

## **Board Matters**

**January 25, 2024**

### **Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) Scholarship Program**

Commissioner McCoy spoke briefly about the FCRHA Scholarship Program and shared some personal experiences from serving on the Scholarship Committee during the program's first year. He recognized HCD staff for their incredibly organized work assembling all the application materials for each applicant. Commissioner McCoy mentioned that during the review process, the committee had great in-depth discussions about the application process and the intent of the program. He discussed how fulfilling it was to see some of the scholarship recipients who attended the FCRHA's ceremony.

Commissioner McCoy affirmed that providing steady affordable housing is paramount for the FCRHA, but the FCRHA is also committed to assisting its residents further their education. That commitment is demonstrated through the FCRHA Scholarship Program. Commissioner McCoy indicated that for year two of the program further consideration should be given to how applications will be evaluated and how scholarships will be awarded so that more residents have an opportunity to benefit from the program.

### **Presentations from Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Staff**

Chairman Stanton thanked HCD staff for the Action Item presentations given during the FCRHA's meeting. She stated that the presentations were well done and helped highlight important information included in the meeting materials.

### **One University**

Tom Fleetwood, Director, HCD, shared that he and some members of HCD staff recently took a hardhat tour of the One University development adjacent to George Mason University in the Braddock District. He suggested that all the Commissioners, if they had not already, drive by to get a glimpse of the project. Mr. Fleetwood highlighted that one of the many benefits of the project is that the FCRHA will have its own meeting space again. It is anticipated that the FCRHA will begin using the new meeting space prior to the end of the calendar year.

### **FCRHA receives Award of Excellence from NAHRO**

Director Fleetwood announced that in January 2024, staff were notified that the FCRHA had won an Award of Excellence from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) for the Hybla Valley Community Center (HVCC) in the Franconia District. The FCRHA purchased the former indoor tennis facility and converted it into the HVCC, which is operated by the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.

### **Annual Statement of Economic Interest Filings**

Director Fleetwood reminded the Commissioners that it is time to file their Statement of Economic Interest for 2024. The filing deadline is February 1, 2024. Staff have sent email reminders with instructions on how to complete and file the form.

### **2024 General Assembly Session**

Director Fleetwood stated that the 2024 General Assembly Session convened on January 10, 2024, and will adjourn on March 9, 2024. As in previous years, County staff, led by Linda Hoffman, Associate Director of Policy, Policy and Compliance, HCD, will be monitoring proposed bills and keeping the FCRHA informed of potential impacts. Staff have sent the FCRHA the annual Fairfax County memo regarding lobbying by County agencies, Boards, Authorities and Commissioners. If there are any questions, Commissioners can reach out to staff or the Office of the County Attorney.

### **Anticipated Grand Opening of Ilda's Overlook**

Director Fleetwood announced that staff are anticipating that the grand opening for Ilda's Overlook in the Braddock District will be held in March 2024 by the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing. Ilda's Overlook will deliver 85 new units of affordable senior housing. More information to come soon.

### **HCD Staff Announcements**

Director Fleetwood informed the Commissioners that Dina Pina, Director, Programs, Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, HCD, and Vin Rogers, Director, Policy and Compliance, HCD, have accepted promotional opportunities outside of Fairfax County. Ms. Pina has been named the Deputy Director of Homeless Services for Montgomery County, Maryland. Mr. Rogers has been appointed the inaugural Director of Housing for Frederick County, Maryland. Director Fleetwood expressed how thrilled he is for staff to receive these opportunities and thanked them for their contributions to the County and the FCRHA.