



Transforming Lives & Communities

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Tuesday, February 09, 2010

Randy Wallace  
Investigative Reporter  
KRIV-TV/Fox 26 News  
4261 Southwest Freeway  
Houston, TX 77027

Dear Randy,

The Houston Housing Authority today received approval from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to lift the income restrictions on sales of our Scattered Sites single family homes. Soon, anyone who is willing to live in these homes for at least 5 years will be allowed to make a purchase offer. Until now, only those who fell below 80 percent of the Area Median Income were allowed to submit purchase offers. HHA will use a bidding process. Bidding will be open for about 30 days.

The 5 year residency requirement is in place to encourage sales to buyers who will live in the homes that they purchase.

We believe lifting the income restrictions will make it much easier to sell these single family homes because it significantly increases the pool of qualified buyers. We will begin advertising this new program shortly, and the rules will be made available at that time.

If there are any properties left after this process has been completed the residency requirement will be lifted and a second round of bidding will take place, meaning buyers will not have to reside at the properties they purchase.

The Houston Housing Authority expects to sell all of its Scattered Sites properties quickly so that it can concentrate on its core business of providing affordable housing to low and moderate income Houstonians.

Sincerely,

Dennis Spellman  
Vice President-External Affairs