

RESOLUTION

By Warsame and Jenkins

Establishing guiding principles in support of investments in public housing and the people who live there.

Whereas, Minneapolis faces a shortage of all levels of affordable rental housing; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) owns and operates public housing that provides homes to more than 25,000 low income residents in neighborhoods across Minneapolis; and

Whereas, large numbers of these households include seniors, working families, children, immigrants and disabled members of our community; and

Whereas, preserving quality homes for the current and future residents of public housing must be the ultimate focus of any efforts to address affordable housing needs in Minneapolis; and

Whereas, the federal government has for decades underfunded the major repair, renovation, and redevelopment needs of public housing; and

Whereas, preventing the long-term loss of these homes requires a new level of collaboration, community commitment, new financial tools, and a willingness to bring a broad coalition to the table; and

Whereas, the federal government has created public housing conversion opportunities that may allow for an increase in federal subsidies to support the preservation and capital investment needs of these homes; and

Whereas, residents of public housing have certain rights that must be respected during any public housing conversion process; and

Whereas, preserving housing for those most in-need benefits all residents in Minneapolis.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis supports public housing and other deeply subsidized affordable housing as an essential part of the housing continuum, as it meets the needs of households that would otherwise have few options in the private market.

Be It Further Resolved that the City is committed to working in partnership with MPHA to preserve, and, when possible, increase the city's stock of public housing.

Be It Further Resolved that the City supports MPHA's efforts to stabilize and increase its funding sources through exploration, and implementation where feasible, of federally sanctioned public housing conversion if certain conditions are met as to resident notice, consultation and protection, and the conversion will position the city's public housing as a permanent affordable housing asset for current and future residents.

Be It Further Resolved that City support is contingent upon meaningful resident and community consultation throughout the planning, design, and implementation process of preservation and development strategies.

Be It Further Resolved that City support is further contingent upon certain resident protections; including the right to be informed; the right to return to any remodeled or redeveloped property; the right to written relocation plans that inform the residents of their rights to return to the property following temporary relocation; reimbursement of relocation expenses; the right to continued representation and funding for legitimate resident organizations; the right to not be re-screened for eligibility (including income, income targeting provisions, criminal background, or credit history); the right to not experience rent increase because of the improvements or redevelopment; the right to have pets return that were registered with MPHA prior to conversion, the right to phased in rent increases where a rent increase is required by federal law or regulation, the right to a grievance process and continued procedural rights relating to lease violations following any conversion.

Be It Further Resolved that the City is committed to becoming a state and national leader in addressing the challenge facing public housing across the country.