



American Recovery & Reinvestment Act

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 17, 2009

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Public Housing Agency Awarded \$18 Million In 'Recovery Act' Funds For Major Housing Rehab Project

(April 17, 2009 – MINNEAPOLIS, MN) – President Obama signed the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) on February 17, 2009. This act provided \$787 billion in investments to assist in our nation's economic recovery and to create and preserve needed jobs.

Included in this Act were \$4 billion in appropriations for HUD Capital Funds to be distributed to public housing agencies. Three billion dollars in funding have been disbursed according to the HUD Capital Fund Formula. Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) has received \$18.257 million. Minneapolis' award is the largest of the \$47.2 million in "Recovery Act" funds distributed to housing agencies in Minnesota.

MPHA will use the funds to finance a city-wide capital improvements project, primarily on its highrise apartment buildings, single-family "scattered-site" homes and in the Glendale family housing development near the University of Minnesota. A wide range of housing modernization construction work is planned including apartment rehab, garage construction, roofing, facades, windows, building systems and site work including "green" initiatives and energy enhancements.

"By devoting these funds for comprehensive housing rehab construction work throughout the city, MPHA clearly is making a significant investment in the Minneapolis and Twin Cities economy," said MPHA Executive Director Cora McCorvey. "And in doing so, we will improve the homes and living environments for thousands of MPHA residents while better preserving these precious resources for the future."

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Many of MPHA's planned projects are immediately "shovel-ready," and the agency is prepared and intends to meet or exceed all the obligation and expenditure deadlines that the "Recovery Act" legislation requires. The agency is now hiring construction management companies, and has already created 11 new jobs including carpenters and painters. MPHA will also focus on creating contracting opportunities for small businesses, including minority and women owned companies.

As noted, HUD awarded the first \$3 billion in "Recovery Act" public housing capitalization funds based on its existing formula for the nation's 3,200 public housing authorities. It will allocate an additional \$1 billion in capital improvements funds later this year to selected housing agencies, this time, on a competitive basis. McCorvey said the agency plans an ambitious proposal that will provide much needed resources to continue to enhance the quality of life for our residents, make our properties more energy efficient and to invest in our community.

ABOUT MPHA:

The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) owns and manages 5,875 public housing rental units throughout the city including 41 highrise apartment buildings, 733 scattered-site (single-family) homes and 184 town home units in the Glendale community near the University of Minnesota. The agency administers approximately 5,000 Section 8/HCV rental assistance vouchers, and operates two home ownership programs for both public housing and Section 8 program residents. The federal government rates MPHA's public housing and Section 8/HCV programs both as national "High Performers" for overall operational performance. The nine-member board of commissioners is appointed by the mayor and city council and the Executive Director is Cora McCorvey.

For more information, please visit: www.mphaonline.com

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