

Housing Operations Presentation

Good Evening,

Thank you for coming to attend this meeting. As mentioned before, my name is Danielle Thomas and I am the Director of Housing Operations for Huntsville Housing Authority.

You have already heard about the physical issues with the property here at Sparkman Homes. The aging infrastructure continues to plague our maintenance operations, and with declining funding from HUD, it is increasingly difficult to maintain the apartments.

These maintenance issues are a major reason why residents here have repeatedly indicated that they are ready to move. We have assigned the members of our phenomenal Resident Services department to work with each individual family to provide relocation counseling and assistance.

Generally, Section 18 of the 1937 Housing Act governs Public Housing Authority activities to demolish or dispose of part or all of a public housing project, including the relocation of tenants. Pursuant to section 18, a housing authority must provide relocation assistance (such as the payment of actual and reasonable moving and relocation expenses) and also comparable housing.

All Sparkman Homes families that are relocated by HHA will have three relocation housing options offered to them, which are as follows:

- First, they can transfer to another public housing property that has available vacant units, OR
- Secondly, they can receive a Housing Choice Voucher that can be used to rent an apartment or home in the private sector OR
- Thirdly, they can be placed in a project based voucher unit (the only project based voucher units available at this time are the new apartments at Stoneridge Villas, which are located on Balch Road and are designated for elderly families).

Resident services staff will work with each family to help them determine which housing option is best for them specifically. Staff cannot steer residents to particular areas of the community.

At this time, Patrice Boddie, HHA's Resident Services Supervisor, will provide a general overview of the relocation counseling process thus far.