WHEREAS, since 2005, HUD has approved and awarded special funding to HANO for the redevelopment of public housing units; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) applied for and was awarded a Choice Neighborhoods Implementation (CNI) grant on August 30, 2011 by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the amount of $30.5 million for the redevelopment of the Iberville public housing site and revitalization of the surrounding CNI neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, such redevelopment included the demolition of public housing units; and

WHEREAS, such a large scale redevelopment effort resulted in and will continue to require the displacement of families that resided and continue to reside in public housing units; and

WHEREAS, HANO recognizes the urgency of providing suitable replacement housing for displaced families and such families should be afforded preferential selection; and

WHEREAS, HANO is required to establish, implement and periodically update an Administrative Plan applicable to the Housing Choice Voucher Program which reflects HUD requirements and regulations and HANO discretionary policies; and

WHEREAS, HUD regulation 24 CFR 982.202(d) requires HANO to establish a tenant selection policy that specifies tenant selection preferences for tenant-based vouchers and project-based vouchers; and

WHEREAS, HANO proposes amending the HANO HCVP Administrative Plan to reflect the following language for tenant-based voucher tenant selection preference: “Notwithstanding an applicant’s presence or place on the HANO HCVP waiting list, HANO may select, with preference, a family for HCVP assistance if HANO determines the family has been displaced from a public housing unit that has been demolished or disposed of due to the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation (CNI) grant or other HANO redevelopment efforts. The applicant family is still subject to all other eligibility and program requirements in accordance with HUD requirements and this Administrative Plan.”
WHEREAS, HANO proposes amending the HANO HCVP Administrative Plan to reflect the following language for offers of project-based voucher assistance: "Notwithstanding, an applicant’s presence or place on the HANO HCVP waiting list, HANO may select, with preference, project-based voucher assistance to an applicant family if HANO determines the family has been displaced from a public housing unit that has been demolished or disposed of as a result of Choice Neighborhoods Implementation (CNI) grant or other HANO redevelopment efforts. HANO may also require the applicant family that seeks PBV assistance under this provision, to select a PBV unit that has been designated by HANO as a replacement unit. The applicant family is still subject to all other eligibility and program requirements in accordance with HUD regulations and this Administrative Plan."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that HANO’s HCVP Administrative Plan be so amended and authorization be provided to the Administrative Receiver or his designee to implement the policies and take any and all other necessary action to fulfill such amendments for tenant selection preferences.

Executed this 15th day of May, 2012.

APPROVAL:

[Signature]

DAVID GILMORE
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 15, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: David Gilmore
   Administrative Receiver
   Board of Commissioners

From: Tony Ucciferri, Director
      Housing Choice Voucher Program

Re: Amendments to HANO HCVP Administrative Plan: Tenant Selection
   Preferences for Displaced Families

This resolution requests approval of an amendment to the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) Administrative Plan. The requested amendment will provide tenant selection preferences to families that currently reside in the Iberville Development and may be displaced as a result of the Choice Neighborhood Initiative (CNI) grant and to families that have been displaced as a result of other HANO redevelopment efforts.

As a result of Hurricane Katrina, the majority of HANO’s public housing stock was devastated and redevelopment efforts at 5 sites which were already underway were halted. HANO undertook a massive redevelopment program to replace and modernize four public housing properties (the Big Four) which included the Lafitte, St. Bernard, B.W. Cooper and C.J. Peete. HANO also continued preKatrina redevelopment efforts at the former Fischer, St. Thomas and the Guste site. Iberville was the last conventional public housing site. HANO recently applied for and was awarded a CNI grant on August 30, 2011 by HUD in the amount of $30.5 million for the redevelopment of the Iberville public housing site and revitalization of the surrounding neighborhood.

As a consequence of these redevelopment activities, prior residents were relocated from their homes. Many other assisted families who were displaced by the storm wish to return to their neighborhoods once redevelopment and revitalization efforts are completed. Replacement housing in the redeveloped properties may include not only public housing units but also project based voucher units as well as tax credit and market rate units.

HANO is required to establish, implement and periodically update an Administrative Plan applicable to the Housing Choice Voucher Program, which reflects HUD requirements and regulations and allowable HANO discretionary policies. HANO’s Administrative Plan requires HANO to select prospective families from its waiting list unless the applicant family is covered
under HUD's definition of special admission. Included in this definition are families that have been displaced because of demolition/disposal of a public housing project pursuant to 24 CFR 982.202 and 203. Notwithstanding, HANO is still required to include its tenant selection policies in the Administrative Plan.

Approval is requested to amend the HANO HCVP Administrative Plan to reflect HANO's policy on preference for tenant selection to families displaced as a result of CNI or other HANO redevelopment efforts.
WALK ON RESOLUTION

Resolution #2012-19 – Authorizing the amendment of the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) Administrative Plan to provide for tenant selection preferences for residents displaced by development and authorizing the Administrative Receiver or his designee to take any and all actions necessary for implementation of such tenant selection preference amendments.