

Resolution No. 9697-R7

A Resolution Supporting the Need for Federal Grant Funds for Improvements to Public and Assisted Housing in the City of Urbana

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Champaign County (hereinafter "HACC") has submitted a Comprehensive Plan for physical and management/operation needs, entitled *Comprehensive Plan, IL6-705, Housing Authority of Champaign County; 1996-2000* (hereinafter "Comprehensive Plan") to the City of Urbana for review and comment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana is requested to certify that the Comprehensive Plan was developed in consultation with local government officials; that the Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the *Urbana HOME Consortium and the City of Urbana Consolidated Plan for Program Years 1995-1999* (hereinafter "Consolidated Plan") adopted by the Urbana City Council on May 15, 1995, in providing resident programs and services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana supports HACC efforts to eliminate life/safety problems in its family public housing but also supports eventual replacement of existing family public housing complexes with lower-density, scattered site developments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana generally supports said Comprehensive Plan but has specific concerns and reservations outlined herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. The Mayor of the City of Urbana is authorized to execute the Local Government Statement to be submitted with the HACC Comprehensive Plan.

Section 2. The City of Urbana wishes to formally express the following concerns regarding said plan, the HACC and its operations:

- a. The HACC has not provided an adequate opportunity for formal local government or resident participation in the PHA-wide comprehensive planning process.
- b. The HACC presented an incomplete draft Comprehensive Plan to the City of Urbana for final concurrence with no time allotted for constructive City input or changes.
- c. The HACC family complexes, elderly complexes, and Section 8 housing generally may not comply with local codes based upon the lack of a recent assessment of physical conditions at these properties.

- d. The HACC has yet to demonstrated its ability to provide a safe, stable, and secure living environment for its residents by supplementing police activities with adequate on-site security, or appropriate tenant screening procedures.

Section 3. The City of Urbana wishes to include with its resolution the following pertinent affordable housing strategies from the Consolidated Plan:

- a. Strategy A4: Promote substantial upgrading of the living environment for residents of Urbana public housing, particularly family units. In the short-term, the City of Urbana supports Comprehensive Grant Program efforts to eliminate life-safety deficiencies in all public housing units on a most-needed basis, as well as cooperative city-Housing Authority-community efforts to reduce crime in public housing complexes. In the long-term, the City of Urbana supports replacement of Dunbar Court and Lakeside Terrace family units with lower-density scattered site housing or tenant-based rent assistance. By the end of the 5-year planning period the City, in conjunction with the Housing Authority of Champaign County, will develop a plan for phased replacement of these units on an (at least) one-for-one basis. (Page 114 of the Consolidated Plan)
- b. Strategy E6: Develop and implement a local strategy to deal with conflict in elderly housing complexes between elderly and non-elderly residents with disabilities. Any such strategy must comply with Federal guidelines for integration of residents. Options include separation of clients by floor or complex, provision of case management services by Mental Health Center and/or Development Services Center, and construction of low-density units for persons with disabilities. Implementation of a strategy is critical to providing a supportive housing environment for both elderly and non-elderly residents and to full utilization of available subsidized housing resources.

Section 4. The City of Urbana requests that the HACC incorporate these Consolidated Plan strategies in its Comprehensive Plan. The City of Urbana pledges cooperation with the HACC in implementing these strategies over the duration of the Comprehensive Plan and Consolidated Plan planning periods. Further, the City of Urbana pledges its willingness to provide technical support and assistance to the HACC in addressing other issues outlined herein.

Section 5. The City of Urbana requests the support of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in providing the technical assistance, funding, and regulatory relief necessary before these strategies can be implemented in Urbana.

Section 6. The City Clerk of the City of Urbana is authorized to forward a copy of this resolution to HACC and to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

AYES: Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Pollock, Ryan, Taylor, Whelan


NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

PASSED by the City Council this 8th day of July, 1996.


Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this 12th day of July, 1996.


Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor