



Howard County Housing Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 29, 2024

3:00 PM – 5:00PM PM

Via Zoom

Agenda

1. Welcome/Introductions

i. Attendance during the meeting including the following: Ahmna Khan, Timothy Weins, Patricia Sylvester, Diane Dressler, Katie Ihrke, Andy Krauss, Sarah Hochbaum, Mark Dunham, Mattia Bryant, Matthew Plantz, Erin Ashinghurst and Dorothy Plantz.

2. Review of July Minutes- There were no additional comments, questions or suggestions for the meeting.

3. DHCD Updates

- HUD has announced new 2025 System Measurement Reporting Standards (SMRS).
- The implementation date for these new standards is **October 1**.
- The implementation date for HUD's Hatma program has been **pushed back to 2025**.
- DHCD has **not yet released updates** to its administrative plan.
- Until updates are provided, DHCD will continue to follow **existing protocols** for the DEA program.
- Unfortunately, **Maryland was not selected** in its recent application for HUD 811 PRA (Project Rental Assistance) funding.
- DHCD is working with HUD to request a **debriefing** on the application.
- State partners will jointly attend this debriefing to understand the **final score** and review the **relevant ranking sections**.

4. Patuxent Commons

- Matthew gave an update, mentioning that funding for Patuxent Commons is complete, and the groundbreaking is expected in September. Financing was closed

in July, and they are awaiting further tenant selection and concierge service development.

5. Housing Updates-

Sarah gave the following updates:

- **Dorsey Overlook Property:** A group of girls are set to move into this location soon and are excited.
- **Maple Lawn Complex:** A male client has successfully moved into an apartment at the Vine Apartments in the Maple Lawn area. He works at Harris Teeter, and several coworkers live at the same complex, creating a supportive environment.
- A young woman is interested in MIHU housing in the Elkridge area of Howard County. This form of housing is working well for Sarah's clients, particularly those working and receiving disability income.
- Discussion of the challenge of finding updated vacancy information.

6. October 7th Housing Commission-

- Discussion on Howard County Housing Commission's five-year plan
- Proposal to advocate for allocation of vouchers for people with disabilities
- New HUD guidance on mainstream vouchers discussed (120-day initial search time)
- Suggestion to advocate for separate waitlist for mainstream vouchers
- Communication strategies to include social media (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn) for advocacy.
- Plan to draft in-person plan for testimony and send for group feedback.

7. Howard County Committee Member Updates

- Downtown Columbia Housing-Six accessible units at Marlow expected to be available in late November
- Artists Flats and new cultural center moving forward, land closing expected mid-October
- Lakefront North project on hold due to lawsuit, 70 affordable units affected
- ARC is hosting golf tournament at Waverly Woods on upcoming Friday.

- Board inclusion toolkit for IDD members being developed, to be presented at Maryland Nonprofits conference
- PBS NewsHour piece on housing hurdles for people with disabilities shared

10. Next Meeting – Thursday October 24th