



For Immediate Release
March 13, 2009

Contact:
Valena Dixon
RRHA Communications Office
(804) 780-4167
vadixon@rrha.state.va.us

Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) to be awarded more than \$10 Million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Money to be used for construction and modernizing public housing units

RICHMOND, VA – In compliance with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recently announced the award of \$2.985 billion in capital funds to public housing authorities throughout the nation. The award is meant to provide rapid relief to many agencies affected by the nation’s current economic crisis.

Across the country, the result of this funding is expected to provide employment for thousands of construction workers. In addition, this funding is expected to substantially modernize tens of thousand of public housing units. HUD projects capital funds will be available to public housing authorities within 30 days of the Recovery Act legislation. As a condition of fund use, housing authorities are required to:

- give priority to projects that are ready to begin construction rapidly and
- prioritize construction that will increase energy efficiency and lower the long-term costs of operating public housing, like energy-efficient appliances and plumbing and exterior siding.

“Revitalization and modernization of public housing units is a priority for my administration. These funds will help ensure that low-income families have safe and decent places to live. Additionally, the employment opportunities that these funds will provide could not have come at a more important time,” said Mayor Dwight Jones.

As calculated in accordance with the 2008 Capital Fund Formula, the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) will be awarded \$10,764,797.00 for the modernization of public housing and related management improvements.

“The infusion of these additional funds will allow us to make some needed improvements to our public housing units,” said Elliott Harrigan, RRHA Board of Commissioners Chair. “The result of the funding will also allow us to contribute to the local economy in the form of employment for construction and construction-related work. We are certainly appreciative of the President and his administration for recognizing the urgent need for these funds. The effect of the award is far reaching and is a win-win for RRHA, our customers and the City of Richmond.”

-more-

The RRHA plan will undertake the following construction and management related activities, over a three-year period, through the \$10,764,797.00 award to modernize its public housing units:

Planned construction activity	Amount appropriated
Construction of kitchens and bathrooms	\$3,210,000
Painting, Installation of Siding, Brick Pointing, Interior and Exterior Building improvements	\$1,881,000
Foundation Stabilization, Vacancy Repairs, Unit modernization	\$1,375,000
Staff, management improvements/ operations	\$1,076,480
Agency-wide facility modernization/renovation; ADA improvements	\$ 850,000
Window replacements	\$ 550,000
Heating Systems, Plumbing, Hot Water Boilers	\$ 549,000
Resident Relocation Costs	\$ 500,000
Architectural and Engineering services and related administrative costs	\$ 450,000
Elevator construction	\$ 300,000

Detailed Activity by Housing Development

Development	Planned improvements/Year	Amount
Gilpin Court	Replace hot water boilers/2009	\$150,000
Creighton Court	Window replacement/2009	\$2,750,000
	Kitchen and bathroom renovations/2010	
Whitcomb Court	Window replacement /2009	\$150,000
Mosby Court	Window replacement/2009	\$250,000
1202 Decatur Street Apartments	Install elevator/2009	\$550,000
	Kitchen and bathroom renovations/2010	
Stonewall Place Apartments	Paint common areas/2010	\$50,000
3900 Old Brook Road Apartments	Upgrade plumbing system/2012	\$200,000
700 S. Lombardy Street Apartments	Upgrade unit heating units/2009	\$154,000
Randolph Apartments	Comprehensive modernization/2011	\$545,000
	Replace hot water tanks	
Fulton Apartments	Exterior siding/2009	\$985,000
	Repair termite structural damage/2009	

	Kitchen and bathroom renovations/2010 Foundation stabilization/2011	
Afton Avenue Apartments	Replace siding/2009	\$50,000
Scattered Sites and Units	Interior and exterior upgrades/2009 - 11	\$350,000
Agency-wide improvements	Painting; brick pointing; ADA improvements; Building improvements and renovations, Curb appeal; signage; Associated resident relocation costs; Architectural and engineering services; Related staff hiring/2009 - 11	\$2,996,000

“For RRHA these funds will also mean resident economic and employment opportunities through our Section 3 program, which fosters local economic development, neighborhood economic improvement and individual self-sufficiency.” said Anthony Scott, RRHA Executive Director. “We look forward to getting underway. In addition to our existing \$8.5 million capital improvements scheduled for this fiscal year, the HUD funding allows us to advance our strategic plan and revitalize our public housing units.”

###

About RRHA

RRHA plays a key role in assuring the city of Richmond's bright future and has been at the forefront of affordable housing community development for more than 68 years. RRHA is the largest housing authority in the Commonwealth of Virginia. RRHA serves nearly 10,000 residents and manages nearly 4,100 units through its Public Housing Program; and provides subsidized housing assistance to approximately 3,200 families through its Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program. RRHA also manages neighborhood redevelopment and conservation programs through the city of Richmond. For more information, visit rrha.org.