



Rickie Maddox, Interim Chief Executive Officer

April 24, 2024

City Council
City of Alexandria, Virginia

RE: Transmittal of Resolution for Premier Housing, Inc.

Dear Members of the Alexandria City Council:

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners of the Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority (ARHA) and the residents of Alexandria's public housing communities, I hereby transmit the attached Resolution for consideration by the Alexandria City Council.

ARHA's primary responsibility is to own and maintain the public housing units authorized by Congress through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) within the city of Alexandria. In addition to maintaining these units, ARHA is responsible for the financing and redevelopment of the properties and providing services to residents.

In these difficult budgetary times and diminishing financial commitments to the public housing program by Congress, it is imperative that ARHA implement creative solutions to these challenges. The creation of Premier Housing, an affiliated nonprofit entity, grew from this vision to utilize all mechanisms available to ARHA to seek funding and leverage resources on behalf of the residents that we serve.

The attached resolution and memo from ARHA's external counsel outlines the importance of approving ARHA's request to create a nonprofit entity whose mission is to support ARHA's development program and to obtain funds to support the services that we provide regularly to residents living on ARHA's properties. By utilizing Premier Housing, ARHA will have a mechanism to tap into funding available from the philanthropic community as well as corporate giving and thereby bring much needed funding to support very low-income families in Alexandria. ARHA's current structures are not 501(c)3 entities and therefore are unable to apply for much of the foundation grants that are available for affordable housing production and related supportive services. Moreover, and consistent with recent changes to the US Income Tax Code, as a nonprofit tax-exempt entity, by creating a tax-exempt entity ARHA will be able to participate more fully as a redevelopment partner on future redevelopment projects.



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We request your favorable vote on approving the Resolution before your body approving ARHA's creation of a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization called Premier Housing that will support the redevelopment of public housing as well as to assist finance the many services focused on supporting low-income households in the city.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (703) 549-7115 or rmaddox@arha.us.

Sincerely,

Rickie Maddox

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Interim Chief Executive Officer