



**Chicago Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners Public Session
May 19, 2015
CHA Corporate Office – 60 E. Van Buren**

	Name	Question/Comment	Response
1	Charlie Barlow	<p>1) I have two letters to hand out to the Board, the first is dated Tuesday, February 3, and calls for the review of record management practices at CHA following the loss of documents I requested via FOIA related to Lake Parc Place. It's important to be open and transparent. Also I sent a separate request to CHA and the Park District for an identical record, what was striking to me is that the response was different.</p> <p>2) The second letter is dated May 14, 2015 and I sent another FOIA request asking for several Plan Forward deliverables from the Authority. These documents were promised in Plan Forward, which came out in April 2013 – and to date they have not been published, which is concerning. I find it worrisome that CHA every month votes on striving to bring a re-imagination of the final phase of the Plan for Transformation to develop healthy and vibrant communities without these three things, which are: 1) The blueprint for 25,000 units 2) a comprehensive analysis of desired components for the development of vibrant communities and 3) an annual community engagement plan and community governance strategy customized to each mixed-income property. These missing deliverables are at the foundation of Plan Forward and I think it's a failure to have gone more than two years without publishing these documents, and that failure is on all of you.</p>	<p>1) Your comment has been received. In terms of the two FOIA requests you reference, CHA provided you with any and all documents within CHA's possession, responsive to your requests, in accordance with 5 ILCS 140.</p> <p>2) CHA received your May 14 letter and we are working to provide you with a response to your concerns.</p>

2	Lindsay Graves	<p>This is about senior housing and the RAD program. It is commendable in its concept, however the implementation is problematic. The catch word for the day is diversity in the city. We are now being called Chiraq, people are dying. The concept of trying to move people into housing is commendable, but the areas where the voucher system and RAD program is, is right in the middle of the gentrification process. I would not like to see what happened with Cabrini, where the people who lived there are no longer there. We need to be careful with how we implement this program. As seniors, we are being told we have building project vouchers, meaning we can't move around as we once did. There are unanswered questions with this voucher system, there will be out of pocket costs.</p>	<p>Residents that live in buildings that are part of the RAD program are eligible for a new benefit that permits more options for moves as well as the existing transfer process. After one year of living in a RAD-converted property, a resident has the option to request a tenant-based voucher. With a tenant-based voucher, a resident may choose to relocate to a qualified rental property in Chicago or other parts of the country. While it is CHA's desire that senior residents choose to stay in the buildings, the tenant-based voucher is a new option that is available to them.</p> <p>There will be no new costs to residents that live in buildings that are part of the RAD program. Rent will still be calculated the same (30% of household income) and all existing deductions will continue under RAD. For more information see Chapter 18 of the 2015 Administrative Plan: http://www.thecha.org/file.aspx?DocumentId=1499</p>
3	Linda Dent	<p>Will the rent calculation be the same as they are now when we become RAD? Will we still get our medical deductions and will we still get our utility allowance?</p>	<p>Rent will continue to be calculated the same (30% of household income). Residents that currently pay flat rent will pay 30% of their household income, but any increase in rent will be phased in over five years. Medical deductions and utility allowances will continue to apply to residents living in RAD buildings, the same as in public housing. . For more information see Chapter 18 of the 2015 Administrative Plan: http://www.thecha.org/file.aspx?DocumentId=1499</p>
4	David Schlessinger	<p>Most of you know me so I don't need to introduce myself. I commend this gentleman for what he said because I too have a similar concern about CHA being open and honest. For the past ten years I have been complaining that CHA has been wasting funds and the inspection companies have been conducting erroneous inspections with unqualified inspectors. CVR is not qualified either. I am sure you also know that several years ago after giving CHA years to correct these issues, I filed a federal lawsuit which has been pending for three years and is about to go to jury. My attorneys, some of them, are Alderman Howard Brookins, Senator Michael Nolan and the former head of the Philadelphia HA. Pursuant to our discovery we found out, through one of the testimonies which was public, one of your former managers of enforcement testified in an open deposition that there were millions of dollars of public funds wasted because of erroneous reports (thousands), and Ana Vargas the President and CEO refused four requests to provide this information to HUD, so HUD never knew about this, but I am sure they will once it goes to trial.</p>	<p>CHA does not comment on ongoing litigation.</p>

5	Mary Gill	<p>I am here to make a confirmation with Mr. Merchant on our meeting which will be in June. I requested through email with Ms. Jones, and she stated sometime in June, I would like confirmation please. And the next item I would like to discuss is thank you, I appreciate housing. I have been going through some troubled times and I want to thank the resident services at CHA, Andy Teitelman, Glenda Clark and Brian Witt, have been very supportive of me and my condition. And last I would like to commend my management, Woodlawn, Mr. Dupont and Tina Tanner. They are outstanding. If you have any ideas to remove them, please don't, they work very well with residents.</p>	<p>Due to the change in CHA leadership, new arrangements will need to be made.</p>
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