

*President/CEO's Report
Housing Authority Of The City Of Orlando, Florida
Vivian Bryant, Esq., President/CEO
Ed Carson, Chair*

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DESK

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- NAHRO Summer Conference
Boston, MA
July 22–24, 2010
- FAHRO 2010 Annual Convention
Orlando, FL
August 10-13, 2010
- PHADA Legislative Forum
Washington, D.C.
September 12–14, 2010
- NAHRO National Conference
Reno, NV
October 31, 2010 – November 2, 2010



**VIVIAN BRYANT, ESQ.
PRESIDENT/CEO**

Reporter, Drew Petrimouix, interviewed me Monday, June 7, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. regarding the Government Accountability Office audit that was conducted in March 2010. Regarding the Orlando Housing Authority, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) entire audit statements are as follows:

“... at Orlando Housing Authority, (we) performed limited testing of internal controls over certain financial transactions and their compliance with requirements of the Recovery Act Capital Fund formula grant. We did not independently determine whether the goods/services paid for were received and met various requirements, such as Buy America...”

The Reporter, Mr. Petrimouix, stated that he was contacted by his Washington, DC counterpart; he (Petrimouix) was asked to find out why the Government Accountability Office (GAO) had not tested to insure that the goods/services received complied with the Buy America requirements. My response was that I could not answer that question; GAO needed to answer that

question..
The recent television news report and newspaper article regarding the Orlando Housing Authority’s implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds misrepresented my comments. WDBO is a local radio news station in Orlando, FL. WDBO News

Mr. Petrimouix left the Orlando Housing Authority office at approximately 4:30 p.m. Within 20 minutes, I received a phone call from Channel 9 Television News Reporter, Scott MacFarlane. Mr. MacFarlane stated that he had some follow up questions from my interview with Mr. Petrimouix. I explained to him that the Orlando Housing Authority received \$3.2 million of Recovery Act funding. Approximately, \$2.2 million went to closeout financing for the completed 2002 HOPE VI Carver Park redevelopment. The federal regulations allowed the Recovery Act funds to be used in this way; no waiver was required from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). I also explained that the Buy America provision became a requirement in 2009 after the Carver Park HOPE VI redevelopment construction had been completed.

The last question Mr. MacFarlane asked me was as follows: “Have you ever used any foreign-made materials in any of your developments?” My response was as follows: “Yes. We probably have. We have ceramic tile in our developments. Ceramic tile is made in Spain.”

My response was truthful and did not respond to a Recovery Act question. Mr. MacFarlane reinterpreted my response so it would appear that foreign- made ceramic tile was paid for not in compliance with the federal regulations. There have been more news reports saying I said there is Spanish tile in Carver Park. There is no Spanish tile in Carver Park. What/who are they really after?

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Board of Commissioners' Meeting

The Orlando Housing Authority (OHA) Board of Commissioners will hold its regular Board meeting Thursday, June 17, 2010 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 Community Affairs Department at (407) 895-3300, extension 6001.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

GRANT WRITING/AGENCY PLAN/OTHER

- ◆ **MOVING TO WORK (MTW):** The Orlando Housing Authority (OHA) has been awarded the prestigious Moving To Work Agency (MTW) designation! Staff is reviewing the MTW Agreement and preparing the final plan for submission to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for approval.
- ◆ **ANNUAL PLAN:** The new "Five Year Plan" was approved by HUD.
- ◆ **Lake Mann HOPE VI:** The Orlando Housing Authority (OHA) submitted an application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) January 15, 2010. HUD approved the Plan May 5, 2010. The application was submitted November 17, 2009. Announcement has been made. The Orlando Housing Authority did not receive the grant because of lack of site control of Casa Vida Apartments and insufficient dollars match for the community service activities.
- ◆ **2009 Resident Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency:** The Orlando Housing Authority (OHA) submitted an application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for 2009 Resident Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) funding to hire two (2) Service Coordinators to assess the needs of public housing residents and to coordinate supportive services to meet their needs.
- ◆ **Jackson Court/Division Oaks:** The Orlando Housing Authority (OHA) staff continues to hold monthly update meetings with residents of Jackson Court/Division Oaks to provide information regarding the proposed relocation/demolition. Fourteen (14) families from Jackson Court and two (2) families from Division Oaks moved into the Villas at Carver Park and The Landings at Carver Park respectively. Architects Unlimited prepared conceptual designs based on a parcel identified by the City of Orlando.

THE VILLAS AT CARVER PARK

- ◆ The Villas at Carver Park (64 units) occupancy for April 2010 was 100%.

THE LANDINGS AT CARVER PARK

- ◆ The Landings at Carver Park (56 units) occupancy for April 2010 was 100%.

JUNETEENTH DESIGNATED LEGAL FLORIDA DAY OF OBSERVANCE

Representative Alzo J. Reddick, who represented the Orlando area from 1982 to 2000 in the Florida Legislature, introduced a bill in 1991 to designate June 19th of each year a day of observance to commemorate the end of slavery in Florida and to recognize the day when the last slaves in America were notified of the Emancipation Proclamation. House Bill 243 and Senate Bill 966 passed both chambers unanimously and were signed into law by Governor Lawton Chiles on May 30, 1991. The resulting Florida Statute 2007 Chapter 683.21 permits the Governor of Florida to issue a proclamation annually in recognition of June 19, called Juneteenth.

Since 1992, the Association to Preserve African American Society, History and Tradition, Inc. (PAST), headed by current Orlando Representative Geraldine F. Thompson, has coordinated activities to observe Juneteenth in Central Florida. Representative Thompson has asked Governor Charlie Crist to issue a proclamation and to urge public officials, schools, private organizations and all citizens in Florida to honor the significance of June 19th as permitted in Florida Statute 2007 Chapter 683.21.

PAST, Inc. will present a week of activities in Central Florida to commemorate Juneteenth, which began in 1865 when slaves in Galveston, Texas received news of the Emancipation Proclamation. Though the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, slaves were not freed until after the Civil War which ended in 1865. Union soldiers traveled throughout the south on horseback to inform the slaves of their freedom. The Emancipation proclamation was read in Tallahassee on May 20, 1865 and finally in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865.

PAST, Inc. will begin the Florida Juneteenth observance with a Gospel's Best Competition on June 12 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at St. John Missionary Baptist Church. A Juneteenth jazz Session Jam will be held at the Grand Bohemian Hotel on Monday, June 14 from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Author Rodney Hurst will discuss his book, "It was Never About a Hot Dog and a Coke" at the Wells' Built Museum on June 16 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. As a teenager in the 1960s, Hurst was a member of sit ins at a Jacksonville restaurant. His book is a personal account of axe handle Saturday, when the youth were attacked by whites carrying axe handles and baseball bats.

Aspiring poets will participate in a spoken word competition at the Wells' Built Museum on June 17 from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. PAST, Inc. will partner with Frontline Outreach to present a leadership Summit for disadvantaged youth from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Frontline Outreach Center on June 18. The Leadership Summit will involve elected officials and introduce financial and personal strategies that result in effective leadership in American society.

PAST, Inc. will present youth musicians, including Kendra Legare Jackson and Tevin Michael, in review at the Wells' Built on June 18 from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Youth will entertain a community audience during the review and focus on the legacy of Grammy nominated drummer, David Panama Francis who was a charter member of the Board of Directors of PAST, Inc.

Florida Juneteenth events continue with a health fair coordinated by Representative Thompson at Lake Eola on June 19 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The Health Fair will involve local physicians who will provide testing for glucose levels, diabetes, hypertension, and HIV/AIDS. Pregnancy and ovulation testing kits will be distributed. Counselor will discuss abstinence and planned parenthood. Local employers will also attend to discuss job and training opportunities available to Central Florida residents.

The Juneteenth Music Festival will culminate events from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. at Lake Eola Park. The Music Festival will include local artists, food and merchandise vendors and national recording artists, Con Funk Shun and Lakeside. All events are free and designed to cater to families. For more information, contact the Wells' Built Museum at 407-245-7535 or the office of Representative Geraldine F. Thompson at 407-245-1511. For further details, visit the website www.floridajuneteenth.com. This article was reprinted from an article by State Representative Geraldine F. Thompson.

Orlando Housing Authority and Jobs Partnership of Central Florida



Beginning January 2010, the Orlando Housing Authority and Jobs Partnership of Central Florida collaborated to encourage public housing residents to enroll in a life and work training program. The class inspired practical employability skills for motivated individuals with a sense of direction who were ready to become self sufficient. Jobs Partnership not only, equips its participants with necessary tools to help find a career but also provides guidance to aid in positive lifestyle changes.

The collaboration with Jobs Partnership of Central Florida allowed four (4) of our Orlando Housing Authority residents to further their education and increase their professionalism. The Orlando Housing Authority is pleased to announce that a total of eleven (11) Public Housing residents from Lake Mann, Murchison Terrace, Citrus Square, Griffin Park, and Reeves Terrace participated in the Jobs Partnership twelve-week program.



Our congratulations to the following residents. The Orlando Housing Authority is proud of each and everyone of you!

Consuela Anderson , Citrus Square
Ariadna Crisostomo, Citrus Square
Kwana Green, Citrus Square
Latissa Griffin, Citrus Square

Rhonda Griffin, Lake Mann
Shacara Leath, Lake Mann
Gloria Mora, Citrus Square
Kattie Morgan, Griffin Park

Dorshena Robinson, Murchison Terrace
Jasmine Shubert, Lake Mann
Judy Witt, Reeves Terrace

“Never fear spoiling children by making them too happy.

Happiness is the atmosphere in which all good affections grow. —Thomas Bray”



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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 Exterior Doors (178 Units)

- ◆ The invitation for Bids (IFB) was published October 19, 2009. A pre-bid meeting was held October 27, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. Bids were due November 19, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Twenty-two (22) bids were received. The apparent low bidder was R.H. Paradise Construction and they withdrew their bid. The contract was awarded to the next low bidder, Ovation Construction. A pre-construction conference was held and the Notice to Proceed was issued February 24, 2010. The scheduled completion date is July 1, 2010. The work is 90% complete.

Complex 4-2/5 Reeves Terrace Apartments – Bathroom Renovations (176 Units)

- ◆ Twenty-one (21) bids were received December 8, 2009. The low responsive bidder was LC Construction Group. A pre-construction conference was held and a Notice to Proceed was issued February 5, 2010. The work is 99% complete and eight (8) units are waiting for final inspections. The scheduled completion date is July 23, 2010.

Complex 4-6 Murchison Terrace Apartments – Supply and Install Aluminum Gutters (20 Buildings)

- ◆ The invitation for Bids (IFB) was published February 3, 2010. A pre-bid meeting was held February 11, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Bids were due February 26, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. Two (2) bids were received February 26, 2010 and the low responsive bidder is M.E.C. Contracting Services, LLC. The purchase order was executed and a pre-construction conference was held April 20, 2010. The scheduled completion date is June 3, 2010. The work is 99% complete and final inspections are scheduled for June 15, 2010.

Complex 4-9 Ivey Lane Homes - Re-Roofs (184 Units)

- ◆ The invitation for Bids (IFB) was published January 24, 2010. A pre-bid meeting was held February 4, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Bids were due February 17, 2010 at

2:00 p.m. Britt Construction was the low responsive bidder and the contract was awarded February 18, 2010. A pre-construction conference was held and the Notice to Proceed was issued February 18, 2010. The scheduled completion date is July 1, 2010. The work is 100% complete, however, a federal labor standards violation is under investigation by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Complex 4-9 Ivey Lane Homes - Supply and Install Water Heaters (210 Units)

- ◆ The invitation for Bids (IFB) was published February 3, 2010. A pre-bid meeting was held February 17, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Bids were due February 26, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. Four (4) bids were received and the low responsive bidder was Stones Unlimited Builder, Inc. The purchase order has been executed and the pre-construction conference was held April 7, 2010. The scheduled completion date is July 15, 2010. The work is 100% complete as of May 24, 2010.

Complex 4-10 Lorna Doone Apartments – Individual Electric Metering (104 Units)

- ◆ Two (2) bids were received May 4, 2009. A contract notification has been issued to the low bidder, Air Ideal, Inc. A pre-construction conference was held and the Notice to Proceed was issued July 31, 2009. The work is 100% complete as of May 31, 2010.

Complex 4-13 Omega Apartments – 220 Volt Electrical Circuits and Dryer Vents (74 Units)

- ◆ The invitation for Bids (IFB) was published February 3, 2010. A pre-bid meeting was held February 16, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Bids were due March 1, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. Six (6) bids were received and the low responsive bidder was Southeast Electric of Florida, Inc. The purchase order was executed and the pre-construction conference held April 27, 2010. The scheduled completion date is June 29, 2010. The work is 20% complete.