

PUBLIC NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE DRAFT 2025 ANNUAL PHA PLAN

August 12, 2024

RHA is currently seeking public comment on its draft PHA Annual Plan for 2025, which will be effective on January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

The public review and comment period will run from August 12, 2024 through October 14, 2024. The Agency Plan is available online: <https://rentonhousing.org/resources/documentlibrary/other/2025AnnualPlan>

To be considered for incorporation into the plan, written comments must be submitted no later than 4:30 pm on October 14, 2024 to Michael Bishop via email at msb@rentonhousing.org or mail to RHA, Attn: Michael Bishop, 2900 NE 10th St., Renton, WA 98056-3133.

A Public Hearing on the 2025 Agency Plan will be held on October 28, 2024 at 9 AM. Contact Michael Bishop for registration information.

Streamlined Annual PHA Plan (HCV Only PHAs)	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing	OMB No. 2577-0226 Expires 03/31/2024
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Purpose. The 5-Year and Annual PHA Plans provide a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA's operations, programs, and services, including changes to these policies, and informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public of the PHA's mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families

Applicability. The Form HUD-50075-HCV is to be completed annually by HCV-Only PHAs. PHAs that meet the definition of a Standard PHA, Troubled PHA, High Performer PHA, Small PHA, or Qualified PHA do not need to submit this form. Where applicable, separate Annual PHA Plan forms are available for each of these types of PHAs.

Definitions.

- (1) **High-Performer PHA** – A PHA that owns or manages more than 550 combined public housing units and housing choice vouchers, and was designated as a high performer on both the most recent Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) and Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) assessments if administering both programs, or PHAS if only administering public housing.
- (2) **Small PHA** - A PHA that is not designated as PHAS or SEMAP troubled, that owns or manages less than 250 public housing units and any number of vouchers where the total combined units exceed 550.
- (3) **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Only PHA** - A PHA that administers more than 550 HCVs, was not designated as troubled in its most recent SEMAP assessment and does not own or manage public housing.
- (4) **Standard PHA** - A PHA that owns or manages 250 or more public housing units and any number of vouchers where the total combined units exceed 550, and that was designated as a standard performer in the most recent PHAS and SEMAP assessments.
- (5) **Troubled PHA** - A PHA that achieves an overall PHAS or SEMAP score of less than 60 percent.
- (6) **Qualified PHA** - A PHA with 550 or fewer public housing dwelling units and/or housing choice vouchers combined and is not PHAS or SEMAP troubled.

A. PHA Information.

A.1 PHA Name: Renton Housing Authority PHA Code: WA011
 PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): 01/2025
 PHA Inventory (Based on Annual Contributions Contract (ACC) units at time of FY beginning, above)
 Number of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) 653
 PHA Plan Submission Type: Annual Submission Revised Annual Submission

Availability of Information. In addition to the items listed in this form, PHAs must have the elements listed below readily available to the public. A PHA must identify the specific location(s) where the proposed PHA Plan, PHA Plan Elements, and all information relevant to the public hearing and proposed PHA Plan are available for inspection by the public. Additionally, the PHA must provide information on how the public may reasonably obtain additional information of the PHA policies contained in the standard Annual Plan but excluded from their streamlined submissions. At a minimum, PHAs must post PHA Plans, including updates, at the main office or central office of the PHA. PHAs are strongly encouraged to post complete PHA Plans on their official website.

PHA Consortia: (Check box if submitting a joint Plan and complete table below)

Participating PHAs	PHA Code	Program(s) in the Consortia	Program(s) not in the Consortia	No. of Units in Each Program
Lead HA:				

B.	Plan Elements.
B.1	<p>Revision of Existing PHA Plan Elements.</p> <p>a) Have the following PHA Plan elements been revised by the PHA since its last Annual Plan submission?</p> <p>Y N</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deconcentration and Other Policies that Govern Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial Resources.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rent Determination.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operation and Management.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informal Review and Hearing Procedures.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeownership Programs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs and Treatment of Income Changes Resulting from Welfare Program Requirements.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantial Deviation.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Amendment/Modification.</p> <p>(b) If the PHA answered yes for any element, describe the revisions for each element(s): Updating Administrative Plan with upcoming HOTMA changes effective 1/1/2024. Upon the Admin Plan revision, a Homeownership chapter will be put in place and begin offering to HCV tenants.</p>
B.2	New Activities. – Not Applicable
B.3	<p>Progress Report.</p> <p>Provide a description of the PHA’s progress in meeting its Mission and Goals described in its 5-Year PHA Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See attachment B.3 Progress Report
B.4	Capital Improvements. – Not Applicable
B.5	<p>Most Recent Fiscal Year Audit.</p> <p>(a) Were there any findings in the most recent FY Audit?</p> <p>Y N N/A</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) If yes, please describe: Not sure if any Findings will be found on Audits. State of Washington is finishing up FY2020 and Smith Marian and Company will be completing FY2021 and FY2022 before 12/31/2023</p>
C.	Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.
C.1	<p>Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments.</p> <p>(a) Did the RAB(s) have comments to the PHA Plan?</p> <p>Y N</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) If yes, comments must be submitted by the PHA as an attachment to the PHA Plan. PHAs must also include a narrative describing their analysis of the RAB recommendations and the decisions made on these recommendations.</p>
C.2	<p>Certification by State or Local Officials.</p> <p>Form HUD-50077-SL, <i>Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan</i>, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.</p>
C.3	<p>Civil Rights Certification/ Certification Listing Policies and Programs that the PHA has Revised since Submission of its Last Annual Plan.</p> <p>Form HUD-50077-ST-HCV-HP, <i>PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations Including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed</i>, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.</p>

C.4	<p>Challenged Elements. If any element of the PHA Plan is challenged, a PHA must include such information as an attachment with a description of any challenges to Plan elements, the source of the challenge, and the PHA's response to the public.</p> <p>(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Y N</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, include Challenged Elements.</p>
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D.	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).
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D.1	<p>Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).</p> <p>Provide a statement of the PHA's strategies and actions to achieve fair housing goals outlined in an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5). Use the chart provided below. (PHAs should add as many goals as necessary to overcome fair housing issues and contributing factors.) Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA is not obligated to complete this chart. The PHA will fulfill, nevertheless, the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) enacted prior to August 17, 2015. See Instructions for further detail on completing this item.</p>
	<p>Fair Housing Goal:</p> <p><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></p> <p>Renton Housing Authority strives to achieve Fair Housing Goals outlined in an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5) by including updates to the HCV Administrative Plan and policies dealing with HCV participants. RHA Staff is also required to complete an Annual Affirmative Fair Housing Training which covers discriminatory practices and laws.</p>
	<p>Fair Housing Goal:</p> <p><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></p> <p>Renton Housing Authority also strives to achieve fair housing goals by handling reasonable accommodation requests. If tenants need a different unit, we offer exit vouchers or work with tenants to transfer them to a reasonable unit that meets their needs. RHA will track those Reasonable Accommodation requests via spreadsheet by RHA's Section 504 Coordinator.</p> <p>Renton Housing Authority has in place a language access plan that ensures that program participants, applicants, and other community members who use RHA services who have Limited English Proficiency or communication needs have access to interpreters and/or translated documents so that they can meaningfully participate in RHA's programs. RHA is aiming to extend the effectiveness of its language access plan and completed a Four-Factor Analysis to update all vital documents for Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese translation to improve program participation among the Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese speaking population of the City of Renton.</p>

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Renton Housing Authority is committed to partnering with the Northwest Justice Project to make available the Tenant’s Right Clinic. The clinic is available via phone for Housing Choice Voucher recipients who receive housing assistance from RHA. The clinic provides free legal services to tenants who may be experiencing potentially legal issues with their landlords or have questions on whether their landlord is violating common landlord-tenant laws. This service will further address and prevent discriminatory practices and behaviors.

Instructions for Preparation of Form HUD-50075-HCV Annual PHA Plan for HCV-Only PHAs

A. PHA Information. All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR §903.4)

A.1 Include the full PHA Name, PHA Code, PHA Type, PHA Fiscal Year Beginning (MM/YYYY), Number of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs), PHA Plan Submission Type, and the Availability of Information, specific location(s) of all information relevant to the public hearing and proposed PHA Plan.

PHA Consortia: Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete the table. (24 CFR §943.128(a))

B. Plan Elements. All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR §903.11(c)(3))

B.1 Revision of Existing PHA Plan Elements. PHAs must:

Identify specifically which plan elements listed below that have been revised by the PHA. To specify which elements have been revised, mark the “yes” box. If an element has not been revised, mark “no.”

Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs. Provide a statement addressing the housing needs of low-income, very low-income and extremely low-income families and a brief description of the PHA’s strategy for addressing the housing needs of families who reside in the jurisdiction served by the PHA and other families who are on the Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting lists. The statement must identify the housing needs of (i) families with incomes below 30 percent of area median income (extremely low-income); (ii) elderly families (iii) households with individuals with disabilities, and households of various races and ethnic groups residing in the jurisdiction or on the public housing and Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting lists. The statement of housing needs shall be based on information provided by the applicable Consolidated Plan, information provided by HUD, and generally available data. The identification of housing needs must address issues of affordability, supply, quality, accessibility, size of units, and location. Once the PHA has submitted an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), which includes an assessment of disproportionate housing needs in accordance with 24 CFR 5.154(d)(2)(iv), information on households with individuals with disabilities and households of various races and ethnic groups residing in the jurisdiction or on the waiting lists no longer needs to be included in the Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs. (24 CFR § 903.7(a)).

The identification of housing needs must address issues of affordability, supply, quality, accessibility, size of units, and location. (24 CFR §903.7(a)(2)(i)) Provide a description of the ways in which the PHA intends, to the maximum extent practicable, to address those housing needs in the upcoming year and the PHA’s reasons for choosing its strategy. (24 CFR §903.7(a)(2)(ii))

Deconcentration and Other Policies that Govern Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions. A statement of the PHA’s policies that govern resident or tenant eligibility, selection and admission including admission preferences for HCV. (24 CFR §903.7(b))

Financial Resources. A statement of financial resources, including a listing by general categories, of the PHA’s anticipated resources, such as PHA HCV funding and other anticipated Federal resources available to the PHA, as well as tenant rents and other income available to support tenant-based assistance. The statement also should include the non-Federal sources of funds supporting each Federal program, and state the planned use for the resources. (24 CFR §903.7(c))

Rent Determination. A statement of the policies of the PHA governing rental contributions of families receiving tenant-based assistance, discretionary minimum tenant rents, and payment standard policies. (24 CFR §903.7(d))

Operation and Management. A statement that includes a description of PHA management organization, and a listing of the programs administered by the PHA. (24 CFR §903.7(e)).

Informal Review and Hearing Procedures. A description of the informal hearing and review procedures that the PHA makes available to its applicants. (24 CFR §903.7(f))

Homeownership Programs. A statement describing any homeownership programs (including project number and unit count) administered by the agency under section 8y of the 1937 Act, or for which the PHA has applied or will apply for approval. (24 CFR §903.7(k))

Self Sufficiency Programs and Treatment of Income Changes Resulting from Welfare Program Requirements. A description of any PHA programs relating to services and amenities coordinated, promoted, or provided by the PHA for assisted families, including those resulting from the PHA's partnership with other entities, for the enhancement of the economic and social self-sufficiency of assisted families, including programs provided or offered as a result of the PHA's partnerships with other entities, and activities subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 (24 CFR Part 135) and under requirements for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program and others. Include the program's size (including required and actual size of the FSS program) and means of allocating assistance to households. (24 CFR §903.7(l)(i)) Describe how the PHA will comply with the requirements of section 12(c) and (d) of the 1937 Act that relate to treatment of income changes resulting from welfare program requirements. (24 CFR §903.7(l)(iii)).

Substantial Deviation. PHA must provide its criteria for determining a "substantial deviation" to its 5-Year Plan. (24 CFR §903.7(r)(2)(i))

Significant Amendment/Modification. PHA must provide its criteria for determining a "Significant Amendment or Modification" to its 5-Year and Annual Plan.

If any boxes are marked "yes", describe the revision(s) to those element(s) in the space provided.

B.2 New Activities. This section refers to new capital activities which is not applicable for HCV-Only PHAs.

B.3 Progress Report. For all Annual Plans following submission of the first Annual Plan, a PHA must include a brief statement of the PHA's progress in meeting the mission and goals described in the 5-Year PHA Plan. (24 CFR §903.11(c)(3), 24 CFR §903.7(r)(1))

See attached progress report

B.4 Capital Improvements. This section refers to PHAs that receive funding from the Capital Fund Program (CFP) which is not applicable for HCV-Only PHAs

B.5 Most Recent Fiscal Year Audit. If the results of the most recent fiscal year audit for the PHA included any findings, mark "yes" and describe those findings in the space provided. (24 CFR §903.7(p))

C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.

C.1 Resident Advisory Board (RAB) comments. If the RAB had comments on the annual plan, mark "yes," submit the comments as an attachment to the Plan and describe the analysis of the comments and the PHA's decision made on these recommendations. (24 CFR §903.13(c), 24 CFR §903.19)

C.2 Certification by State of Local Officials. Form HUD-50077-SL, *Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan*, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan. (24 CFR §903.15). Note: A PHA may request to change its fiscal year to better coordinate its planning with planning done under the Consolidated Plan process by State or local officials as applicable.

C.3 Civil Rights Certification/ Certification Listing Policies and Programs that the PHA has Revised since Submission of its Last Annual Plan. Provide a certification that the following plan elements have been revised, provided to the RAB for comment before implementation, approved by the PHA board, and made available for review and inspection by the public. This requirement is satisfied by completing and submitting form HUD-50077 ST-HCV-HP, *PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations Including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed*. Form HUD-50077-ST-HCV-HP, *PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations Including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed* must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan. This includes all certifications relating to Civil Rights and related regulations. A PHA will be considered in compliance with the certification requirement to affirmatively further fair housing if the PHA fulfills the requirements of §§ 903.7(o)(1) and 903.15(d) and: (i) examines its programs or proposed programs; (ii) identifies any fair housing issues and contributing factors within those programs, in accordance with 24 CFR 5.154; or 24 CFR 5.160(a)(3) as applicable (iii) specifies actions and strategies designed to address contributing factors, related fair housing issues, and goals in the applicable Assessment of Fair Housing consistent with 24 CFR 5.154 in a reasonable manner in view of the resources available; (iv) works with jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; (v) operates programs in a manner consistent with any applicable consolidated plan under 24 CFR part 91, and with any order or agreement, to comply with the authorities specified in paragraph (o)(1) of this section; (vi) complies with any contribution or consultation requirement with respect to any applicable AFH, in accordance with 24 CFR 5.150 through 5.180; (vii) maintains records reflecting these analyses, actions, and the results of these actions; and (viii) takes steps acceptable to HUD to remedy known fair housing or civil rights violations, impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with the local jurisdiction to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing; and assures that the annual plan is consistent with any applicable Consolidated Plan for its jurisdiction. (24 CFR §903.7(o)).

C.4 Challenged Elements. If any element of the Annual PHA Plan or 5-Year PHA Plan is challenged, a PHA must include such information as an attachment to the Annual PHA Plan or 5-Year PHA Plan with a description of any challenges to Plan elements, the source of the challenge, and the PHA's response to the public.

D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).

D.1 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. The PHA will use the answer blocks in item D.1 to provide a statement of its strategies and actions to implement each fair housing goal outlined in its accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5) that states, in relevant part: "To implement goals and priorities in an AFH, strategies and actions shall be included in program participants' ... PHA Plans (including any plans incorporated therein) Strategies and actions must affirmatively further fair housing" Use the chart provided to specify each fair housing goal from the PHA's AFH for which the PHA is the responsible program participant – whether the AFH was prepared solely by the PHA, jointly with one or more other PHAs, or in

collaboration with a state or local jurisdiction – and specify the fair housing strategies and actions to be implemented by the PHA during the period covered by this PHA Plan. If there are more than three fair housing goals, add answer blocks as necessary.

Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFFH, the PHA will not have to complete section D., nevertheless, the PHA will address its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing in part by fulfilling the requirements at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(3) enacted prior to August 17, 2015, which means that it examines its own programs or proposed programs; identifies any impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; and maintain records reflecting these analyses and actions. Furthermore, under Section 5A(d)(15) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, a PHA must submit a civil rights certification with its Annual PHA Plan, which is described at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(1) except for qualified PHAs who submit the Form HUD-50077-CR as a standalone document.

This information collection is authorized by Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act, which added a new section 5A to the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, which introduced the Annual PHA Plan. The Annual PHA Plan provides a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA's operations, programs, and services, and informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 6.02 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Privacy Act Notice. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality

B.3. Progress Report

RHA continues to reinforce the agency's mission of expanding quality affordable housing through new construction projects and partnerships. The agency also continues to connect residents with human and social services by owning and managing a multi-service hub.

RHA is committed to expanding affordable housing options by continuing to partner with Homestead Community Land Trust to promote the expansion of additional affordable homeownership townhomes, known as Willow Crest Phase II.

The most recent project, Sunset Gardens, is a 76-unit apartment complex with a mix of studio and one-bedroom units. 50% of the units are set aside at 30% of the area median income and 50% are set aside for 50% of the area median income. The new apartments are dedicated for seniors and persons with disabilities. Construction began in July 2022 and was completed by March 7, 2024, with 100% lease up by July 2024. The project is funded by Low-Income Housing Tax Credits. Sunset Gardens was built on the current Renton Housing Authority administrative office site. RHA's office and staff was temporarily relocated until construction was completed and moved back to occupy the ground floor commercial space around February 10, 2024.

RHA continues to own and manage the Sunset Neighborhood Center (SNC), a service hub located in the heart of the Sunset Neighborhood, where a large portion of the housing portfolio is situated. The SNC hosts our partners including HealthPoint, Neighborhood House, and St. Vincent de Paul's Centro Rendu. Our partners offer primary medical care, behavioral health services, case management, and culturally sensitive educational, legal, and financial services for the Spanish-speaking community. www.sunsetneighborhoodcenter.org.

RHA owns a piece of property that in Unincorporated King County, in an unincorporated city of Fairwood, which consists of 4.94 acres of flat, developable land with a house located on it with an additional 14.95 acres of wetlands and marsh below the 4.94 acres, which has a steep grade of an additional 80 plus feet to the lower area. This property was purchased by prior administrative staff and board in 2006 but RHA cannot develop on this land to any extent that would be beneficial to keep it. RHA is currently working with King County Parks and Recreation to see if they will purchase it from RHA to incorporate it into their Soos Creek Park System, which adjoins one corner of the property line. RHA will work on an appraisal of the land/property to get the greatest return back to use in other areas, such as decreasing or paying off a loan of one of RHA's solely owned property that has construction debt on.

RHA also owns three parcels where their old, original low-income public housing was located. The LIPH or Low-Income Public Housing was demolished years ago but the land was never disposed of through the SAC or Special Application Center through the HUD or US Department of Housing and Urban Development.