

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	November 8, 2010
	Agenda Item No.	M3
	Roll Call No.	<u>10-1810</u>
	Communication No.	<u>10-657</u>
	Submitted by:	Douglas C. Romig, Housing Service Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving an amendment to the City of Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency Section 8 Administrative Plan to include language regarding giving a waiting list preference to applicants that are eligible to participate in the Family Unification Program (FUP).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of an amendment to the City of Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency Section 8 Administrative Plan to allow the DMMHA to give a waiting list preference to applicants that are eligible to participate in the Family Unification Program (FUP).

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On November 3, 2009, the DMMHA received approval by the Des Moines Housing Agency Governing Board by Roll Call No. 09-2067, authorizing submittal of FUP Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; approving Memorandum of Understanding with Iowa Department of Human Services-Polk County and approving an amendment to Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan to include the FUP Fair Housing Addendum.

The Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers under this funding availability will assist families who are separated from their children because of homelessness or inadequate housing and for individuals age 18 through 21 transitioning from foster care. FUP is an invaluable resource for parents struggling financially as it helps families stay together when lack of safe and stable housing is the primary reason a foster care placement is being considered. The DMMHA requested \$491,964 in funding which was estimated to provide one hundred (100) vouchers per the criteria of the funding availability notice. The HUD award from the grant application is \$487,320, which should provide for approximately 100 new vouchers to serve this targeted population.

As required by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, The City of Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency (DMMHA) has an adopted Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan. The purpose of the Administrative Plan is to establish local policies for carrying out Section 8 Programs in a manner consistent with HUD requirements and local goals and objectives.

The current Section 8 Administrative Plan, adopted August 23, 2010 by the Municipal Housing Governing Board, states that DMMHA does not allow for any waiting list preferences. Waiting list preferences provide an opportunity for applicants qualified for the preference to move to the top of the waiting list. The DMMHA was awarded 100 Family Unification Vouchers by HUD. These vouchers may only be used by applicants eligible for the Family Unification Program. HUD regulations state that in order to open the waiting list to families eligible for the Family Unification Program without opening the waiting list to the general public, the DMMHA is required to amend the current language in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan to allow for a preference for Family Unification Program eligible applicants. The DMMHA may then open the waiting list for applicants that qualify for the Family Unification Program preference.

The current Section 8 Administrative Plan states the following:

“Regular Funding Selection:

The DMMHA does not offer any preferences for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.”

DMMHA is seeking approval to delete the previous language and add the following language:

“The DMMHA will give a preference for applicants eligible for the Family Unification Program (FUP).”

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): Municipal Housing Governing Board

Date: August 23, 2010

Roll Call Number: 10-1346

Action: Approving an amendment to the City of Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency Section 8 Administrative Plan to include language regarding proration of Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher housing assistance in the cases of emergency or natural disaster situations. ([Board Communication No. 10-519](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to approve. Motion Carried 5-2.

Date: January 26, 2009

Roll Call Number: 09-050

Action: [Approving](#) an amendment to the City of Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan to include the Code of Conduct and the Non-Elderly Disabled Person Fair Housing Addendum. ([Board Communication No. 09-034](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to approve. Motion Carried 5-3.

Date: July 28, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1282

Action: Approval to amend the City of Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency (DMMHA) Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan to revise the processing of unreported income. (Board Communication No. 08-454) Moved by Vlassis to approve. Motion Carried 7-1.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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