



City of Springfield, Illinois

Joe McMenamin
Alderman – Ward 7

November 22, 2011

Jackie L. Newman
Executive Director
Springfield Housing Authority
200 North 11th Street
Springfield, Il 62703

Re: Section 8 / MacArthur Park Apartments, 2715 S. MacArthur Blvd

Dear Director Newman,

This is a follow up to our phone conversations in September 2011. At that time, I requested that the SHA use its authority to deny approval of assisted tenancies under the “Section 8” Program for units located at 2715 S. MacArthur, Springfield, Illinois, commonly known as MacArthur Park Apartments (Apartments). When we discussed this in September, the Apartments had over sixty (60) active Section 8 tenant units.

Subsequently I conversed with SHA Attorney Mr. Lobue on October 3, 2011. I again requested the SHA exercise its authority to deny approval of additional Section 8 tenancies at the Apartments. I cited 24 CFR 982.306 (c) (6). That Federal regulation states “the PHA may deny approval of an assisted tenancy for any of the following reasons: ... the owner has a history or practice of renting units that fail to meet State or local housing codes.”

The owner of the Apartments has a history of renting units that fail to meet our local Springfield, Illinois housing code. Most recently, during August, September, and October 2011, the City of Springfield inspected 21 buildings at the Apartments involving 84 of the 178 units there. The City found over 1400 violations, placarded 45 units “Occupancy Prohibited”, and required the owner to register and board-up seven of the buildings.

I request the SHA deny additional Section 8 tenancies at the Apartments. Please provide the SHA’s position. Thank you.

Very Respectively,

Joe McMenamin

cc: Springfield Mayor Houston
Jerome Mayor Stirmell
Debbie Cimarossa, MBBA President