Norwalk Housing Authority Meadow Gardens Resident Meeting Summary April 27, 2023



1. Meeting Summary

Norwalk Housing Authority (NHA) hosted a meeting for Meadow Gardens residents at the Meadow Gardens Learning Center on April 27, 2023 at 6:00pm-7:00pm to provide updates on the redevelopment of Meadow Gardens and a presentation was made on the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) program. Residents were hand delivered a flier (attached) about the meeting with the meeting details. Residents also participated by Zoom and telephone.

2. Meeting Attendees

Residents signed in when they arrived. NHA staff in attendance included Executive Director Adam Bovilsky, FSS Coordinator Conzuelo Salas, EnVision Center Project Manager Lisa Roger, and Development Project Manager Lisa Endo. Anabell de la Cruz interpreted for Spanish speakers and Herby Paul interpreted for Haitian Creole speakers.

3. Meeting Minutes

Lisa Endo welcomed guests and all NHA staff introduced themselves. Lisa explained the purpose of the meeting was: (1) to provide information about the Family Self Sufficiency Program (2) to update residents about NHA's plans to improve the condition of their housing at Meadow Gardens, and (3) to review the current Redevelopment Plan. After the discussion, NHA staff would take questions.

(1) Key points on improving Meadow Gardens:

- Application for Section 18 demolition was submitted to HUD in March. Hoping to get approval this summer.
- Considered a land swap with SNEW to swap the power plant for Meadow Gardens but no there was no agreement and NHA will rebuild on the current Meadow Gardens site.
- An architect was hired and there will be a design meeting this summer with residents for residents to provide their input.
- NHA will be hiring a partner in May to assist with resident relocation.
- A Relocation Plan is being drafted for Board Approval which outlines the rights and responsibilities of NHA and residents.

(2) Key Points on the Redevelopment Plan:

- Relocation options include NHA public housing units, Section 8 voucher units and private apartments.
- Over-housed families will be transferred within NHA developments to 2 bedroom units. These families will be able to return to Meadow Gardens once redeveloped.
- Tenant Protection Vouchers (TPV) will be given to families who relocate off-site.
- Families with TPVs can move to any city or State with the voucher.
- NHA has a development organization called Sound Communities.
- Sound Communities will develop the new housing at Meadow Street.
- There will be at least 54 units, more parking and a new community center with a Learning Center.
- Residents will be able to participate in design meetings to provide their opinions and suggestions.
- NHA will contact all families when the buildings are complete and ready for reoccupancy.
- Families will choose if they want to move back. Those who were internally transferred to 2 bedrooms will also be invited back.