Summary of Scattered Site Resident Meetings

In early February, MPHA held three meetings on MPHA’s application to HUD’s Section 18 program to which all family housing residents were invited by personally addressed letter and an automated phone message.

MPHA held these resident meetings at varying times to accommodate different schedules:

- Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 10 am to 12 pm
- Thursday, February 7, 2019 from 1 pm to 3 pm
- Tuesday, February 12, 2019 from 6 pm to 8 pm

MPHA provided interpretation in Somali and Hmong (no other languages were requested or needed). Approximately 75 residents attended across the three meetings. MPHA presented a slide deck on the application, followed by a large group Q&A and then small-group discussions, after which each table shared out questions and reactions about Section 18 or their homes in general. After this, residents could visit multiple tables to leave additional feedback, meet with MPHA staff about work orders, visit with property staff, and pick up additional materials on MPHA programs.

Residents asked questions and MPHA staff answered attendees. These included:

- **Do you have a timeline for this process and how long it will take?**
  - We explained that the timeline for next steps will depend on if and when we receive approval from HUD. If we receive approval, MPHA will be in touch with residents about a process for signing a new lease. Residents will not have to move out and will stay in their current homes. If there are any necessary improvements that need to be made, MPHA will work with residents to find housing for a temporary period while renovations are completed.

- **Many of the homes have no air conditioning, only one bathroom for a large family, and other repair needs. How will you improve our homes?**
  - MPHA plans to complete a Physical Needs Assessment on each of the properties to learn more about each home and the potential needs residents had raised. MPHA shared some examples of modernization projects that have been completed such as adding a bathroom to a home.

After the presentation and Q&A, residents broke out into small groups for discussion on three questions. Overall, residents expressed their gratitude for the information on Section 18 and the opportunity to attend a meeting. They support MPHA’s application and want to be continually communicated with through a variety of means about MPHA’s progress with the Section 18 application and future steps affecting their homes. Residents would like to participate in additional meetings moving forward and education on design, providing visual representations, and discussion on their homes are important to them.