



Boston Housing Authority Lower Mills Development Capital Improvements Program

Project Notification Form

September 3, 2010

Submitted to:
Boston Redevelopment Authority

Submitted by:
Boston Housing Authority

Prepared by:
Boston Housing Authority
Mostue & Associates Architects, Inc.

Contact:

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I. Project Description and Impact Summary

General Information

The Lower Mills development is a 177 unit high-rise development for elders and people with disabilities at 2262 Dorchester Avenue in the Lower Mills neighborhood of Dorchester. There are 108 studio, 59 one-bedroom, and 10 two-bedroom units.

The Boston Housing Authority proposes to convert the funding subsidy at this site from conventional public housing subsidy to project-based voucher subsidy. The conversion to project based assistance will improve the operating cash flow and allow the project to leverage debt for capital improvements and repairs. It will also allow for significant services enhancement at the property. A small number of units (10%) will remain public housing units.

There is no zoning approval needed for the project. Article 80 is triggered for this initiative because we will be substantially rehabilitating a building having a gross floor area of more than 100,000 square feet. The building footprint, intensity of use, and existing resident community will not change. The BHA will seek all applicable state and local building-related permits and approvals to complete renovations.

The BHA plans to secure financing from MassHousing, Inc. to renovate the property once the subsidy conversion takes place (December, 2010). The Authority has created a wholly owned and controlled instrumentality to be the owner of the Lower Mills development, the Lower Mills Housing Corporation (LMHC). LMHC is a nonprofit corporation created and existing pursuant to MGL c. 180. The sole member of the corporation is the BHA.

Site and Building Information:

Address:

2262 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, MA 02124

Date of Construction:

1973

Number of Floors:

7

Lot Area:

61,096 +/- SF

Building Footprint:

17,155 +/- SF

Total Building:

120,085 +/- SF (Footprint x 7 stories)

Unit Breakdown:

111 Studio/Efficiency Units, 59 1BR units, and 10 2BR units

Maximum Floor Area Ratio:

-

Building Height:

69'-6"

Flood Zone;

None

Planned Scope of Renovations:

The exterior envelope repairs will include selective replacement of through wall flashing and masonry re-pointing and addition of insulation at perimeter metal-framed wall

cavity. The existing balconies will be re-finished and all windows and vertical joints will be caulked and sealed.

Energy conservation features at apartments and common areas will include weather stripping of doors and windows, replacement of existing plumbing fixtures with low flow toilets and aerators for sinks, tubs, showers and lavatories to reduce water consumption; and replacement of electric radiators with Hydronic radiators.

Energy conservation features at building MEP systems will include replacement of electric heat with new gas fired boilers, conversion of outside makeup air unit from electric to gas, and installation of cogeneration unit.

All common areas will be upgraded with new finishes, lighting, paint and ceilings. The existing laundry facility and trash room will receive improved ventilation.

Units will receive new door hardware as well as GFCI outlets within the bathrooms. Some kitchens and bathrooms will be renovated with new finishes. All ducts and registers will be cleaned, sealed, and balanced.

The building will also receive a new fire alarm system and exterior site work will include repaying selected areas of the sidewalks and driveways as well as upgrading the exterior lounge and garden areas.

Impacts and Benefits

The primary goals of the program at Lower Mills are to 1) make needed repairs that are not possible within BHA's existing public housing capital budget, and 2) enhance the quality of life for current residents through enhanced services and improved conditions, as described below.

The advantage of PBVs is that they provide deeper subsidy to the owner of the property than the operating subsidy used in conventional public housing. For example the BHA's average public housing unit received \$644 per month in federal operating and capital subsidies; average per unit subsidy under the Section 8 program was \$1,110 per month.

The capital improvements that will result from the project are expected to total about about \$7 million at Lower Mills—funds that would otherwise not be available to this site through BHA's limited public housing budget.

In addition, the subsidy change will make funding available to the site to enhance resident services. Specific service enhancements will include an on-site Service Coordinator to assist residents with appointments, transportation, community referrals arranging translation services, and coordinating structured social activities. The Coordinator will also identify residents that might need Home Care services, and provide assistance with tenancy issues, as appropriate.

The units will remain affordable; residents will still pay 30% of their income and have similar protections and rights as they do under the public housing program (e.g. the ability to grieve or appeal a BHA decision). The local tenant organization will continue to exist and continue to receive funding from BHA; there will be enhanced resident services; and residents will have rights to a tenant-based voucher or to remain in BHA public housing at another site if they prefer.

We are planning to keep residents in place, with the exception of the four units that will be converted for accessibility. The planned capital program will not require relocation other than perhaps daytime or short-term relocation for upgrades where temporary unit access is needed.

Applicant Information

Proponent:
Boston Housing Authority
52 Chauncy Street
Boston, MA 02111

Contact: Kate Bennett, Special Assistant to the Administrator for Planning 617-988-4108 (phone), 617-988-4133 (fax), email kate.bennett@bostonhousing.org

Architect:

Mostue & Associates, Architects, Inc. 240A Elm Street, 3rd Floor Somerville, MA 02144 Contact: Cliff Boehmer, AIA, Principal

phone: 617-628-5700 x106, email: cboehmer@mostue.com

MEP Engineer Wozny Barber & Associates: 1090 Washington Street Hanover, MA 02339

Civil Engineer
Devellis Zrein, Inc.
500 Grove Street
Framingham, MA 01701

Project Schedule

Project Review, Approval and Permitting: August, 2010-October, 2010

Financial Closing/Subsidy Transfer: January, 2011

Construction Start: March, 2011 Construction Completion: March 2012

Note: there is no relocation of existing residents planned at this time. Residents will remain in place during construction, or they will be temporarily relocated on a short-term or daytime basis.

II. Transportation

The project is an in-place renovation project and will not change the footprint, unit count or residency at Lower Mills. Therefore, there is no impact to transportation, traffic, or parking at these sites.

Project construction will have minimal impact on transportation, traffic, and parking. The site is located on a primary city street with existing commercial traffic (Dorchester Ave. in Lower Mills.) The site is in close proximity to public transit and on-site staging and storage areas are available at the sites. The scope of work will not require the use of large scale construction equipment such as cranes except to place roof top mechanical equipment.

III. Environmental Protection

The BHA will adhere to all environmental compliance regulations and laws during the building renovations. We have completed a Phase 1 Environmental Assessment and a Phase 2 Environmental Assessment is underway consistent with requirements of our lender; conditions on the site are typical for an urban site with no extraordinary findings. Overall, the project will not have significant environmental impacts and will enhance existing conditions at the site.

Due to nature of the renovations and the lack of change to footprint or intensity of use, there are no impacts to the following categories under Article 80B.3.2: Wind, Shadow, Daylight, Solar Glare, Air Quality, Water Quality, Flood Hazard, Groundwater, Geotechnical Impact, Solid and Hazardous Waste, or Wildlife Habitat.

Noise

Impact on noise will be minimal. New Co-generation equipment will be installed as part of the work. The design team will evaluate potential noise impact of this equipment, and will include abatement measures in the scope of work.

Construction Impact

Construction impact will be minimal since this is an occupied renovation. The BHA will require that the Contractor provide a Construction Management Plan that minimizes the impact of noise, dust, waste, and traffic on residents and neighbors. The Contractor will be required to comply with construction waste guidelines, to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills.

Rodent Control

The BHA typically requires that the Contractor implement a rodent control plan and work with its Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program during all stages of work. Impact will be minimal since no major demolition or excavation is included in the scope of work.

Green Building

The project will accomplish significant utility savings through systems and envelope improvements which are reflected in the attached LEED checklist.

IV. Urban Design

Please see attached progress plans for this section.

No changes to the existing urban design patterns are anticipated. The site will be improved for better handicapped access and will have some modest landscaping, site furnishings, and lighting to create a safer, friendlier pedestrian environment.

V. Historic Resources

The BHA and MassHousing are making the appropriate filings to the Massachusetts Historical and Boston Landmarks Commission. Due to the nature of the project (in-place renovations; in-kind replacement) we anticipate that the project is unlikely to affect significant historic or archaeological resources.

VI. Infrastructure

The project's extensive energy upgrades will significantly reduce water and electricity consumption at both sites. New or increased gas services will be required, and gas consumption will be increased as the new source of heat and hot water. If the existing gas service is not adequate, new gas service will be taken from existing utilities in the streets. The project's engineer has confirmed with the utility that adequate gas service is available in the street.

Preliminary energy modeling indicates that electrical energy savings could be as high as 1,788,000 kWh per year. Water savings measures are estimated to save thousands of HCF (100 cubic feet) of water annually.

VII. Site Plan Component

Not Applicable

VIII. Tidelands

Not Applicable

IX. Development Impact Project

Not Applicable

X. Public Review Process

BHA has convened eight (9) meetings with the Lower Mills Task Force to explain its intent with this initiative; discuss the process for conversion, including the benefits that will accrue to the residents; seek input from the task force members; and address questions and concerns. BHA convened an additional four (4) resident-wide and community meetings regarding this initiative as well. BHA adopted proactive measures to ensure that residents would be able to participate meaningfully in the process, including developing and distributing a frequently-asked questions summary (in English and Spanish). The task force has helped guide the BHA process and advised the BHA in how best to reach out to residents so that the BHA could address their concerns.

Finally, BHA administered a formal 45-day public comment period for its Agency Plan Amendment, which ran from June 5-July 20, 2009 and included two public hearings at the end of the comment period.

The BHA has also met several times with the RAB on this initiative, beginning with the issuance of BHA's *Approach to Preservation* in May 2007, which described the BHA's intent to convert a small number of elderly/disabled public housing developments from public housing to project-based Section 8. At that time the RAB posed a number of questions all of which were addressed through in-person meetings and web-site postings. BHA communicated with the RAB again when it had tentatively identified the Lower Mills and Heritage sites, and again to inform them of its intent to file the Agency Plan Amendment and draft Disposition Plans.

Meeting dates were as follows:

- Lower Mills Task Force: August 6, 2008; September 9, 2008; September 18, 2008; January 22, 2009; April 23, 2009; May 21, 2009; May 27, 2009; May 14 2010; August 17, 2010
- Lower Mills resident-wide meetings: August 13, 2008; October 7, 2008; June 10, 2009, December 9, 2009
- Agency Plan Public Hearings: December 8, 2008; July 15, 2009 (daytime and evening meetings)

As part of the Article 80 process there will be an additional publicly-advertised community meeting to inform the broader neighborhood and other stakeholders of the planned renovations, and seek additional input on the project.

Attachments:

Site Plan Photographs Preliminary Drawings Preliminary LEED Checklist

LEED 2009 for New Construction and Major Renovation Project Scorecard DRAFT August 2010

Project Name: BHA Lower Mills Apartments
Project Address: Dorchester, MA

14 3 9 SUSTAIN	ARICE SITES	24	Pomis
Y Prereq 1	Construction Activity Pollution Prevention	Required	
0 G Credit 1	Site Selection	1	· ·
Credit 2	Development Density and Community Connectivity		No major remediation anticipated
Credit 3	Brownfield Redevelopment	6	
Gredit 4.1	Alternative Transportation - Public Transportation Access		Low demand for bike storage among residents
€ Credit 4.2	Alternative Transportation - Bicycle Storage and Changing Rooms		
3 Credit 4.3	Alternative Transportation - Low-Emilting and Fuel-Efficient Vehicles	3	
2 Credit 4.4	Alternative Transportation - Parking Capacity		No new parking provided
€ Credit 5.1	Site Development - Protect or Restore Habitat Site Development - Maximize Open Space	1	Landscape scope TBD
1 Credit 5.2	• • •	1	
1 Credit 6.1	Stormwater Design - Quantity Control	1	
t Credit 6.2	Stormwater Design - Quality Control		Landscape scope TBD
1 Credit 7.1 1 Credit 7.2	Heat Island Effect - Nonroof		Existing roofs to remain
	Heat Island Effect - Roof Light Pollution Reduction		New lighting will comply
1 Credit 8	Light Foliation Reduction		Hen against ma compy
6 2 2 NATION	EFFICIENCY	(f) 4	Points
Y Prereq 1	Water Use Reduction	Required	
Credit 1	Water Efficient Landscaping	2 to 4	
	2 Reduce by 50%	2	Any new landscape will be drought tolerant and native
	No Potable Water Use or Irrigation	4	No new irrigation
2 Credit 2	Innovative Wastewater Technologies	2	!
./2 2 Credit 3	Water Use Reduction	2 to 4	ļ
	2 Reduce by 30%	2	Limited due to rear outlet toilets
	3 Reduce by 35%	3	l
*	Reduce by 40%	. 4	•
7 10 13 ENERGY	& ATMOSPHERE	310	Paints 1
Prereq 1	Fundamental Commissioning of Building Energy Systems	Required	I Project will not have CxA
Y: Prereq 2	Minimum Energy Performance	Required	
V Prereg 3	Fundamental Refrigerant Management	Required	
7 Credit 1	Optimize Energy Performance	•	Depends on results of energy study
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Improve by 12% for New Buildings or 8% for Existing Building Renovations	1	
	Improve by 14% for New Buildings or 10% for Existing Building Renovations	2	
	Improve by 16% for New Buildings or 12% for Existing Building Renovations	3	ı
	improve by 18% for New Buildings or 14% for Existing Building Renovations	4	l .
	Improve by 20% for New Buildings or 16% for Existing Building Renovations	5	;
	Improve by 22% for New Bulldings or 18% for Existing Building Renovations	6	i
	improve by 24% for New Buildings or 20% for Existing Building Renovations	7	,
	Improve by 26% for New Buildings or 22% for Existing Building Renovations	8	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Improve by 28% for New Buildings or 24% for Existing Building Renovations	9	l e
	Improve by 30% for New Buildings or 26% for Existing Building Renovations	10	i
	Improve by 32% for New Buildings or 28% for Existing Building Renovations	11	
	Improve by 34% for New Buildings or 30% for Existing Building Renovations	12	!
	Improve by 36% for New Buildings or 32% for Existing Building Renovations	13) · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Improve by 38% for New Buildings or 34% for Existing Building Renovations	14	
	Improve by 40% for New Buildings or 36% for Existing Building Renovations	15	
	Improve by 42% for New Buildings or 38% for Existing Building Renovations	16	i i
	Improve by 44% for New Buildings or 40% for Existing Building Renovations	17	
	Improve by 46% for New Buildings or 42% for Existing Building Renovations	18	
	Improve by 48%+ for New Buildings or 44%+ for Existing Building Renovations	19	
7 Credit 2	On-Site Renewable Energy		Not currently in scope
	1% Renewable Energy	. 1	
***	3% Renewable Energy	. 2	. 41
	5% Renewable Energy	3	
	7% Renewable Energy	4	
	9% Renewable Energy	, 5	
•	11% Renewable Energy	6	
CONTROL OF SECURITIES CONTROL	13% Renewable Energy	7	
2. Credit 3	Enhanced Commissioning		Project will not have CxA
2 Credit 4	Enhanced Refrigerant Management	. 2	:
			•

3 Credit 5 2 Credit 6	Measurement and Verification Green Power	3	
Yes 7 No 6 2 4 所知目的的	LSTARRESOURGES	-74	Points -
Prereq 1	Storage and Collection of Recyclables	Required	No room in existing trash rooms. Review options.
Credit 1.1	Building Reuse - Maintain Existing Walls, Floors and Roof	1 to 3	
	Reuse 55%	1	
	章 Reuse 75%	2	
CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR	3 Reuse 95%	. 3	
2 0 Credit 1.2	Building Reuse - Maintain Interior Nonstructural Elements	1 to 2	Target 75%
Z U Credit Z	Construction Waste Management 50% Recycled or Salvaged	1 10 2	
	175% Recycled or Salvaged	2	
2 Credit 3	Materials Reuse	1 to 2	!
	Reuse 5%	1	
	Reuse 10%	2	
⊕ 1 Credit 4	Recycled Content		Specify where possible: ACT, GWB, sheathing
	10% of Content 20% of Content	1	
e 1 Credit 5	Regional Materials		Specify where possible.
20000	10% of Materials	· 1	
	20% of Materials	2	
1: Credit 6	Rapidly Renewable Materials	1	
1 Credit 7	Certified Wood	1	
6 6 3 1400018	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	16	Points
Y Prereq 1	Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance	Required	
Y Prereq 2	Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) Control	Required	
1 Credit 1	Outdoor Air Delivery Monitoring	1	
1 Credit 2 Credit 3.1	Increased Ventilation	1	
F Credit 3.2	Construction Indoor Air Quality Management Plan - During Construction Construction Indoor Air Quality Management Plan - Before Occupancy		Not Applicable (occupied rehab)
Credit 4.1	Low-Emitting Materials - Adhesives and Sealants	1	
Credit 4.2	Low-Emitting Materials - Paints and Coatings	1	
1 Credit 4.3	Low-Emitting Materials - Flooring Systems	1	Need to verify if VCT will comply
s Credit 4.4	Low-Emitting Materials - Composite Wood and Agrifiber Products	1	
1 Credit 5	Indoor Chemical and Pollutant Source Control	1	Roll out mats in entries
Credit 6.1	Controllability of Systems - Lighting Controllability of Systems - Thermal Comfort		
1 Credit 7.1	Thermal Comfort - Design		No central AC
f Credit 7.2	Thermal Comfort - Verification	. 1	
1 Credit 8,1	Daylight and Views - Daylight		Existing window configuration will remain
1 Credit 8.2	Daylight and Views - Views	1	Existing window configuration will remain
3 0 0 PHOVAS	ION IN DESIGN		Points
Credit 1	Innovation in Decion	1 to 5	:
Creoit i	Innovation in Design 1 City of Boston: Modern Grid (CoGen)	1103	•
	1 Exemplary Performance: Alternative Transportation	1	
	Innovation or Exemplary Performance	1	
	Innovation	. 1	
AND TOTAL STANDS	Innovation	1	
Yes 7 Ho	LEED* Accredited Professional	1	
	L PRIORITY	, i	Points
Gredit 1	Regional Priority	1 to 4	• .
Control Control Control	Regionally Defined Credit Achieved: SSc2	1	
	Regionally Defined Credit Achieved	1	•
	Regionally Defined Credit Achieved	1	
V., 4 V.	Regionally Defined Credit Achieved	1	
Yes 7 Ho	FTOTALS (Cartification Entirested)	297	Paliste

Certified: 40-49 points Silver: 50-59 points Gold: 60-79 points Platinum: 80+ points

RENOVATIONS TO BHA 0116-03 LOWER MILLS APARTMENTS Boston, MA

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DRA/ COOS A101 A201 A201 A201 A201 A201 PLEASI	DRAWING LIST	COVER SHEET	LOWER MILLS APAR	LOWER MILLS APAR	LOWER LIELLS APAR	LOWER MILLS EXTE LOWER MILLS EXTE	LOWER MILLS TYPIC	FULL DRAWING SET,	E NOTE; DRAWINGS N
	DRA			2000	A101	A200	ABOO	ATON+	PLEASE

LOCATION MAP



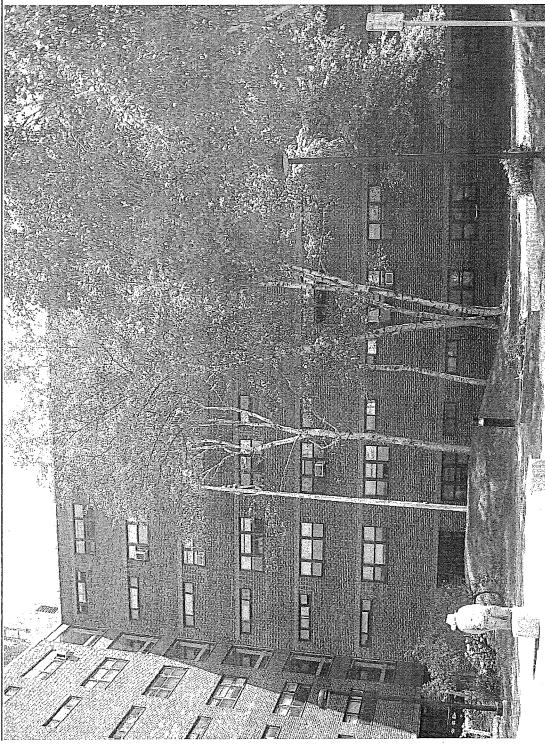
ARTICLE 80 REVIEW 08.25.10

MOSTUE & ASSOCIATES

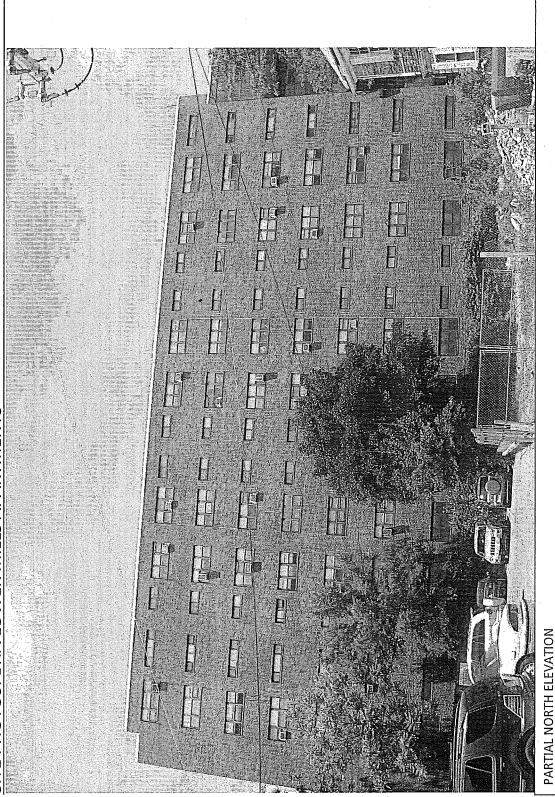
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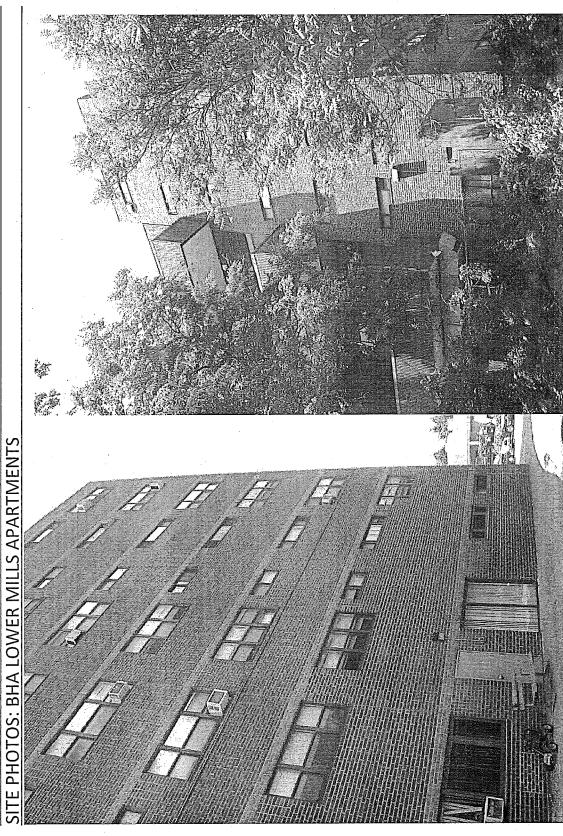
BRA ARTICLE 80 REVIEW
SITE PHOTOS: BHA LOWER MILLS APARTMENTS





PARTIAL SOUTH ELEVATION





PARTIAL NORTH ELEVATION

PARTIAL WEST ELEVATION

