



For Immediate Release

NHA Awarded \$2.5 Million Grant for Baxter Terrace Demolition Project

Newark NJ—May, 8, 2009—The Newark Housing Authority's World War Two-era Baxter Terrace site is one step closer to being transformed into a modern development thanks to a \$2.5 million grant from the state Department of Community Affairs.

The money – from the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program – will be used to demolish the 502 distressed apartments at the 14-acre property.

Executive Director Keith Kinard said he is pleased NHA was selected for the competitive grant.

"Baxter Terrace was one of our top concerns at NHA. The current state of the property is not indicative of what we envision as a healthy neighborhood for families," Kinard said.

Baxter's 68-year-old buildings and systems have become obsolete. NHA determined it made more fiscal sense to knock down the old and rebuild rather than spend millions of dollars on upgrades that would still leave the property below federal housing standards.

"These funds will provide the assistance we need to begin the process of providing a flourishing environment for families. Demolishing the buildings and redeveloping the location will dramatically improve and stabilize the neighborhood. Like all of our construction activities, the rebuilding of Baxter will benefit both our clients and their neighbors," Kinard said.

NHA has begun the process of helping families now living at Baxter to find new homes. Some are moving to other NHA developments; others are being issued Housing Choice vouchers to find apartments in the private rental market.

The Housing Authority plans to have all families moved to new locations by the end of June, with demolition to be completed by the end of the year. The replacement development will include 341 apartments and houses.

Baxter Terrace is located at 210 Orange Street. It consists of 20, three-story brick buildings.

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