders on different rental housing program structures. This engagement will occur through public comment, listening sessions, and other meetings across the country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Milestone</th>
<th>Milestone Due Date</th>
<th>Milestone Status</th>
<th>Change from last quarter</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hold listening session on repositioning of Public Housing</td>
<td>4/12/2018</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>PIH held a listening session with PHA groups on March 8, 2018. HUD held a listening session with PHAs and additional groups on March 9, 2018. HUD continues to schedule listening sessions between stakeholders and HUD leadership.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Key Milestones

Improve long term affordable housing options by encouraging Public Housing Authorities to transition Public Housing units with significant unmet capital needs to a more sustainable platform.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issue Supplemental RAD Notice identifying and implementing additional flexibilities under the law to facilitate less burdensome conversion of public housing and expand the potential applicability of RAD</td>
<td>6/30/2018</td>
<td>On-Track</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Publish Voluntary Conversions Notice, Revised Section 18 Demolition and Disposition Notice, Declaration of Trust Release Notice, and other Notices that respond to public engagement</td>
<td>9/30/2018</td>
<td>On-Track</td>
<td>Publication of Demolition/Disposition Notice</td>
<td>The Section 18 Demolition and Disposition Notice was published on March 22, 2018. HUD staff are attending conferences to provide trainings to PHAs on the notice. Work is ongoing regarding the development of other notices. In addition, HUD is engaging a TA provider to develop training materials on PIH repositioning tools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>FY17 Actual</td>
<td>FY18 Q2 Actual</td>
<td>FY18 Target</td>
<td>FY19 Target</td>
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<td>-------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAD</td>
<td>16,529</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>32,256</td>
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<tr>
<td>Voluntary Conversions</td>
<td>4,919</td>
<td>8,507</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 18</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>800</td>
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Note: Voluntary Conversions have a target of zero units for FY18 because, due to the projected timing for publication of the notice enabling these conversions, HUD does not expect significant transitions using this process in FY18.
### Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)

- **Description:** Number of Public Housing (PH) units transitioned to the Section 8 platform through the RAD program.
- **Data source:** RAD Resource Desk.
- **Calculation method:** Number of units in transactions that closed within the time period as recorded in the RAD Resource Desk.
- **Data quality (limitations/advantages of the data):** The RAD Resource Desk contains all information on each individual RAD transaction, including the documentation evidencing that a closing has occurred.
- **Validation, verification, and improvement of measure:** The IMS/PIC system records the current status of all public housing inventory removals. Closings in the RAD Resource Desk are compared monthly to unit removals from the IMS/PIC system to ensure accounting consistency. The data quality in the RAD Resource Desk, and IMS/PIC is reviewed and updated regularly by Public Housing Agencies (PHAs), and multiple offices within HUD.

### Voluntary Conversion

- **Description:** Number of PH units transitioned from the Annual Contributions Contract/Declaration of Trust (ACC/DOT) through Voluntary Conversion.
- **Data source:** Inventory Management System/Public and Indian Housing Information Center (IMS/PIC).
- **Calculation method:** Number of units transitioned in transactions that closed within the time period as recorded in IMS/PIC.
- **Data quality (limitations/advantages of the data):** Upon confirmation that all applicable requirements of the (streamlined) voluntary conversion notice and program have been met (including part 200 requirements), HUD staff releases the DOT on the property. Immediately thereafter, HUD staff modifies the data in IMS/PIC to document that the units have been removed from the public housing inventory and the DOT has been released.
- **Validation, verification, and improvement of measure:** The IMS/PIC system records the current status of all public housing inventory removals. The Special Applications Center (SAC) maintains a back-up spreadsheet with all transactions listed and verified in the IMS/PIC system. The data quality in IMS/PIC is reviewed and updated regularly by PHAs and multiple offices within HUD.
Section 18 (Demolition/Disposition)

- **Description:** Number of units approved for removal from the PH portfolio through demolition or disposition under the authority in Section 18 of the Housing Act of 1937, as amended.
- **Data source:** Inventory Management System/ Public and Indian Housing Information Center (IMS/PIC).
- **Calculation method:** Number of units transitioned in transactions that closed within the time period as recorded in IMS/PIC.
- **Data quality (limitations/advantages of the data):** Upon confirmation that all applicable requirements of the (streamlined) voluntary conversion notice and program have been met (including part 200 requirements), HUD staff releases the DOT on the property. Immediately thereafter, HUD staff modifies the data in IMS/PIC to document that the units have been removed from the public housing inventory and the DOT has been released.
- **Validation, verification, and improvement of measure:** The IMS/PIC system records the current status of all public housing inventory removals. The Special Applications Center (SAC) maintains a back-up spreadsheet with all transactions listed and verified in the IMS/PIC system.

Declaration of Trust Release; (Clean Release)

- **Description:** Number of PH units released from the Annual Contributions Contract/ Declaration of Trust (ACC/DOT) and the Public Housing Agency (PHA) retains title to the property.
- **Data source:** Inventory Management System/Public and Indian Housing Information Center (IMS/PIC).
- **Calculation method:** Number of PH units transitioned out of HUD authority through DOT release within the time period as recorded in IMS/PIC.
- **Data quality (limitations/advantages of the data):** Upon confirmation that all applicable requirements of the program have been met (including part 200 requirements), HUD staff releases the DOT on the property. Immediately thereafter, HUD staff modifies the data in IMS/PIC to document that the units have been removed from the public housing inventory and the DOT has been released.
- **Validation, verification, and improvement of measure:** The IMS/PIC system records the current status of all public housing inventory removals. The Special Applications Center (SAC) maintains a back-up spreadsheet with all transactions listed and verified in the IMS/PIC system.
Additional Information

**Contributing Programs**

**Organizations:**
- Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH)
- Office of Housing
- Office of General Counsel
- Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

**Program Activities:**
- Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)
- Declaration of Trust (DOT) Release
- Voluntary Conversions
- Section 18 Demolitions and Dispositions

**Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations**

The agency has consulted and will continue to consult with residents, Public Housing Agencies (PHAs)/owners, and industry group leaders while implementing the strategy to transition Public Housing units to a more sustainable platform.