



Tonia Lediju, PhD
Chief Executive Officer
San Francisco Housing Authority
1815 Egbert Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94124

May 13, 2024

Dear Ms Lediju,

We are writing on behalf of the Council of Community Housing Organizations to urge the San Francisco Housing Authority to initiate the “Faircloth-to-RAD” Program to create new deeply affordable rental units that San Franciscans desperately need.

We represent 21 mission-driven community developers that are rooted in neighborhoods throughout San Francisco and working to stabilize local communities, prevent displacement, and partner with our city to acquire and develop affordable housing.

According to the most recent Annual Progress Report (APR), the City and County of San Francisco is significantly short of the annual 5,826 affordable units we signed up to produce in our Housing Element in order to ensure that our city meets the affordability needs of our most vulnerable communities.

Meeting these goals will require a variety of interventions, and we must be exhausting every possible avenue. One such strategy is the Faircloth to RAD option, which provides expanded authority and new federal funding for new affordable units. This program is designed to establish a long-term, reliable rental subsidy contract to help Public Housing Authorities and their development partners more readily finance the construction of new deeply affordable public housing units. By ensuring the predictability of the revenue stream over the long term, this program strengthens the ability of developers to secure the partnership of lenders, investors, and underwriters. In San Francisco, it could potentially add up to 3,668 units of new deeply affordable housing, serving ELI and VLI populations earning below 50% AMI.

We urge the San Francisco Housing Authority to exercise its due diligence to coordinate with HUD on implementation of this program prior to September, 2024 when the Rent Augment Program option will expire. Community housing organizations look forward to collaborating with the Housing Authority to identify housing projects and sites that could host new “Faircloth-to-RAD” units, whether owned by the Housing Authority, on other publicly owned land, or in affordable housing projects planned by nonprofit developers.

Thank you,

John Avalos,
Executive Director

Charlie Sciammas
Policy Director

July 18, 2024

Dr. Tonia Lediju, Chief Executive Officer
San Francisco Housing Authority
1815 Egbert Avenue San Francisco, CA 94124
Via Email: ledijut@sfha.org

Director Daniel Adams
Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development
1 Van Ness Ave # 5, San Francisco, CA 94103
Via Email: Dan.Adams@sfgov.org

Re: Letter of Support for the SFHA and MOHCD to Initiate the Faircloth to RAD program

Dear Dr. Lediju and Director Adams,

We are writing on behalf of Young Community Developers (YCD) to request that the San Francisco Housing Authority and MOHCD initiate the "Faircloth-to-RAD" Program to create new deeply affordable rental units.

According to the most recent Annual Progress Report (APR), the City and County of San Francisco is significantly short of the 5,826 affordable units the city signed up to produce annually in the Housing Element to ensure that the city meets the affordability needs of our most vulnerable communities. Meeting these goals will require us to exhaust every possible avenue.

One such strategy is the Faircloth to RAD option, which provides expanded authority and new federal funding for new affordable units. This program is designed to establish a long-term, reliable rental subsidy contract to help Public Housing Authorities and their development partners more readily finance the construction of new deeply affordable public housing units. By ensuring the predictability of the revenue stream over the long term, this program strengthens the ability of developers to secure the partnership of lenders, investors, and underwriters.

In San Francisco, this program could add up to 3,668 new, deeply affordable housing units, serving ELI and VLI populations earning below 50% AMI. We request that the SFHA coordinate with MOHCD to develop a plan to utilize all 3,668 units available before the program expires on September 30, 2024, and issue an RFQ for affordable housing developers to fully explore the program in its entirety.

We look forward to collaborating with the Housing Authority and MOHCD to identify housing projects and sites that could host new "Faircloth-to-RAD" units.

Thank you,

Zachary Weisenburger
Policy Analyst
Young Community Developers