Commonwealth of Massachusetts
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Charles D. Baker, Governor ◆ Karyn E. Polito, Lt. Governor ◆ Janelle Chan, Undersecretary

ADDENDUM #8 to Public Housing Notice 2019-14

To: All Local Housing Authority Executive Directors
From: Ben Stone, Associate Director, Division of Public Housing
Subject: **Public Housing Innovations NOFA – Update to Q & A**
Date: January 24, 2020

Notice of Funding Availability - Public Housing Innovations (PHI)

Partnership to Expand Housing Opportunities (PEHO) Round II & Gateway Cities Revitalization Programs

Update to Q & A: DHCD has issued the following answer to the question received below:

Q: We are interested in knowing what portions of M.G.L. c.121B DHCD is referring to in the last sentence of #3 Economic Mobility for Public Housing Residents on Page 17 of the RFP.

A: The referenced section on page 17 of the NOFA states:

3. Economic Mobility for Public Housing Residents (20 points): *Statement of Need for public housing residents, including statistics on income, employment, and turnover of development residents. Description of services to promote economic mobility that will be provided to residents. Level of commitment and funding source for service provider. Description of how broader city economic or neighborhood development plan will present economic opportunities for residents. Description of how authority might use ability to waive certain requirements of MGL c.121 B to further goals of program.*

As noted on page one of the NOFA, DHCD anticipates that this NOFA's projects will be funded under the Public Housing Innovation Demonstration Program (PHIDP). Under PHIDP regulations at 760 CMR 63.03(4), DHCD does have the authority to waive certain requirements of M.G.L. c. 121B for PHIDP projects that demonstrate cost effective

revitalization methods for State-aided Family and Elderly/Handicapped Public Housing and to seek to reduce the need for future state modernization funding. PHIDP is designed to achieve:

(a) innovative models for the development, redevelopment and repair of public housing;
(b) innovative models for improved management of public housing;
(c) increased coordination among several housing authorities;
(d) increased economic efficiencies; and
(e) the expansion of economic opportunities for tenants and the Commonwealth.

The NOFA does not discuss, or refer to, any specific c.121B waiver in any detail, and DHCD did not intend the above reference in the NOFA to target specific portions of c. 121B for this waiver. However, LHAs who believe their proposal meets the requirements of the PHIDP program as outlined in the regulations may request a waiver of specific portions of MGL c. 121B if necessary to enhance the effectiveness of the proposal, and DHCD will consider any such waiver requests as part of the proposal review process. Please note that making, or not making, such waiver requests will not in and of itself affect the scoring of your proposal; scoring is based on the extent to which your proposal meets the Evaluation Scoring Criteria.

GENERAL NOTICE: Prospective applicants should review the original NOFA, all addenda and all related attachments to the NOFA before drafting their applications for funding. **All documents can be found at: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/public-housing-admin-notices under the heading "2019-14 Public Housing Innovations (PHI)."**

If you have additional questions about the NOFA, please submit them via email to ben.stone@mass.gov and paul.mcpartland@mass.gov.