



# Community Update

December 2018

## Minneapolis City Council passes landmark resolution supporting public housing

The Minneapolis City Council, with support from Mayor Jacob Frey, **unanimously passed a resolution “establishing guiding principles in support of investments in public housing and the people who live there”** earlier this month. The resolution was authored by Council Member Abdi Warsame (Ward 6) and Council Vice President Andrea Jenkins (Ward 8). The resolution affirms the critical role public housing plays in the city’s housing landscape and notes the challenges created by decades of federal underfunding. It expresses the need for the city and MPHA to work in partnership to preserve MPHA’s 6,000 units of public housing with new funding sources and programs. And it defines the protections all public housing residents deserve during this process, including the right to return to any remodeled or redeveloped property, the right to receive written relocation plans, and the right not to experience rent increases because of redevelopment or improvements.



## MPHA takes over and revitalizes family townhomes in South Minneapolis

In recent months, **families who have lived for years in six townhomes at 35th and Bloomington have been returning to a completely renovated and updated building.** The six-unit multi-family property had been in disrepair before MPHA took possession from the prior owner in September 2017. Property Manager Kari Lee was able to help one family stay on-site throughout, as their daughter relied on the accessibility of a ground-floor bathroom and bedroom while she healed from a broken leg and surgery. Kari was also integral in seeing the project from start to finish, all the way down to picking out exterior finishings and landscaping, helping bring a fresh look to the Powderhorn Park property. Almost all of the renovation work was done in-house by MPHA staff, with the finishing touches completed by October of this year.

## Latest public housing resident becomes first-time homebuyer through Lease-to-Own program

Renita Kelly recently became the eighth first-time homeowner through MPHA’s Lease-to-Own (LTO) program! Renita moved into public housing in 1995 with her daughter. When her daughter had moved out and she was looking to transfer to a highrise unit because of damage done by a neighbor’s fire, an MPHA employee told her she would be a perfect candidate for the LTO program. **Renita moved into the townhome in 2013 and is very excited and proud to have achieved homeownership,** reiterating that she never thought she would own a home in her lifetime. Congratulations Renita!



Want to learn more?



@MplsPublicHousing



@MplsPubHousing



MPHAOnline.org