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Section 4. Purchasing Community Housing

All persons interested in purchasing either Income Category or Workforce Housing must submit the appropriate Application to BCHA, provide proof of completion of the Homebuyer Education Course, and receive as applicable, a Letter of Eligibility or a Letter of Qualification.

A. Procedures for the Purchase of a Deed Covenant Community Home (including Workforce Market Deed Restricted Homes) subject to an Income Category

- 1) Some Community Homes are designated for occupancy by residents within a certain Income Category. Only those Applicants with incomes within the specified Income Category may be eligible for those homes. In matching an Applicant to a specific Home, BCHA may employ the system creating an Applicant Pool in accordance with the steps outlined in Section 2(C) of these Guidelines.
- 2) In all cases, BCHA is the qualifying agent charged with providing a list of potential qualified purchasers of Community Housing to the Seller.
- 3) BCHA may notify each qualifying applicant within the applicant pool, in order of application date and time, to determine their interest in the available Home. The order of date and time may also be followed in applicant selection. The applicant may be asked to provide a loan pre-approval letter as well as a statement of income. This information may all be verified and accepted by BCHA. Once the selection criteria are met, the Applicant(s) may have opportunity to accept or deny the offer. If the Applicant denies, the BCHA team may contact the next qualified applicant in the pool. This process may continue until an applicant accepts the offer. When an Applicant is matched to a Community Home, the Applicant may be required to sign documents necessary to permit BCHA to obtain a copy of the completed loan application, including analysis of income, assets, and debt, submitted to the lender.
- 4) If an Applicant fails to secure financing for that Home in the time allowed (as determined by the purchaser and the lender), that Applicant may be eliminated from consideration for purchase of that Community Home but may not lose their position on the waiting list and consideration for future available Homes.
- 5) An Applicant may, but is not required to, engage the services of a licensed Real

Estate Broker in the transaction. Any fees charged by the Real Estate Broker must be the responsibility of the Applicant.

- 6) Any co-ownership interest other than Joint Tenancy or Tenancy in Common must be approved by BCHA. Co-signers may be approved for ownership of the Community Home but may not jointly occupy the Community Home unless qualified by BCHA. No person may own more than one home either as a sole owner or as a Joint Tenant or Tenant In Common. Co-signed loans may not be allowed.
- 7) Each purchaser is required to sign an acknowledgment and acceptance of the Deed Covenant or the Workforce Market Deed Covenant.

B. Reserving a Newly Constructed Community Home

BCHA may use all reasonable efforts to show newly constructed Community Housing to Applicants prior to the issuance of the certificate of occupancy. A qualified Applicant who is successfully matched with a Community Home may be given the opportunity to enter into a Reservation Agreement for that Community Home. Upon the filing of the final plat the Reservation Agreement may be converted to a Purchase and Sale Agreement in accordance with the terms of the Reservation Agreement.

C. Special Applicant Pool for a Particular Community Housing Development

- 1) Some Community Homes are constructed by or made available by a government agency or by a private developer for a particular group of employees (e.g. Blaine County School District). In those instances, a Special Applicant Pool may be established for that development. When a Community Home in such a development becomes available for sale or re-sale, BCHA may first use the Special Applicant Pool for that development to find qualified buyers.
- 2) BCHA may employ the system creating an Applicant Pool in accordance with the steps outlined in Section 2(D) of these Guidelines with special prioritization as may be requested by the developer and approved by BCHA. Special prioritization may include the current employees of an employer, a local employee preference, among other things.
- 3) Special prioritization must not be given based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status, except as allowed when participating in a federal program that prioritizes senior citizens, disabled persons, or veterans in its housing programs. This Special Applicant Pool may also be open to people moving into the area, as determined by the development.
- 4) The procedure for qualifying an applicant from a special applicant pool must follow the same procedures as outlined in Section 4(A) with the addition prioritizations, as described in Section 4(C)(1)-(3) (above).
- 5) Should the Special Applicant Pool for Community Housing in a Particular Development be exhausted, without a Community Home being sold, it may be offered to a general Applicant Pool as outlined in Section 4(A).

D. Ongoing Obligations/Requirements for Community Home Ownership

Once an Applicant successfully purchases a Community Home through BCHA, a copy of the executed Purchase and Sale Agreement and closing documents must be filed with BCHA. The Applicant/Applicant Household must use the Community Home as their Primary Residence, comply with all provisions of the applicable Deed Covenant, and must adhere to the following additional requirements.

- 1) The owner must complete and submit to BCHA the annual compliance monitoring form. The owner must provide the list of capital improvements, along with receipts, to BCHA at each annual compliance. If these improvements are not reported by the annual compliance monitoring each year, the owner will not be given credit for the improvement.
- 2) The owner must cooperate with BCHA on regular review of property condition and maintenance issues to ensure compliance with provisions of the Deed Covenant. This may require a tour of the property by BCHA staff and an inspector, should staff desire. Deferred maintenance may result in the inability to realize the maximum sale price allowable by the Deed Covenant.
- 3) The owner must not offer any portion of the home as a short-term or vacation rental.
- 4) The owner and household members must not acquire new residential real estate (excluding shared inheritance).
- 5) The Homeowner's Exemption must be utilized on the community home.
- 6) The owner may not offer any portion of the home as a long-term rental without the prior approval of BCHA, as outlined in Section 4(E)(below).

E. Long-Term Rental Options for Owners of Community Housing

- 1) If an owner of a Community Home desires to rent the Home during an absence, the owner must provide a letter to BCHA detailing the need for the request (illness, education, etc.) and requesting permission to rent the home at least thirty (30) days prior to leaving.
- 2) The leave of absence may be for up to one year.
- 3) The Rental Rate charged must be approved by BCHA and must be within the published monthly affordability for the Income Category enumerated on the Deed Covenant and in no event may exceed the published Affordability of Income Category 6.
 - (a) The Community Home must be rented in accordance with the Guidelines during the authorized period so long as other Deed Covenants covering the home permit the rental. Any prospective Tenant must be qualified by BCHA *prior* to execution of a lease. A lease must contain the following provisions:
 - (b) Should the owner decide to re-occupy the home again as the owner's primary residence, then the owner must give the Tenant a minimum of thirty (30) days' notice prior to the conclusion of any lease.
 - (c) No initial lease term may be for fewer than 90 days and no more than 1 year. The lease

is non-renewable.

- 4) A copy of the executed lease must be furnished by the owner or tenant to BCHA.
- 5) The owner must provide the tenant with the HOA rules. The owner is responsible for enforcement of the HOA rules.
- 6) If the Community Home has income restrictions, the rent rate is determined by the Income Category rent rate. If there is no income restriction present, the rent rate is determined by Category L guidelines.