

# HOUSE IT GOING?

The Latest Phoenix Housing Department News

## WINTER 2023

### Housing's Mission:

PROVIDING QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND A PATHWAY TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY

City of Phoenix Housing Department programs provide public housing, Section 8 housing vouchers, affordable rental apartments and single-family homes to more than 35,000 area residents. This includes partnering with non-profit and for-profit community organizations on the preservation and development of affordable housing units.

Our partnerships have led to sustainable and affordable rental housing and homeownership opportunities. The enthusiasm and dedication of our Housing Department staff and Executive team make it all possible. Our goal is to provide Phoenix residents with quality housing options.



[www.phoenix.gov/housing](http://www.phoenix.gov/housing)

@phxhousing



## REVIEW 2023

### Thanks for being a part of our Housing Community!

As 2023 comes to a close we are proud to share a few accomplishments and milestones of the year. We are reminded of the many partners that work alongside us helping achieve our mission of quality affordable housing and a pathway to self-sufficiency. Thank you!



Harmony At The Park in Edison-Eastlake



## COMBATING FOOD INSECURITY



The Housing Department collaborated with St. Mary's Food Bank, Honor Health/Desert Mission Food Bank, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Gregory's Fresh Market, and FIBCO (Facilitating Independence Building Comprehensive Opportunities) Family Services Inc. to provide free meals, food boxes, and fresh fruit to the residents in our communities. To date 6,489 food boxes and 725 bags of fresh produce were distributed; residents at Sunnyslope Manor senior housing site received 2,880 hot and cold meals and the Kids Café Program provided 4,436 daily meals at Aeroterra and Soluna housing sites.

## HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER WAITLIST OPENED



In September 2023, the Housing Department successfully opened the pre-application to join the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program waitlist. During the 15-day opening, more than 43,000 pre-applications were received, 1,700 residents received in-person assistance, and more than 3,900 calls were answered via the dedicated phone line. The pre-application and program documents were available in eight languages and alternate formats to support the diverse Phoenix community. Placement on the waitlist is computer-randomized, and applicants are contacted once their pre-application is selected to determine full eligibility, as vouchers and funding are available.

More information on next steps for individuals who completed a pre-application to the waitlist can be found at:

- Web: <https://www.phoenix.gov/housing/s8waitlist>
- Email: [S8intake@phoenix.gov](mailto:S8intake@phoenix.gov)
- Call: 602-534-1974

## HOUSING PHOENIX PLAN PROGRESS



As of September 2023, 34,171 housing units of the Housing Phoenix Plan's 50,000 units by 2030

goal have been achieved through tracking the creation or preservation of units. Of those units, 19 percent are affordable housing units. Since the plan's 2020 approval by Phoenix City Council, quarterly progress reports highlighting advancements of the nine policy initiatives within the plan have been published on [phoenix.gov/housing](http://phoenix.gov/housing).

**TOTAL UNITS\***  
Jul-Sept 2023

Affordable ..... 2,294 created | 4,269 preserved  
Workforce ..... 7,202 created  
Market..... 20,406 created

**34,171**  
Total To Date

## ELIMINATING DIGITAL EQUITY

The Housing Department provided 1,866 low-income households with access to free digital devices and data service for two years, working to lessen the digital divide. Innovative Digital Navigator programs were initiated at Monroe Gardens and Aeroterra housing sites to provide digital skills training and assistance.



## INCREASING PUBLIC HOUSING OCCUPANCY RATES

For the second consecutive year, a 98 percent occupancy rate for our public housing units was achieved. The Property Management Division accomplished this by coordinating with multiple stakeholders. Dedicated staff and third-party property management partners have shown exceptional resilience and focus to maintain the high standard of our programs. This accomplishment has received special recognition from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), highlighting the effectiveness and impact of our collective efforts.

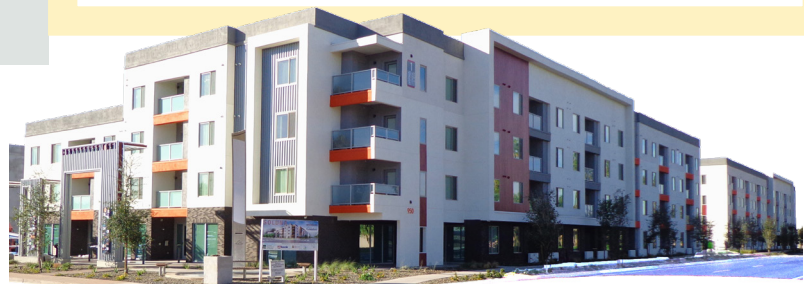
## CREATING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Housing Department staff completed a Call for Interest (CFI) to award \$6 million in gap financing available through the City's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Second Tranche Strategic Plan. Four affordable housing projects were selected to receive ARPA funds creating a total of 101 ARPA units and leveraging the creation of 544 total affordable housing units.

## Increasing Landlord Participation through the LANDLORD INCENTIVE PROGRAM



Phoenix Mayor and City Council have continued to support the Landlord Incentive Program which has attracted property owners to make their properties available to Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) participants. To date the program has 2,103 active landlords, which has helped HCV holders find a safe and affordable place to call home in the current market. The landlord Incentive program has attracted 649 new landlords.



The Housing Department was awarded the HOME Excellence Award for the Soluna II project at the NALHFA conference in Tampa, FL on May 3 and 4. Soluna II is part of the first housing development funded from a \$30 million Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) grant and consists of 66 units of mixed-income housing, five buildings/three stories/one to two bedrooms, rezoned to Walkable Urban Code for a total investment of \$15.3 million. Construction was completed in Spring 2022, and fully rented in November 2022.



## HELEN DRAKE SENIOR CENTER REDEVELOPMENT

The Housing Department is making history as the vacant lot next door to the Helen Drake Senior Center will be redeveloped into the City's first co-located site, offering 80 affordable housing units for seniors.



## INNOVATIVE SOLUTION FOR MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING



In 2023 for the first time in the City, the Housing Department executed a tri-party agreement with the Isaac School District and Phoenix Community Enhancement, LLC. Housing received City Council approval to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with the Isaac School District and Phoenix Community Enhancement, LLC (an affiliate of the Phoenix Industrial Development Authority), for the acquisition and sale of excess Isaac School District property to facilitate development of a 96-unit affordable housing development by United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM).

## 2023 APS ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE

On December 2, Housing Department staff participated in the Annual APS Electric Light Parade! The team drew inspiration from the classic Wizard of Oz movie and its infamous phrase, "There's no place like home". Thousands of Phoenicians lined the streets to enjoy the annual parade.



## HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FORUM

In September, the Housing Department, along with the Community and Economic Development and Planning and Development departments, hosted a development roundtable at Burton Barr Central Library. Based on a recommendation made by the Strategies to Address Homelessness Task Force, affordable housing and development experts were convened to hear an overview of City affordable housing efforts, description of housing needs for our workforce and participate in a discussion regarding additional opportunities for increased affordable and workforce housing. Approximately 65 attendees joined the event, including Mayor Gallego, Councilman Robinson and representatives from the Council District 8 Office. Attendees included developers, land use experts, financing professionals, government agency representatives and other housing industry experts.

HAPPY  
*Holidays*

FROM PHOENIX HOUSING DEPARTMENT



**Contact the Housing Department**

**MAIN OFFICE**

251 W Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85003  
 602-262-6794

**SECTION 8 HCV**

830 E Jefferson St., Phoenix, AZ 85034  
 602-534-1974

**FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS)**

810 S 7th Avenue #16, Phoenix, AZ 85007  
 602-495-0781

**HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA)**

251 W Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85003  
 602-262-6794

**Our Customer Service Commitment**

Customer service is important to us. Our goal is to always serve our customers in a courteous and professional manner. Participants of our programs who have not received exceptional customer service may complete a form to let us know. Download the Grievance/Complaint Form

The City of Phoenix Housing Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or familial status in admission or access to its programs. If you need to request a reasonable accommodation or free language translation services, please call 602-262-6794.

For TTY or other such accommodations please use 7-1-1 Friendly.

