

## RRHA Strategic Plan Advances with Phase I Projects Resident Meetings Scheduled

March 10, 2006

The Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority has announced six initiatives that will represent the first phase of implementation projects for the agency's Five- Year Strategic Plan.

The plan is built around four major goals – revitalized residential and commercial communities, economic opportunities, efficiency and fiscal responsibility and quality customer service. The strategic plan includes 16 objectives, 26 initiatives and performance measures that address the Authority's vision of being an innovative leader creating dynamic partnerships that build vibrant communities and the mission of being the catalyst for quality affordable housing and community revitalization.

RRHA has now identified six projects for the first phase of the plan for 2006 and 2007. They are:

- **A Workforce Housing Program** through which RRHA will sell 130 single-family public housing units creating homeownership opportunities for eligible public housing families and others;
- **Infill Lot Sales** where RRHA will sell small parcels of land which will generate resources for affordable housing initiatives;
- **The RRHA loan portfolio** which will be reviewed to explore the sale or reassignment of the Authority's existing loan portfolio to generate revenue to be utilized for affordable housing initiatives;
- **Redeveloping a small public housing development, Dove Court**, whereby RRHA will secure a development partner to assist in the redevelopment of a small public housing complex utilizing demolition and reconstruction to build a mixed-income, mixed-use community in tandem with the city of Richmond's Dove Street Redevelopment Study;
- **Totally modernizing select public housing developments – Bainbridge and Stovall Place Apartments-** by completely renovating these existing public housing communities and;
- **Selling a small residential building** to upgrade housing for its senior residents while generating revenue for other affordable housing efforts.

“These initiatives reflect our concentration and focus on being strategic with our resources and assets to bring quality affordable housing and vibrant, mixed-income, mixed-use neighborhoods to the city of Richmond. RRHA staff will be working side-by-side with our residents, the Mayor's Interagency Task Force for Community Infrastructure, Richmond City Council, the City of Richmond and other partners to successfully implement these projects”, stated Sheila Hill-Christian, RRHA Executive Director. She continued, “This is an exciting time for RRHA, our communities and this city, and we are up to the task!”

### **Resident Meetings Scheduled---**

As part of the planning process, RRHA will hold a series of meetings in the affected RRHA communities. Meetings will be held:

- **Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Overby Sheppard School, 2300 First Avenue in the Dove Court community to discuss the city of Richmond's Dove Street Redevelopment Study and public housing redevelopment;
- **Tuesday, April 11, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.** at the 700 S. Lombardy Apartment Community Room to discuss new housing options for the residents and the sale of the building;
- **Thursday, April 13, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.** at 700 S. Lombardy Avenue to discuss the Workforce Housing Program;
- **Tuesday, April 18, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.** at 1611 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue building to discuss the Workforce Housing Program; and
- **Thursday, May 4, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.** at Fox Manor, 18-A West 27<sup>th</sup> Street to discuss the modernization of Bainbridge and Stovall Place Apartments.

RRHA will provide information and discuss the development of operational plans for the implementation of the Phase 1 initiatives.

The RRHA Strategic Plan was developed during 2005 with the input of more than 1,100 individuals – public housing tenants, city residents, RRHA staff, community leaders, businesses, educators, other stakeholders and other interested citizens. Some 50 meetings were held during the process with the plan being formally introduced in June 2005.

“Our strategic planning process provided valuable information for RRHA. Our assessments and market studies have given us a database and the foundation for sound financial and operational planning,” shared Hill-Christian. She continued, “Our residents and stakeholders also shared their vision for the future which included communities that provide a mix of housing types and services, communities that are safe, diverse and offer an improved quality of life for their children and families. We are prepared to move forward to make that vision a reality.”

<p>If additional information is needed, contact RRHA at <a href="mailto:info@rrha.state.va.us">info@rrha.state.va.us</a> or call (804)780-4344 / TDD (804) 225-0538</p>
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