PHA Plans for the Mercedes Housing Authority Five-Year/Annual Plan for FYB 2025

Arturo Torres, Executive Director FYB October 1, 2025

FINAL DRAFT



Presented by:



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- B Plan Elements. Required for all PHAs completing this form
- **Mission.** State the PHA's mission for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families in the PHA's jurisdiction for the next five years.

The Housing Authority's mission is to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income and extremely low-income families in the PHA's jurisdiction and to (1) increase the availability of decent, safe and affordable housing in its communities; (2) ensure equal opportunity in housing; (3) promote self-sufficiency and asset development of families and individuals; and (4) improve community quality of life and economic viability. The Housing Authority exists to serve people in need. Service to the residents must always be our first and foremost priority. It is our goal to provide excellence in service by being committed to improving the housing conditions of the community. To accomplish this goal, we must constantly strive to expand and improve housing and related service through dedication, integrity, compassion and responsiveness to all the needs of those we serve.

B.2 Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA's quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families for the next five years.

PHA GOAL #1: EXPAND THE SUPPLY OF ASSISTED HOUSING

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #1:

- Apply for additional rental vouchers
- Reduce public housing vacancies

PHA GOAL #2: IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF ASSISTED HOUSING

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #2:

- Improve public housing management (PHAS score)
- Improve voucher management (SEMAP score)
- Increase customer satisfaction
- Concentrate on efforts to improve specific management functions (e.g., public housing finance; voucher unit inspections)
- Renovate or modernize public housing units

PHA GOAL #3: INCREASE ASSISTED HOUSING CHOICES

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #3

- Provide voucher mobility counseling
- Conduct outreach efforts to potential voucher landlords

B.2 PHA GOAL #4: PROVIDE AN IMPROVED LIVING ENVIRONMENT

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #4

- Implement measures to deconcentrate poverty by bringing higher income public housing households into lower income developments
- Designate developments or buildings for particular resident groups (elderly, persons with disabilities)

PHA GOAL #5: PROMOTE SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND ASSET DEVELOPMENT OF ASSISTED HOUSEHOLDS

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #5

Provide or attract supportive services to improve assistance recipients' employability

PHA GOAL #6: ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #6

- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability
- Undertake affirmative measures to provide a suitable living environment for families living in assisted housing, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status and disability
- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure accessible housing to persons with all varieties of disabilities regardless of unit size required
- B.3 Progress Statements. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.

Goals/Objectives

PHA GOAL #1: EXPAND THE SUPPLY OF ASSISTED HOUSING

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #1:

- Apply for additional rental vouchers as needed when funding availability announced
- Reduce public housing vacancies

<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority has held new landlord briefings to attract new landlords to our HCV Program. We are trying to encourage our Public Housing Residents to apply for the HCV Program as well.

B.3 PHA GOAL #2: IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF ASSISTED HOUSING

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- Improve voucher management
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<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority developments have been improved. Substantial rehabilitation has been completed at our developments. Painting of interior and exterior walls in units, new HVAC units and kitchen cabinets in all units, new metal roofing.

PHA GOAL #3: INCREASE ASSISTED HOUSING CHOICES

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #3

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- Conduct outreach efforts to potential voucher landlords

<u>Progress Statement:</u> Mercedes Housing Authority placed an article in the newspaper inviting new landlords to inform them about the program along with placing information on our website.

PHA GOAL #4: PROVIDE AN IMPROVED LIVING ENVIRONMENT

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #4

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- Designate developments or buildings for particular resident groups

<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority works closely with the Mercedes Police Department. MHA will continue to stay informed on the new innovations that may benefit the improvement of life and economic vitality.

PHA GOAL #5: PROMOTE SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND ASSET DEVELOPMENT OF ASSISTED HOUSEHOLDS

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #5

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<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority will continue to make the items listed above on-going and will continue to make it possible for the residents to become self-efficient.

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- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure accessible housing to persons with all varieties of disabilities regardless of unit size required

<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority is working with other PHA's and Hidalgo County and have resubmitted AFFH Plan.

- **B.4** Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA's goals, activities objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. (See attachment tx029c01)
- C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.
- C.1 Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan.

Substantial Deviation

- Additions or deletions of Strategic Goals
- Any deviation that requires reviews and input by the Resident Advisory Board as well as approval by the Board of Commissioners.

Significant Amendment/Modification

- Any change to rent or admissions policies or organization of the waiting list;
- Additions of any non-emergency* work items over \$50,000 (items not included in the latest approved Capital Fund Annual Statement or 5-Year Action Plan) or change in use of replacement reserve funds (if applicable) under the Capital Fund Program; and
- Any change with regard to a proposed demolition, disposition, designation of housing, homeownership programs, Capital Fund Financing, development, mixed financing, RAD, or any other conversion activities.

An exception to this definition will be made for any of the above that are adopted to reflect changes in HUD regulatory requirements since such changes are not considered significant.

C.1	This criterion does not supersede the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 (Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements), as well as federal, state, or local regulations or statues.
	Any future issuance of HUD guidelines or additional regulations shall take precedence over the above criterion.
	* Emergency – means physical work items of an emergency nature, posing an immediate threat to the health and safety of residents or staff, which must be completed within one year of capital grant funding. Management improvements are not eligible as emergency work.
C.2	Resident Advisory Board (RAB Comments.
	(a) Did the RAB(s) provide comments to the 5-Year PHA Plan? (See attachment tx029a01)
	Y N
	(b) If yes, comments must be submitted by the PHA as an attachment to the 5-Year PHA Plan. PHAs must also include a narrative describing their analysis of the RAB recommendations and the decisions made on these recommendations. <i>N/A</i>
C.3	Certification by State or 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.
C.4	Required Submission of HUD FO Review
	(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?
H C	Y N
	(b) If yes, include Challenged Elements. N/A
D.	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).
D.1	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH). (Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)
	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

D.1 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. N/A

Streamlined Annual PHA Plan (Small 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. Form HUD-50075-SM is to be completed annually by Small PHAs. PHAs that meet the definition of a Standard PHA, Troubled PHA, High Performer PHA, HCV-Only PHA, or Qualified PHA do not need to submit this form.

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 of the most recent Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) and Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) assessments.
- (2) Small PHA A PHA that is not designated as PHAS or SEMAP troubled or manages less than 250 public housing units and any number of vouchers where the total combined units exceeds 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 exceeds 550, and that was designated as a standard performer in the most recent PHAS or 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.

Α.	PHA Information.
A.1	PHA Name: Mercedes Housing Authority PHA Code: TX029 PHA Type: ⊠ Small PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): 10/2025 PHA Inventory (Based on Annual Contributions Contract (ACC) units at time of FY beginning, above) Number of Public Housing (PH) Units: 230 Number of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs): 424 Total Combined: 654 PHA Plan Submission Type: ⊠ Annual Submission □Revised Annual Submission

A.1	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 each Asset Management Project (AMP) and main office or central office of the PHA. PHAs are strongly encouraged to post complete PHA Plans on their official website. PHAs are also encouraged to provide each resident council a copy of their PHA Plans. The following are the specific locations where the public may obtain copies of the 2025 Annual PHA Plan:							
			Office – 306 West 5	th Street, Mercedes, T.	X 78570			
	☐ PHA Consorti	a: (Check b	oox if submitting a J	oint PHA Plan and co	mplete tab	ole below)		
	1	I I			No. of U	nits in Each		
	Participating PHAs	PHA Code	Program(s) in the Consortia	Program(s) not in the Consortia	PH PH	HCV		
	Lead PHA:		12			335,47		
						4 - 7		
В.	completing this do not need to be com	cument in	years in which the 5 years when a Small	ans. Required elemer- Year Plan is also due PHA is not submitting her years (Years 1-4).	e. This sect g its 5-Yea	ion does		
B.1	Revision of Existi	ng PHA P	lan Elements.	7.9.9	er som s	Car Valore		
	(a) Have the following PHA Plan elements been revised by the PHA since its last <u>Five-Year</u> <u>PHA Plan</u> submission?							
	Y N Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs Deconcentration and Other Policies that Govern Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions. Financial Resources. Rent Determination. Homeownership Programs. Substantial Deviation. Significant Amendment/Modification							
	(b) The PHA must		Deconcentration Po	licy for Field Office F	Review. (S	ee		

B.1 (c) If the PHA answered yes for any element, describe the revisions for each element below:

Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs

Statement of Housing Needs:

Waiting List for Public Housing:

Total: 242

Extremely Low Income: 125-52% Very Low Income: 102-42%

Low Income: 15-6%

Families with children: 172-71%

Elderly families: 60-25%

Families with Disabilities: 10-4%

White: 5-2%

Hispanic: 237-98%

Bedrooms:

1 BR: 123-51% 2 BR: 55-23% 3 BR: 52-21% 4 BR: 12-5%

The waiting list is not closed.

Waiting List for Section 8

Total: 185 – annual turnover of 42 Extremely Low Income: 179-97%

Very Low Income: 5-3% Low Income: 1-0.5%

Families with children: 132-71%

Elderly families: 28-15%

Families with Disabilities: 25-14%

White: 2-1%

Black/African American: 2-1%

Hispanic: 181-98%

The waiting list has been closed for 3 months. The PHA does expect to reopen the list in the PHA Plan year.

B.1 Deconcentration and Other Policies that Govern Eligibility, Selection and Admissions

Public Housing

Deconcentration and Income Mixing:

The PHA has performed its annual deconcentration and income mixing analysis to determine if the PHA has any general occupancy public housing developments covered by the deconcentration rule. The analysis results follow:

The PHA does have general occupancy public housing developments covered by the deconcentration rule.

The following covered developments have an average income that falls above or below the Established Income Range.

Deconcentration Policy for Covered Developments						
Development Name:	Number of Units	Explanation (if any) [see step 4 at §903.2(c)(1)((iv)]	Deconcentration policy (if no explanation) [see step 5 at §903.2(c)(1)(v)]			
Queen City #3	31	C. The Covered Development's or Development's size, location and/or configuration promote income deconcentration, such as scattered site or small developments				
Crown Haven	4	C. The Covered Development's or Development's size, location and/or configuration promote income deconcentration, such as scattered site or small developments	e gymet and the			

	cial Resources: Sources and Uses							
Sources	Planned \$	Planned Use						
1. Federal Grants (FY 2025 grants)								
a) Public Housing Operating Fund	900,247.00							
b) Public Housing Capital Fund	607,687.00	est a la l						
c) HOPE VI Revitalization								
d) HOPE VI Demolition								
e) Annual Contributions for Section 8 Tenant-Based Assistance	2,135,520.00							
f) Resident Opportunity and Self- Sufficiency Grants								
g) Community Development Block Grant								
h) HOME								
Other Federal Grants (list below)								
2. Prior Year Federal Grants (unobligated funds only) (list below)								
3. Public Housing Dwelling Rental Income	740,000.00	Public housing operations						
4. Other income (list below)								
Excess Electricity	23,000.00	Public housing operations						
Late Charges	9,000.00	Public housing operations						
Work Orders/Laundry money	5,100.00	Public housing operations						
5. Non-federal sources (list below)								
Total resources	\$4,420,554.00							
New Activities.								
(a) Does the PHA intend to undertake any ne PHA's current Fiscal Year?	w activities related to the	ne following in the						
Y N								

2	☐ Units with Approved Vacancies for Modernization. ☐ Other Capital Grant Programs (i.e., Capital Fund Community Facilities Grants or Emergency Safety and Security Grants).
	(b) If any of these activities are planned for the current Fiscal Year, describe the activities. For new demolition activities, describe any public housing development or portion thereof, owned by the PHA for which the PHA has applied or will apply for demolition and/or disposition approval under section 18 of the 1937 Act under the separate demolition/disposition approval process. If using Project-Based Vouchers (PBVs), provide the projected number of project-based units and general locations, and describe how project basing would be consistent with the PHA

The Mercedes Housing Authority is exploring the possibility of conducting a disposition application for any MHA development (site-wide).

Conversion of Public Housing to Project-Based Assistance under RAD

MHA is firmly committed to improving the quality of life for its residents and providing deeply affordable housing to extremely low to moderately low-income individuals and families. Through the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, MHA will continue to own its properties and provide its residents with expanded choices and opportunities. MHA will also have the ability to evaluate and immediately address many needed capital improvements and provide additional amenities currently not offered in its public housing portfolio. MHA will continue to serve the same population, provide workforce development, health & wellness, and educational programs/assistance, as well as access new funding sources for property and amenity improvements. The RAD program offers MHA an opportunity to transition from its current public housing funding platform to a more stable, predictable and sustainable funding source. The same families who are eligible today for public housing will be eligible for the RAD program.

MHA is exploring the options available and will make the best decision for the MHA residents. Currently, MHA has 226 units of traditional public housing. For the past 10 years, MHA has achieved a High Performer and Standard designation in the operations of our public housing program due to ongoing federal budget cuts and the implications of those cuts for public housing authorities across the country. The RAD program provides the authority to convert various housing programs to long-term project-based Section 8 rental assistance and serve as a tool in addressing the large capital needs of public housing by providing MHA with access to private sources of capital to repair and preserve its affordable housing assets. More specifically, this program may allow MHA the ability to address needed capital improvements and offer additional amenities, including safety improvements, air conditioning, electrical and plumbing system upgrades, interior and exterior renovations, site enhancements, and grounds and landscaping for greater accessibility for families, persons with disabilities and others with special needs.

B.2 Units with Approved Vacancies for Modernization

The Mercedes Housing Authority will submit units that have been damaged for approved modernization as needed; case by case basis.

B.3 Progress Report. Provide a description of the PHA's progress in meeting its Mission and Goals described in its most recent 5-Year PHA Plan.

Mission

The Housing Authority's mission is to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income and extremely low-income families in the PHA's jurisdiction and to (1) increase the availability of decent, safe and affordable housing in its communities; (2) ensure equal opportunity in housing; (3) promote self-sufficiency and asset development of families and individuals; and (4) improve community quality of life and economic viability. The Housing Authority exists to serve people in need. Service to the residents must always be our first and foremost priority. It is our goal to provide excellence in service by being committed to improving the housing conditions of the community. To accomplish this goal, we must constantly strive to expand and improve housing and related service through dedication, integrity, compassion and responsiveness to all the needs of those we serve.

Goals/Objectives

PHA GOAL #1: EXPAND THE SUPPLY OF ASSISTED HOUSING

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #1

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- Reduce public housing vacancies

<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority has held new landlord briefings to attract new landlords to our HCV Program. We are trying to encourage our Public Housing Residents to apply for the HCV Program as well.

GOAL #2: IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF ASSISTED HOUSING

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- Improve voucher management
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Provide or attract supportive services to improve assistance recipients' employability

<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority will continue to make the items listed above on-going and will continue to make it possible for the residents to become self-efficient.

PHA GOAL #6: ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING

The PHA established the following objectives to strive in meeting goal #6

- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability
- Undertake affirmative measures to provide a suitable living environment for families living in assisted housing, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status and disability
- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure accessible housing to persons with all varieties of disabilities regardless of unit size required

<u>Progress Statement:</u> The Mercedes Housing Authority is working with other PHA's and Hidalgo County and have resubmitted AFFH Plan.

B.4	<u>Capital Improvements.</u> Required in all years for all PHAs completing this form that administer public housing and receive funding from the Capital Fund Program (CFP).
	1) Capital Improvements. Include a reference here to the most recent HUD approved 5-Year Action Plan (HUD-50075.2) and the date that it was approved by HUD.
	See Capital Fund 5 Year Action Plan in EPIC approved by HUD on <u>07/31/2024</u>
B.5	Most Recent Fiscal Year Audit.
	(a) Were there any findings in the most recent FY Audit?
	Y N
	If, yes, please describe: N/A
	Plan Elements Submitted All Other Years (Years 1-4). Required elements for all other fiscal years. This section does not need to be completed in years when a Small PHA is submitting its 5-Year PHA Plan.
B.1	New Activities Not Required - PHA is preparing Five-Year PHA Plan
B.2	Capital Improvements. Include a reference here to the most recent HUD-approved 5-Year Action Plan (HUD-50075.2) in EPIC and the date that it was approved. Not Required – PHA is preparing Five-Year PHA Plan
C.	Other Document or Certification Requirements for Annual Plan Submissions. Required in all submission years.
C.1	Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments.
	(a) Did the RAB(s) provide comments to the PHA Plan? (See attachment tx029a01)
	Y N M
	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. <i>N/A</i>
C.2	Certification by State or 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.

C.3	Civil Rights Certification/Certification Listing Policies and Programs that the PHA has Revised since Submission of its Last Annual Plan
	Form 50077-SM, PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Regulations – Including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.
C.4	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.
	(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?
	Y N
	If yes, include Challenged Elements. N/A
D	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).
D.1	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).
	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. <i>N/A</i>

Attachment: tx029a01 Mercedes Housing Authority Resident Advisory Board Consultation Process and Comments – FYB 2025

- Meeting Organization
 Schedule date to meet with Resident Advisory Board for input to PHA Plan
 Notify Resident Advisory Board of scheduled meeting February 26, 2025
 Hold Resident Advisory Board meeting March 5, 2025
- Notification of Public Hearing
 Schedule date for Public Hearing and place ad April 25, 2025
 Notify Resident Advisory Board June 3, 2025
 Hold Public Hearing meeting June 10, 2025
- 3. Documentation of resident recommendations and PHA's response to recommendations

There were no comments/recommendations received.

Attachment: tx029b01
Mercedes Housing Authority
Deconcentration
(From ACOP Policy)

Deconcentration

The offers will be made in the following manner.

To the maximum extent feasible, the deconcentration and income-mixing requirements of the QHWRA will be followed. Families with incomes ranging from 0% to 80% of median income will be selected in accordance with the tenant selection section of this policy. Families with the highest incomes will be offered units in developments where average family incomes are lowest. Conversely, families with the lowest incomes will be offered units in developments with the highest average family incomes. The PHA may offer incentives to families to accomplish the de-concentration and income-mixing objectives.

The PHA may employ a system of income ranges in order to maintain a resident body composed of families with a range of incomes and rent paying abilities representative of the range of incomes among low-income families in the PHA's area of operation, and may take into account the average rent the PHA should receive to maintain financial solvency. The PHA's selection policies are designed so that selection of new public housing residents will bring the PHA's actual distribution of rents closer to the projected distribution of rents.

The PHA will select, based on date and time of application, two (2) families in the extremely low-income category and two (2) families from the lower income category (31% to 80% of area median income) alternately until the forty percent (40%) admission requirement of extremely low-income families is achieved (2 plus 2 policy).

After the minimum level is reached, all selections will be made based solely on date and time. Any applicants passed over as a result of implementing this 2 plus 2 policy will retain their place on the waiting list and will be offered a unit in order of their original placement on the waiting list.

Attachment: tx029c01
Mercedes Housing Authority
Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of
2013 (VAWA) and
Emergency Transfer Plan (ETP)
Taken from ACOP Policy

Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA)

Protects tenants and applicants, and affiliated individuals who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (collectively VAWAS crimes) from being denied, evicted, or terminated from housing assistance based on acts of such violence against them.

1. Who is Eligible for VAWA Protections

For the purposes of VAWA, the term "tenant" shall refer to the assisted family and members of the household on the lease.

- a) Only tenants who are assisted by the PHA can invoke VAWA protections that apply solely to tenants.
- b) VAWA protections are not limited to women.
- c) Victims of a VAWA crime are eligible for protections without regard to sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.
- d) Victims cannot be discriminated against based on any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age.
- e) As per the HUD's Equal Access Rule, the VAWA protections also cover eligible individuals and families regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.
- f) VAWA protections are provided to tenants regardless of citizenship or eligible immigration status.
- g) Youth under the age of 18 years old living in an assisted household may invoke VAWA protections if the youth is a victim of a VAWA crime.
- h) Affiliated Individual (replaced family member)
 - (1) A spouse, parent, brother, sister, a child of that person, and/or an individual to whom that person stands in loco parentis; or
 - (2) Any other person living in the household of that person and related to that person by blood or marriage.
- i) Self-Petitioners

Noncitizens who claim to be victims of "battery or extreme cruelty" by their spouse or parent who is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident (LPR).

j) Live-In Aides

Are entitled to VAWA protections if they are applicants for housing assistance or if they are an affiliated individual of a tenant.

k) Applicants

VAWA protections also cover applicants when they are applying for admission to the Public Housing Program.

2. Who is Ineligible for VAWA Protections

Guests, unassisted members, and live-in aides of the family are ineligible for VAWA protections that are available only to tenants.

- a) As a reasonable accommodation, a tenant can request VAWA protections based on the grounds that the live-in aid is a victim of a VAWA crime. In addition, other reasonable accommodations may be needed on a case-by-case basis.
- b) Where a guest or unassisted member is a victim of a VAWA crime, a tenant cannot be evicted or have assistance terminated on the basis of the VAWA crime of the guest or unassisted member.
- c) Unassisted members who are also on the lease may qualify by way of the lease for VAWA protections.

3. VAWA Notice of Occupancy Rights and Certification Form

- a) The PHA shall provide the Notice of Occupancy Rights and the Certification Form to the applicant or tenant no later than at each of the following times:
 - (1) At the time the applicant is denied assistance or admission;
 - (2) At the time the individual is provided assistance or admission;
 - (3) With any notification of eviction or notification of termination of assistance; and
 - (4) During the 12-month period following December 16, 2016, either during the annual reexamination or if there will be no reexamination for the tenant during the first year after the rule takes effect, through other means.
- b) In accordance with Executive Order 13166 (Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency), the PHA shall make available The Notice of Occupancy Rights and the Certification Form in multiple languages.

4. VAWA Notice of Occupancy Rights, HUD-5380

The PHA will provide the VAWA Notice of Occupancy Rights without changes to the core protections and confidentiality rights in the Notice.

- a) The VAWA Notice of Occupancy Rights explains the VAWA protections including the rights to confidentiality and any VAWA protection limitations.
- b) The VAWA Notice of Occupancy Rights must be provided to:
 - (1) Adult applicants of the Public Housing program; and
 - (2) Each adult tenant.

5. VAWA Certification Form, HUD-5382

The Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternative Documentation form is an optional way for victims to comply with a written request for documentation about an incident or incidents of a VAWA crime.

a) VAWA Certification Form

- (1) Provides that the victim or someone on the victim's behalf may complete the form.
- (2) Provides a list of alternative third-party documentation to satisfy a request by a PHA.
- (3) Explains the time period for responding to a written request for documentation.
- (4) Describes the confidentiality protections under VAWA.
- (5) Requires that the victim or someone filling out the form on the victim's behalf must answer 10 numbered questions and provide a brief description of the incident(s).
- (6) Clarifies that the name of the accused perpetrator does not have to be provided if it is unknown to the victim or it cannot be provided safely.
- (7) Clarifies that the date and time of incident should be completed only if known by the victim.
- (8) Requires the victim or someone filling out the form on the victim's behalf to certify to the truth and accuracy of the information being provided and explains that false information could be the basis for denial of admission or termination of assistance.
- b) The PHA will advise tenant and applicants that when the HUD-5382 is submitted on the victim's behalf, the submission will take the place of the tenants or applicants submitting their own statement.

6. Certification or Documentation

- a) Acceptance of a Verbal Statement
 - (1) The PHA is not required to ask for documentation when an individual presents a claim for VAWA protections.
 - (2) The PHA may choose to provide benefits to an individual based solely on the individual's verbal statement or other corroborating evidence.
 - (3) The PHA will accept a verbal statement of an incident or incidents of a VAWA crime if the PHA was aware of the abuse and encouraged the victim to request VAWA protections.

b) Requesting Documentation

The PHA may choose to request an individual to document their claim of a VAWA crime.

(1) The PHA must request the documentation in writing.

- (2) Providing the victim the form HUD-5382 does not constitute a written request for the documentation, unless the form HUD-5382 is accompanied by the written notice requesting the documentation.
- (3) The victim may satisfy the PHA's written request for documentation by providing any one of the following:
 - a. Form HUD-5382; or

b. A document:

- i. Signed by an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or medical professional or a mental health professional (collectively, "professional") from whom the victim has sought assistance relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of abuse;
- ii. Signed by the applicant or tenant; and
- iii. That specifies, under penalty of perjury, that the professional believes in the occurrence of the incident of a VAWA crime that is the ground for protection and remedies under the VAWA Final Rule, and that the incident meets the applicable definition of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- c. A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial or local law enforcement agency (may include a police report), court, or administrative agency; or
- d. At the discretion of the PHA, a statement or other evidence provided by the tenant or applicant.

c) Time to Submit VAWA Documentation

- (1) The PHA will require submission of documentation within 14 business days after the date that the individual received the written request for documentation.
- (2) The PHA may extend this time period at its discretion.
- (3) During the 14-business day period and any granted extensions of that time, no adverse actions, such as eviction or termination, can be taken against the individual requesting VAWA protection.

d) Third-Party Verification

The PHA shall not require the victim to provide third-party documentation of victim status, unless:

- (1) More than one tenant or applicant provides documentation to show they are victims of a VAWA crime and the information in one person's documentation conflicts with the information in another person's documentation; or
- (2) Submitted documentation contains information that conflicts with existing information already available to the PHA.

(3) The PHA shall give the tenant or applicant 30 calendar days from the date of the written request to provide such documentation.

7. Limited VAWA Protections

Nothing in this section limits the authority of the PHA, when notified of a court order, to comply with a court order with respect to:

- a) The rights of access or control of property, including civil protection orders issued to protect a victim of a VAWA crime; or
- b) The distribution or possession of property among members of a household.

8. VAWA Confidentiality

- a) The PHA shall retain in strictest confidence all information pursuant to VAWA including the fact that an individual is a victim of a VAWA crime.
- b) The PHA shall not allow any individual administering assistance on behalf of the PHA, in the employ of the PHA, or any persons with the PHA's employ (e.g., contractors) to have access to VAWA confidential information unless explicitly authorized by the PHA that specifically call for these individuals to have access to the information under applicable Federal, State, or local law.
- c) The PHA shall not enter the VAWA confidential information into any shared database or disclose the information to any other entity or individual, except to the extent that the disclosure is:
 - Requested or consented to in writing by the individual in a time-limited release;
 - (2) Required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance; or
 - (3) Otherwise required by applicable law.

Emergency Transfer Plan (ETP)

- 1. The PHA shall adopt and follow the procedures in a model Emergency Transfer Plan which will provide that a tenant receiving rental assistance through or residing in a unit subsidized under the PHA, who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking qualifies for an emergency transfer if:
 - a) The tenant expressly requests the transfer; and
 - b) The tenant reasonably believes there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same dwelling unit that the tenant is currently occupying; or
 - c) In the case of a tenant who is a victim of sexual assault, either the tenant reasonably believes there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same dwelling unit that the tenant is currently occupying, or the

sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the date of the request for transfer.

The tenant who is a victim of sexual assault may make an imminent harm request regardless of when or where the sexual assault occurred and the PHA may permit more than 90-calendar days from the date of the sexual assault.

- 2. The tenant may qualify for either an internal emergency transfer or external transfer.
 - a) An internal emergency transfer is the relocation of a tenant to another unit where the tenant would not be categorized as a new applicant; that is, the tenant may reside in the new unit without having to undergo an application process.
 - b) An external emergency transfer is the relocation of a tenant to another unit where the tenant would be categorized as a new applicant; that is the tenant must undergo an application process in order to reside in the new unit.

The tenant may seek an internal emergency transfer and an external emergency transfer concurrently if a safe unit is not immediately available.

The PHA shall maintain existing VAWA strict confidentiality measure in its Emergency Transfer Plan as to not disclose the location of the new unit to the abuser.

The PHA will make the Emergency Transfer Plan available upon request and when feasible, make the plan publicly available.

The PHA will keep a record of all emergency transfers requested under it Emergency Transfer Plan and the outcome of the requests. The PHA shall retain these records for a period of three (3) years or for a period of time as specified by program regulations. The PHA must report the requests and outcomes to HUD annually.

An emergency transfer request must not be construed to supersede any PHA eligibility or other occupancy requirements.

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and Amounts are estimate only and subject to Capital Fund Financing Program

change based on final award from HUD

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing OMB No. 2577-0157 Expires 1/31/2027

"Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.2 hours including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The information requested is required to obtain a benefit. This form is used to verify allowable and reasonableness of grant expenses. There are no assurances of confidentiality. HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and an applicant is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to the Reports Management Officer, Office of Policy Development and Research, REE, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th St SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000. When providing comments, please refer to OMB Approval No. 2577-0157.

PHA Name Merced Authori	des Housing ity	Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: Replacement Housing Factor Grant No: Date of CFFP:	TX59P029501-25)	FFY of Grant: FFY of Grant Approval: 2025
Type of Gran	t	•				
		Reserve for Disasters/Emergencies	☐ Re	vised Annual Statement (revision no:		
☐ Perform	mance and Evaluation Report for F	Period Ending:	☐ Fi	nal Performance and Evaluation Repo	ort	
Line	Summary by Development Acco	ount	Total Est	imated Cost	Total Actual Cost 1	
			Original	Revised ²	Obligated	Expended
1	Total non-CFP Funds					
2	1406 Operations (may not exceed	eed 20% of line 15) ³	\$106,000.00 (estimate)	-		
3	1408 Management Improvement	nts	\$55,000.00 (estimate)			
4	1410 Administration (may not e	exceed 10% of line 15)	\$53,000.00 (estimate)			
5	1480 General Capital Activity		\$316,000.00 (estimate)			
6	1492 Moving to Work Demonstr	tration				
7	1501 Collaterization Expense /	Debt Service Paid by PHA				
8	1503 RAD-CFP					
9	1504 RAD Investment Activity	,				
10	1505 RAD-CPT					
11	9000 Debt Reserves					
12	9001 Bond Debt Obligation paid Via System of Direct Payment					
13	9002 Loan Debt Obligation paid	id Via System of Direct Payment				
14	9900 Post Audit Adjustment					

Page 1 form HUD-50075.1 (07/2014)

¹ To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report.

² To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report or a Revised Annual Statement.

³ PHAs with under 250 units in management may use 100% of CFP Grants for operations.

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and Capital Fund Financing Program U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing
OMB No. 2577-0157
Expires 1/31/2027

Part I: Su	mmary						
PHA Name Merced Housing Authori	me: Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:					nt: nt Approval:	
Type of Gra	Type of Grant Original Annual Statement Reserve for Disasters/Emergencies Revised Annual Statement (revision no:) Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: Final Performance and Evaluation Report						
Line	Summary by Development Account	Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost 1			
		Original		Revised ²		Obligated	Expended
15	Amount of Annual Grant:: (sum of lines 2 - 14)	\$530,000.00 (e	stimate)	-			
16	Amount of line 15 Related to LBP Activities						
17	Amount of line 15 Related Sect. 504, ADA, and Fair Housing Act Activities.	_					
18	Amount of line 15 Related to Security - Soft Costs						
19	Amount of line 15 Related to Security - Hard Costs						
20	Amount of line 15 Related to Energy Conservation Measures						
Signature	e of Executive Director * Date		Signatu	re of Public Hou	sing Direc	tor	Date

^{*} I/We, the undersigned, certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct. WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties (18 U.S.C. § 287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 5802)

¹ To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report.

² To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report or a Revised Annual Statement.

³ PHAs with under 250 units in management may use 100% of CFP Grants for operations.

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and Capital Fund Financing Program U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing
OMB No. 2577-0157
Expires 1/31/2027

Part II: Supporting Pages										
PHA Name: Mercedes Housing Authority		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CFFP (Yes/ No): Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:		TX59P029501-25 -		Federal F 2025	Federal FFY of Grant: 2025			
Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities	General Description of Major Work Categories		Development Account No.	Quantity	Total Estin	Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost		
					Original	Revised 1	Funds Obligated ²	Funds Expended ²		
TX029 Agency Wide Operations			1406		\$106,000					
TX029 Agency Wide	X029 Agency Wide Management Improvement		1408		\$55,000			ļ		
							ļ			
TX029 Agency Wide	Administration		1410		\$53,000		_	-		
1000			14400		#202 000		-			
TX029 Agency Wide	General Capital Improvement		1480		\$302,000	-				
								 		
										
					- 					
										
					1					

¹ To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report or a Revised Annual Statement.

² To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report.