

## Update to Fairfax County Relocation Guidelines

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#### <u>Agenda</u>

- Context and Purpose
- Applicability
- Components
- General Steps to Relocation
- Owner Responsibilities
- Tenant Benefits
- Outreach Plan
- Next Steps

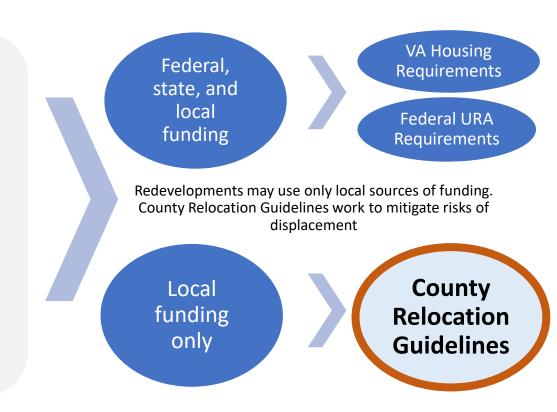
#### Context and Purpose

Evolving Equity Landscape Diminishing Affordable Housing Stock

Preservation Policy Guidelines Tenant vulnerability to market fluctuations

#### Affordable Housing Goals:

- Commitments to long-term affordability
- Reinvestment in the affordable housing stock
- Economic development
- Addressing current tenant/FFX county resident needs
- Tenant protections without hindering development



#### <u>Applicability & Goals – Relocation Guidelines</u>

### The guidelines would apply to the rehabilitation, redevelopment, conversion or sale of properties:

- Owned, managed, or funded by the FCRHA
- Market affordable properties subject to the Preservation policy
- Requiring Board approval via the land use process
- Not otherwise subject to state or federal requirements

#### **Relocation Goals:**

- Avoid tenant displacement and disproportionate impacts to tenants
- Enable relocated tenants to move directly to decent, structurally safe and affordable replacement housing convenient to their place of employment and/or school
- Return to preserved affordable units to the maximum extent possible
- Ongoing communication

#### **Components**

Relocation plan defines approach to tenant relocation, tenant benefits, and owner responsibilities

Tenant benefits: Relocation Services, Payments, and Moving Cost
Reimbursements

#### **Temporary Relocation**

- Necessary to carry out rehabilitation or redevelopment
- Move may be within or outside the project on a temporary basis

#### **Permanent Relocation**

- Necessary to carry out rehabilitation or redevelopment
- Move will be outside the project and tenant will not return to the units

#### General Steps

- Tenant notification
- Tenant survey
- Needs assessment
- Property Profile

Coordination

#### Planning

- Temporary or Permanent
- Relocation payments, benefits, and/or other services
- Approved by County

- Notice to vacate and available assistance
- Tenant move-outs
- Communication about project ongoing

Relocation

#### Return

- Move-in eligibility
- Priority Ranking System

#### Property Owner's Responsibilities

- 1. Tenant Engagement and Communication Strategy
- 2. Relocation Plan Development
  - a. Tenant Survey
  - b. Property Profile
  - c. Relocation Plan
- 3. Moving Cost Reimbursement
- 4. Housing Counseling
- 5. Staffing

The County will provide resources to assist in these responsibilities and monitor the process

#### Returning Tenants

The goal is to allow all eligible tenant households to return to a property to the extent possible.

#### Owner will create property profile:

- Available units at redeveloped or renovated property
- Opportunities for tenants to move into units that best match their needs



#### Returning Tenants

In the event all tenants are unable to return, a priority ranking system tool will help property owners prioritize those with the greatest need.

#### **Sample Criteria for Prioritization**

- Child under 18 years of age
- A member of the household is 62 years of age or older
- A member of the household has a disability.
- Previously displaced by redevelopment in Fairfax
   County
- Household currently receives rental assistance
- Household earns 60 percent of the AMI or below
- Years of Tenancy



#### Tenants Experiencing Temporary Relocation

Relocation Services

Moving & Cost Reimbursement



#### Tenants Experiencing Permanent Relocation

Relocation Services Relocation
Payments/
Tenant
Assistance Fund

Moving & Cost Reimbursement

Best Practice
Example:
Federal URA
Benefits

Moving Expense Benefits: From Federal Uniform Relocation Act		
Bedroom Size	Moving Expense Payment	
1 bedroom	\$700	
2 bedrooms	\$900	
3 bedrooms	\$1125	
4 bedrooms	\$1320	
5 bedrooms	\$1500	

## Best Practice Example: Arlington County

#### **Security Deposit Differential Payment**

- Assists with the new required security deposit
- Equal to the difference between the Tenant's existing security deposit and the new security deposit for the replacement dwelling.

#### **Example:**

Differential Security Deposit	\$350
Deposit returned to Tenant by Owner	\$400
Deposit required for replacement dwelling	\$750

# Best Practice Example: Arlington Tenant Assistance Fund

#### **Tenant Assistance Fund (TAF)** can provide:

- 2 years of rental assistance to permanently displaced
   Tenants and
- Rental assistance for temporarily displaced Tenants who are unable to relocate onsite during a redevelopment or rehabilitation.

TAF pays the difference, within limits, of the difference between the existing rent and the rent at the new home.

#### **Example:**

TAF pays:	\$250/mo.
New rent at offsite unit:	\$1250/mo.
Existing "affordable" rent:	\$1000/mo.

#### Stakeholder Outreach: Winter 2024

#### General Outreach:

- District Newsletters
- Online Comment Submission Opportunity

#### Targeted Outreach:

- Stakeholder focus groups: advocates, tenants
- Moving to Work Advisory Group
- Affordable Housing Advisory Council
- NVBIA and other real estate industry groups
- Planning Commission Housing Committee

#### Next Steps

Late December 2023

January - April 2024

April 2024

June 2024

Outreach Plan

Initial Draft Guidelines Released

MeetingsOnline Comment Submission

Stakeholder

Implementation

Revised Draft
Relocation
Guidelines posted
for comment

Proposed Final
Relocation
Guidelines
submitted for BOS
Action



#### Questions/Comments