



RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM (RAD)
RESIDENT INFORMATION NOTICE (RIN)

08/6/2026

Dear Residents of Newport Housing Authority:

You are invited to a resident meeting to talk about NHA's plans to convert all of its Public Housing units from the public housing program Section 9 to Section 8 rental assistance under the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program. The meeting information is:

There will be two meeting to discuss RAD prior to the Resident Council meetings held at the Rhea Mims Hotel downtown Newport on 8/17/2026 and 9/14/2026 at 3 p.m. EST. These two meetings will cover the same topics. There is no need to attend both unless you want to or have more questions.

To Explain to what RAD is please read the attached forms.

RAD is a voluntary program run by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under RAD, HUD will change the way it provides rental assistance to the property from public housing to a long-term Section 8 assistance contract. The Section 8 program would make it easier for us to access money to repair and improve the property, either now or in the future.

**This letter describes your rights under RAD and
explains how a RAD conversion might affect you.**

**Whether we participate in RAD or not,
you will still get rental assistance.**

Your Right to Information

With this letter, we have included “Attachment #1,” which is a description of our current plans for the property. At the meeting, we will describe the RAD program and our current ideas in more detail. If we submit an application to HUD and are accepted into the program, we will have at least two additional meeting with you about our plans. You have the right to hear about major changes in the plans for the project, and we will invite you to additional meetings if key features of the plans change. You also have a right to organize and to form a resident organization to serve as your voice and to help you become well informed about the RAD plans.

Your Right to Rental Assistance

Our decision to participate in RAD does not affect your rental assistance eligibility. You are not subject to new eligibility screening. If we satisfy all HUD requirements and the properties are placed under a Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contract, you have a right to ongoing rental assistance as long as you comply with the requirements of your lease. In most cases, your rent will not change with the conversion from public housing to Section 8. In the rare event that your rent calculation would change (most commonly, when you are paying a “flat rent”), the increase would be phased in over time.

If you need a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, or have other questions about the RAD conversion, please contact NHA's office at 423-623-1575, who will assist you.

Because we are very early in the process, the plans for the RAD conversion are likely to change. We are holding resident meetings to share our current ideas and will keep you informed about major changes to these ideas as we develop our plans. You should also share with us any information you have on repairs that need to be made, since you know the property best. We will give that information to the people who are helping us figure out what work needs to be done at the property.

We hope this letter gives you useful information about your rights. We are also including with this letter a list of frequently asked questions and answers that may help you understand the RAD program better. We encourage you to attend the resident meetings to learn more about how the RAD conversion would impact your property and you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Cole', with a stylized, cursive script.

Walter Cole, Executive Director

Newport Housing Authority

Attachments: Current Plans for the Property
Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Attachment #1

Current Plans for the Property

Note: These plans may change as we do more research. As we improve the plans, we will consider the following: your opinions; an independent professional's analysis of what needs to be repaired at the property; the cost to maintain the property for the long-term; and the financing we may be able to get.

As part of NHA's conversion from public housing subsidy to Section 8 subsidy, NHA plans to complete several property repairs in addition to in-unit upgrades. Some of these *could* include:

- New windows
- Smoke detectors in all bedrooms
- LED lighting
- Updated kitchens and bathrooms
- Install new Plumbing/Draining
- Update Electrical
- Install new HVAC
- Utility room addition
- Landscaping and
- New exterior siding
- New Metal Roofing
- Upgraded Playgrounds
- New Community Room
- New Community Mailboxes

Attachment #2

Frequently Asked Questions about RAD Conversions

Will a RAD conversion affect my housing assistance?

You will not lose your housing assistance and you will not be subject to eligibility re-screening as a result of the RAD conversion. You can remain in your unit regardless of your current income. However, your PHA will continue to follow its annual and interim re-examination processes, including re-examination of your income to adjust your rent. These requirements will be in your lease.

In a RAD conversion, your housing assistance will change from being public housing assistance to being Section 8 housing assistance under either the Project Based Voucher (PBV) program or the Project Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) program. The PHA chooses whether to convert the unit to PBV or PBRA.

Will a RAD conversion affect my rent?

Most residents will not have a rent increase as a result of a RAD conversion. However, if you are paying a flat rent in public housing, you will most likely have to pay more in rent over time. If your rent changes by more than 10% and requires you to pay more than \$25 per month in additional rent, your new rent will be phased in. If the increase in your rent is less than 10% or \$25 per month, the change in rent will be effective immediately.

How can I participate in the RAD planning process?

Prior to participating in RAD, HUD requires PHAs to:

- Notify all residents at the property about their RAD plans, and
- Conduct at least two (2) meetings with residents.

These meetings are an opportunity for you to discuss the proposed conversion plans with your PHA, ask questions, express concerns and provide comments. These meetings are also an opportunity to tell the PHA what you think needs to be repaired at the property. The PHA can then consider that information when developing plans for the property.

The PHA must have at least two more meeting with all residents of the property before HUD approves the final RAD conversion. These additional meetings are another opportunity for the PHA to keep you informed and for you to provide comments about the PHA's RAD conversion plans.

In addition to these resident meetings, your Resident Advisory Board (RAB) will also be consulted and have an opportunity to make recommendations on your PHA's RAD conversion plans during the PHA Plan public hearing process.

What if I need accommodations to participate?

Your PHA must make materials available in accessible formats for persons with disabilities and must make meetings accessible for persons with disabilities.

Your PHA must also provide language assistance to persons with limited English proficiency so that you can understand materials, participate in meetings, and provide comments on the proposed RAD conversion. This may include providing written translation of the PHA's written materials and providing oral interpreters at meetings.

What changes will I see in my lease renewal process?

At the time of the RAD conversion, you will need to sign a new lease. Unless there is good cause for eviction based on your actions, your new lease will continue to renew. Under both the PBV and PBRA programs, a property owner who tries to end your lease must give you notice and grievance rights similar to the rights you have under public housing and the owner must follow state and local eviction laws.

Will RAD affect my rights and participation as a resident in the development?

RAD keeps many of the resident rights available under public housing such as the ability to request an informal hearing and the timeliness of termination notification. You also have a right to organize, and resident organizations will continue to receive up to \$25 per occupied unit each year.

Will I still be able to participate in self-sufficiency programs?

The public housing Family-Self-Sufficiency Program (PH FSS) helps families obtain and maintain living wage employment (income that covers a family's basic needs)

by connecting residents to services. If you are a current participant in an FSS program, you will still be able to participate in FSS after the RAD conversion.

If your development converts to PBV, you will be automatically moved from the public housing FSS to the Housing Choice Voucher FSS program if your PHA has a Housing Choice Voucher FSS program. The rules for both public housing and Housing Choice Voucher FSS programs are very similar.

If your development converts to PBRA, you may continue your participation in FSS until your current contract of participation ends. New participants may enroll only if the owner voluntarily establishes an FSS program at the site.

The Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency-Service Coordinators Program (ROSS-SC) program provides public housing residents with coordinators to connect them to supportive services and empowerment activities.

If you are a current participant in the ROSS-SC, you can continue to participate in ROSS-SC until program funding is used up. Once the grant funds are spent, your PHA cannot apply for a new grant for a RAD property.

What if I need more information?

For more information, go to the RAD website, www.hud.gov/rad.