

# Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) 101: Public Housing Conversions

US Department of Housing & Urban Development May 14, 2018

## **BACKGROUND**

## Why RAD for Public Housing?

RAD was designed to help address the large and growing backlog of capital needs in public housing, estimated at \$26 billion in 2010

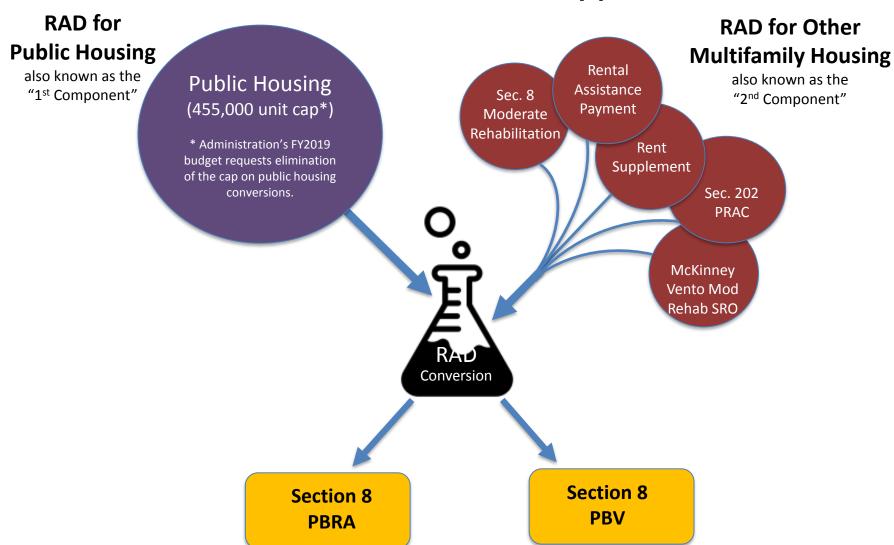
Originally authorized in 2011, and subsequently amended, RAD now allows up to 455,000 public housing units to convert to long-term, Section 8 rental assistance contracts, which provides:

- Access to debt and equity to finance capital needs
- Strong platform for long-term preservation
- Program simplification
- Robust resident rights





## **RAD Conversion Types**





## PHA Objectives

#### PHAs have used RAD to:

- Modernize aging family & elderly properties
- Stabilize property revenue
- Substantial rehab of deteriorated properties
- Demolish and redevelop distressed/obsolete properties
- Transfer assistance to better neighborhoods
- Thin densities and mix-incomes
- Streamline operations



## **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

## Important Resources

- RAD Statute
- RAD Implementation Notice, Revision 3: PIH Notice 2012-32 (HA) H-2017-03, REV 3
- Fair Housing, Civil Rights and Relocation Notice:
   H 2016-17 PIH 2016-17 (HA)
- Guides and FAQs (<u>www.radresource.net</u>)
- RAD Inventory Assessment Tool

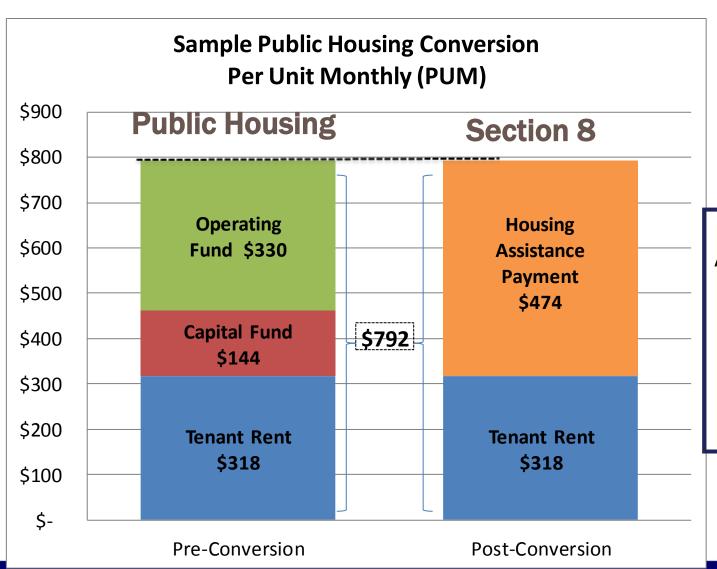


## **Contracts and Rents**

- Predictable initial contract rent setting rents based on public housing funding levels with certain flexibilities
- Annual operating cost adjustment factor (OCAF)
- RAD HAP funding begins at construction closing –
   "Rehab Assistance Payments"
- No limitation on use of project cash flow
- HAP contract Renews
- RAD Use Agreement



#### Example: RAD Section 8 Rent Levels



At conversion,
PHAs will
convert
funding to a
Section 8
contract rent



## Financing Sources

#### 1st Mortgage Debt

- FHA-Insured debt:
  - 223(f) (light/mod rehab) or
  - 221(d)(4) (sub rehab/new construction)
- Conventional debt

## Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)

- 4% LIHTC
- 9% LIHTC

#### **Historic Tax Credits**

#### **Public Housing Funds**

- Operating Reserves
- Capital Funds
- Demo/Dispo Transition Funding (DDTF)
- Sales Proceeds

## **Other Secondary Financing**

- HOME
- CDBG
- Housing Trust Fund
- Federal Home Loan Bank AHP



## PBV vs. PBRA

#### **Project-based Vouchers (PBV)**

- Congressionally appropriated through "Tenant-Based Rental Assistance" account
- Sec 8 Contract and funding administered by PHA (component of PHA's Housing Choice Voucher program)
- Initial contract term 15-20 years
- Housing Quality Standards
- Choice mobility option
- Rent Caps Lower of current funding, reasonable rent, 110% FMR minus utilities
- Under RAD, PBV competitive selection, income- mixing, and PBV program cap requirements do not apply



## PBV vs. PBRA

#### **Project-based Rental Assistance (PBRA)**

- Congressionally appropriated through "Project-Based Rental Assistance" account
- Sec 8 Contract and funding administered by HUD Multifamily
- Initial contract term 20 years
- REAC Inspection Standard
- Modified Choice-mobility
- Rent Caps Lower of current funding and 120% FMR minus utilities (higher with RCS)



## Development Requirements

#### **Capital Needs Assessment**

- Identifies all immediate and long-term capital needs
- Financing Plan must cover all needs through upfront capitalization and/or ongoing capital "replacement reserve" deposits

#### **Environmental Review**

- > Part 50 for PBRA or FHA-insured conversions. HUD performs review
- Part 58 for all other PBV. Responsible Entity performs review

#### **Substantial Conversion of Assistance**

- Conversion may not result in a reduction of the number of assisted units by the greater of five percent or five units
- Exceptions for consolidation of efficiencies or supportive services units



## Development Requirements

#### **Site and Neighborhood Standards**

- For all conversions, the owner (for PBRA) or the voucher administering agency (for PBV) will certify that the site meets site and neighborhood standards
- All New construction subject to HUD review when site is in an area of minority concentration

#### **Ownership and Control**

- Property must be owned or controlled by a public or non-profit entity (e.g. no change in ownership, transfer to an affiliate, transfer to a non-profit or public body)
- Except when using LIHTC, PHA must maintain "sufficient interest" (e.g. long-term ground lease, control agreement, etc)

#### **Federal Accessibility Requirements apply**

Davis Bacon prevailing wage requirements and Section 3 low-income hiring



## Transfer of Assistance

**Transfer of assistance** refers to a change in the geographic site of the assistance. It has the potential to improve the location and quality of housing

#### **HUD** will assess:

- that the transfer does not place housing in neighborhoods with highly concentrated poverty;
- whether conversion on-site is economically non-viable (physically obsolete or severely distressed)





# RESIDENT RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENTS: PRIOR TO CONVERSION

- Resident meetings required prior to application and additional meetings required following CHAP-issuance
- Resident notices:
  - RAD Information Notice (RIN) prior to resident meetings
  - General Information Notices (GIN) for URA
- RAD conversion is a Significant Amendment to the PHA plan
- No relocation activities can occur until the execution of the
  - RAD Conversion Commitment (RCC)
- Residents may not be involuntarily displaced



# RESIDENT RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENTS: RIGHTS OF CURRENT RESIDENTS

- Residents have a right to return post-rehab
- Prohibition of re-screening residents upon "move-in" to the Section 8 property;
- A "phase-in" of resident rents if residents were paying less than 30% of adjusted income prior to conversion;
- Continued participation in ROSS and FSS
- Continued Earned Income Disregard



# RESIDENT RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENTS: ONGOING

- Resident Procedural Rights outlined in section 6 of the Act and detailed in the RAD Notice, including:
  - Resident organizing rights and participation funding (\$25 per unit per year)
  - Grievance and termination procedures consistent with public housing requirements

 A right to request a tenant-based voucher after a period of residency at the converted property ("choice-mobility").



#### RELOCATION

#### RAD provides residents with relocation protections

- Uniform Relocation Act (URA) applies, and, in some cases, requirements are in excess of the URA requirements
- Residents have a right to return post-rehab
- No relocation activities can occur until the execution of the RAD Conversion Commitment

#### **Common Relocation Options**

- On-site
- Other public housing owned by the agency
- Other affordable housing owned by the agency

- Private housing
- Using housing vouchers administered by the PHA



## **CONVERSION PROCESS**

## **RAD Conversion Process**

Strategic Planning

 What do you want to do with your asset and what tools are available?

**RAD Application** 

- Confirm Project Eligibility
- Ensure resident and Board awareness

**CHAP Award** 

- Reserves conversion authority under the cap
- Sets forth the contract rents

Pre-Financing Plan
Approvals

 Upfront civil rights review; transfer of assistance; PHA Plan; EPC/CFFP

\*Financing Plan\*

Demonstrate physically and financially viability and compliance with program requirements

RAD Conversion Commitment (RCC)

- HUD approval of the Financing Plan
- Sets out terms of closing and construction

Closing & Conversion

- Removal from Public Housing ACC and DOT
- Entry into Section 8 HAP Contract & RAD Use Agreement

Rehabilitation/ Construction

• If applicable, work completed in accordance with RCC



## **RAD STATS**

## RAD Public Housing Conversions – Status\*

### 93,269 Public Housing Units (850 properties)

converted from Public Housing to Section 8.

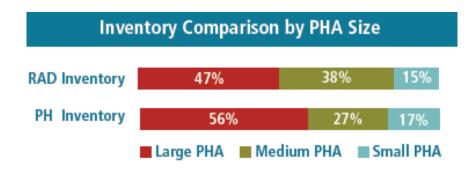
# \$5.44 Billion (roughly \$60K per unit)

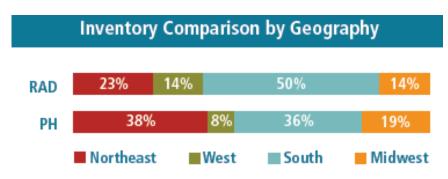
in construction investment\* in RAD public housing conversion properties. It would have taken participating PHAs roughly 46 years to accumulate enough public housing Capital Funds to complete a similar amount of construction.

\*As of 5/1/18

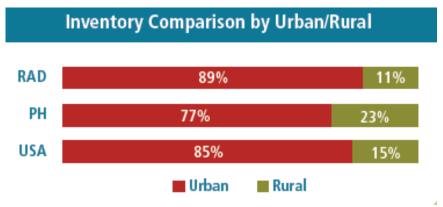
<sup>\*</sup> This figure doesn't include items such as acquisition, soft costs, reserves & developer fee.

#### Where it works









Note: This data reflects the inventory of RAD public housing applications ("projects") received compared to the inventory of public housing projects existing in each region prior to any RAD conversions.

## RAD Web Page

RAD Notice, application materials, and additional resources can be found at

www.hud.gov/rad

Email questions to <a href="mailto:rad@hud.gov">rad@hud.gov</a>

