



PHA Plan Elements (24 CFR 903.07) Plan Element 8

Safety and Crime Prevention. For public housing only, describe the PHA's plan for safety and crime prevention to ensure the safety of the public housing residents. The statement must include: (i) A description of the need for measures to ensure the safety of public housing residents; (ii) A description of any crime prevention activities conducted or to be conducted by the PHA; and (iii) A description of the coordination between the PHA and the appropriate police precincts for carrying out crime prevention measures and activities.

The Housing Authority's Low Income Public Housing units are located in low crime areas, and there has not been a strong need for additional safety measures. However, the Housing Authority employs several methods of monitoring and preventing crime at public housing sites to maintain the current level of safety.

1. Housing Authority staff read local newspapers on a regular basis, looking for any crimes which may have occurred at a low-rent public housing site or involved a public housing tenant.
2. Records of crime problems reported in newspapers, or by anonymous callers are maintained in individual tenant files. Background/Private Investigation reports are kept in the Administration Department. Both provide data regarding crime at low-rent public housing sites overall for the year.
3. Caretaker law enforcement officers reside at five public housing sites, conducting random patrols and reporting any problems related to crime or drugs that are observed. In addition, officers maintain a visible presence and act as a role model for youth, thus taking steps to deter and prevent crime at the sites where they live.
4. Housing Authority staff maintains a strong working relationship with local law enforcement agencies. These agencies provide the Authority with calls for service statistics on annual basis or as requested. In addition, they contact the Authority if they make a drug crime arrest and believe that the suspect is receiving housing subsidy. Likewise, if the Housing Authority learns that a resident was arrested, law enforcement agencies can provide information about the arrest.
5. Steps are taken to ensure that the units and complexes are as safe as possible, including exterior lighting, and maintenance of bushes and shrubs. Unit doors have peep holes and deadbolt locks.
6. The Housing Authority holds annual meetings with tenants, reminding them of their role in maintaining safety in the complexes. Tenants are encouraged to be their own neighborhood watch.