

Executive Director's Report

Housing Authority Of The City Of Orlando, Florida
Vivian Bryant, Esq., Executive Director
Ed Carson, Chair

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DESK

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- FAHRO Florida Legislative Summit
Tallahassee, FL
February 6-7, 2008
- NAHRO Legislative Conference
Washington, DC
March 31–April 2, 2008
- PHADA Annual Convention
New Orleans, LA
June 1-4, 2008
- NAHRO National Conference
San Antonio, TX
October 26-28, 2008

Inside this issue:

Highlights from the Desk	1
Calendar of Upcoming Events	1
Board of Commissioners Meeting	1
Carver Park HOPE VI Development Program	2
Safety Tips	2
HUD Needs to Hear From You	3
Reeves Terrace Bicycle Give-Away	3
Thanks For Giving Part II	3
Capital Improvements Report	4



VIVIAN BRYANT, ESQ.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to 2008! I pray that each and every-one of you and your families had a blessed holiday season. Getting back to a routine after enjoying the holidays can be challenging, but it is always exciting to begin a new year.

This year is off to an especially good start with the appointment of the Orlando Police Department's (OPD) new Chief of Police, Val Demings. She is the 36th Chief of Police in the City's history, and the first woman to hold that title! Chief Demings is a long-time friend of the Orlando Housing Authority. We are so excited that her hard work, dedication and skill has led her to lead us through very difficult times.

I was privileged to attend the Change of Command ceremony when former Chief of Police Mike McCoy retired and Chief Demings was sworn in by Mayor Buddy Dyer. The ceremony was wonderful and impressive, bringing together many of Orlando's citizens to witness the pageantry. Witnessing the ceremony reminded me of the many incredible men and women who serve us a law enforcement officers. In the words of Chief Demings, "we serve because we want to

make a difference." Seeing all of the officers in their uniforms at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center, along with the mounted police patrol, bike patrol and motorcycle patrol was quite a sight!

Most importantly, Chief Demings challenged all of us to make a difference in our community as well. Although crime is her primary focus, of course, a community is more than following rules and catching law-breakers. Each of us contributes to our surroundings every day, whether or not we are aware of it. Every time we show a kindness, or every time we act in a way that we regret, we connect with our fellow citizens. It is our choice whether or not that connection remains strong and committed or whether we act selfishly.

We will continue to work closely with OPD at our sites. Chief Demings is "relentless" on crime and we support her in that effort. The Orlando Housing Authority is intolerant of rulebreakers at our sites and the message is loud and clear that they will be evicted if they cannot participate as law-abiding citizens on or off OHA properties.

Please join with me and the Orlando Housing Authority in welcoming Chief Demings to her new role as Chief of Police. Although we have heard it before, together, we really all CAN make a difference. You are the only one who can choose whether or not your contribution honors your fellow citizens.

Board of Commissioners' Meeting

The Orlando Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will hold its regular Board Meeting Thursday, January 17, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the OHA's Administration Building, Board Room, 390 N. Bumby Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803.

Orlando Housing Authority residents interested in attending the meeting who need transportation, please call the Family Services Department at (407) 895-3300, extension 6001.

Carver Park Development Program Update

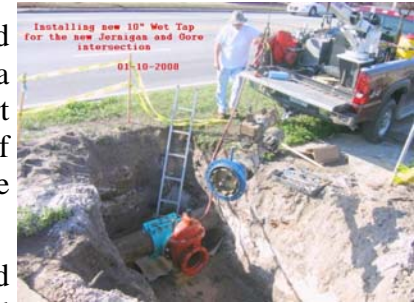


Demolition: The additional required testing can now take place in the area previously occupied by the Carver Court Administration Building. This is one of the last steps to complete all of the remediation activities.

Soil Remediation: Excavation and installation for sewer line, manholes and laterals, and storm drainage systems are

complete west of the site. Excavation and installation of storm sewer drainage on the east side continues. The roads for Jernigan and Lee Avenues have been laid out and installation of the base course has started.

Infrastructure: The former Carver Court Administration Building has been completely demolished. The Finlay Development office is located in a trailer on the Carver Park site.



SAFETY SHOULD NEVER BE A PART-TIME PURSUIT

When you drive your daughter to the doctor, you probably ensure that both of you are buckled up and that you obey all the traffic laws. Before you give yourself a pat on the back for being safe, you might want to look at how you drive when she is not in the car with you. Many people take a different approach to safety depending on whether they are alone or in the presence of family. In other words, safety becomes a hit or miss, part-time pursuit. Many of us are less safe and even reckless when we are on our own and we may switch into this type of behavior without even realizing it.

Safety: It's Not All About You

Why would you wear a seatbelt when your children were with you in the car and then drive without one on you are alone? Why would you not bother with a lifejacket when you were alone in your boat, work without personal protective equipment (PPE) or stand on the top rung of a ladder because you were too lazy to find one that was safe for the job?

If you are trying to set an example of being safe, but only doing it when your children and spouse are around, that's simply selfish and hypocritical thinking. Imagine the grief and confusion your family would feel if you were found dead, ejected from a vehicle because you had not been wearing your seatbelt and had been speeding, or had suffered a fatal workplace fall because you had not been using fall protection equipment.

Nobody Wants To Be Remembered in Anger

Your family members' initial confusion over why you would do the very thing that you warned them never to do will eventually be replaced by real anger. What right did you have to break the rules and plunge your loved ones into grief and misery that will affect them for the rest of their lives? What could you possibly say to them to explain your actions?

Next time you are tempted to speed, ride a motorcycle without a helmet, or bypass a safety step at work, think about your spouse or children watching a police car roll up to your house and two grimfaced officers walking toward your door.

Think Outside the Door

Your actions, or lack of them, affect not just you, but many others. We have all heard stories of families suffering not only tremendous grief, but also financial hardship and worrisome rebellion as children, angry at suddenly having only one parent, act out in destructive ways.

Visualize the front door of your home. Imagine walking into the warmth and the presence of people you could not do without. You are the person they could not do without. Remember that fact every day and do everything in your power to stay safe and healthy. Your granddaughter may not be born for another 10 years but she'll want you at her first school performance. Plan to be there.

**Attention All
Residents**

**HUD needs to
HEAR FROM
YOU!**

The Resident and Satisfaction Survey is one of four ways that HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing, Real Estate Assessment Center (PIH-REAC) will evaluate your housing agency's performance through the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS). The survey will measure your satisfaction and experience with your living conditions. Your household may be randomly selected to receive the survey. If you are selected, please take the time to complete it. Resident participation is essential to the survey's success. Your feedback is very important to HUD!

If you have any questions about the survey, please call PIH-REAC's Technical Center at 1-888-245-4860 (Toll Free).

REEVES TERRACE BICYCLE GIVE-AWAY



Orlando City Commissioner Patty Sheehan along with local businesses gave bicycles to the children of the Reeves Terrace public housing community. The bicycles were given to each child on Friday, December 22, 2007 at Howard Middle School. Commissioner Sheehan partnered with Condo HQ, Baker Barrios Architects, MPB Communications, Olde town Brokers, Inc., Orlando Fire Department-Station 1, Historic Creations, Toys R Us Store #8725, Orlando Police Department (OPD) and Workscapes, Inc.

After arriving at Howard Middle School in a sleigh with Santa Claus escorted by the Orlando Fire Department and the OPD Mounted Police, Commissioner Sheehan was joined by representatives of the sponsoring businesses to distribute the bicycles and helmets to the youths.



The Orlando Police Department also gave safety instructions to the children through a bicycle safety-training course. The OPD Bicycle Patrol then escorted the youths back to Reeves Terrace on their spanking-brand new bicycles. The children and their parents expressed their appreciation to Commissioner Sheehan and the sponsors for thinking that they deserved such a wonderful gift.



THANKS FOR GIVING—PART II



We are blessed with the generosity of so many individuals and organizations all year long. Particularly during the holidays, families were recipients of the kindness and gifts of others in the community. OHA acknowledges the wonderful giving spirit of the following contributors:

- ◆ LilRae's Day Care donated new clothing that included sports jackets, jerseys and infants clothing to children of the Orlando Housing Authority.
- ◆ Angels's Trace donated Wal-Mart and Target Gift Certificates to single mothers at Citrus Square Apartments, Murchison Terrace Apartments, Ivey Lane Homes, Omega Apartments and Lake Mann Homes.
- ◆ Faith World Church gave gifts and presents to families from Omega Apartments and Marden Meadows Apartments.
- ◆ Inner City Ministries presented over 300 toys to families in Lake Mann Homes.
- ◆ Florida A & M College of Law donated books for disbursement to children from all the public housing sites.
- ◆ The Circle 7 Group from the Presbyterian Church of Orlando presented gifts to the elderly residents of Johnson Manor Apartments
- ◆ District 6 City Commissioner Samuel Ings presented gifts to residents of Murchison Terrace Apartments and Lake Mann Homes
- ◆ District 5 City of Orlando Commissioner Daisy Lynum, District 6 City of Orlando Commissioner Sam Ings, District 19 State of Florida Senator Gary Siplin and Former City of Orlando Mayor Ernest Page presented gifts to low-income families.





ORLANDO HOUSING AUTHORITY

390 N. BUMBY AVE
ORLANDO, FL 32803
Telephone: (407) 895-3300
Fax: (407) 895-0820

WE ARE ON THE WEB
WWW.ORL-OHA.ORG

HUD's Mission Statement: To promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

Orlando Housing Authority Mission Statement: To offer a choice of safe and affordable housing options and opportunities for economic independence for residents of Orlando and Orange County.



Capital Improvements Report



Complex 4-1 Griffin Park Apartments

- ◆ Supply and Install 220 Volt Dryer Circuits at Building 808: R & R Electric Allstar, Inc. began work December 4, 2007 and completed work December 7, 2007.
- ◆ Remove and Replace Concrete Sidewalks: LH Construction began work January 7, 2008. The estimated completion date is January 14, 2008.

Complex 4-4 Lake Mann Homes

Seal and Stripe Parking Lot: Arrow Pavement Services will begin work January 2008 and work will be completed by February 28, 2008.

Complex 4-9 Ivey Lane Homes

Seal and Stripe Parking Lot: Arrow Pavement Services will begin work January 2008 and work will be completed by February 28, 2008.

Complex 4-10 Lorna Doone Apartments

- ◆ Seal and Stripe Parking Lot: Arrow Pavement Services will begin work January 2008 and work will be completed by February 28, 2008.
- ◆ Interior Painting of Residential Apartment Units: Work began November 4, 2007 and completed work December 19, 2007.

Complex 4-11 Meadow Lake Apartments

- ◆ Seal and Stripe Parking Lot: Arrow Pavement Services will begin work January 2008 and work will be completed by February 28, 2008.
- ◆ Supply and Install Aluminum Replacement Windows and Interior Doors: Ovation Construction, Inc. began work January 7, 2008. The estimated completion date is May 15, 2008.

Complex 4-12 Johnson Manor Apartments

Seal and Stripe Parking Lot: Arrow Pavement Services will begin work January 2008. The estimated completion date is February 29, 2008.

Complex 4-12A Citrus Square Apartments

- ◆ Interior Painting of Eighty-Seven (87) Residential Units: Picasso Painting began work January 7, 2008. The estimated completion date is February 28, 2008.
- ◆ Seal and Stripe Parking Lot: Arrow Pavement Services will begin work January 2008 and work will be completed by February 28, 2008.
- ◆ Supply and Install Ceramic Wall Tile in Bathtub Areas: JF VII Corporation began work November 26, 2007 and completed work December 10, 2008

Complex 4-13 Omega Apartments

- ◆ Repair and Rebuild Backflow Prevention Valve: Quotes are being re-evaluated due to change in work scope. Backflow valve cannot be re-built and must be replaced.
- ◆ Seal and Stripe Parking Lot: Arrow Pavement Services will begin work January 2008 and work will be completed February 28, 2008.

Complex 4-14 Marden Meadows Apartments

- ◆ Supply and Install 220 Volt Circuit for Washer/Dryer: Faith Electrical Service, LLC began work November 12, 2007 and completed work December 18, 2007.
- ◆ Supply and Install Tile in Bedroom Areas: Gomez Ceramic Tiles, Inc. began work November 27, 2007 and completed word December 7, 2007.
- ◆ Supply and Install Exterior Doors: Ovation Construction will begin work January 28, 2008. The estimated completion date is March 10, 2008.

*The capacity to care is the thing
which gives life its deepest meaning and significance.*