



Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, Missouri

201 Switzler Street, Columbia, MO 65203
Office: (573) 443-2556 ♦ TTY: (573) 875-5161 ♦ Fax Line: (573) 443-0051 ♦ www.ColumbiaHA.com



Public Comment Requested

On Proposed Changes to the

Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP) and the Public Housing Lease

The Columbia Housing Authority (CHA) is requesting public comment on proposed changes to the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP). These proposed changes will be discussed by the Resident Advisory Board on Thursday, November 6, 2014, Thursday, December 4, 2014 and Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at Paquin Towers. Written public comment may also be submitted to the CHA Administration Building, 201 Switzler Street, Columbia, MO 65203, at any public housing site or online at www.columbiaha.com/contact. The following is a brief outline of the major policy changes being proposed:

Proposal for Smoke-Free Buildings in Public Housing

The Columbia Housing Authority (CHA) believes that the health of our residents is directly related to the quality of life of our public housing communities. To improve the overall health of our communities, CHA is developing a policy to prohibit smoking inside all CHA buildings. Smoking will still be allowed on the grounds.

CHA has four goals for the smoke-free building policy:

1. Reduce everyone's exposure to second hand smoke
2. Improve indoor air quality for everyone
3. Reduce the chance of death from smoking-related fires
4. Reduce unit restoration costs

Smokers will still be able to apply for housing, move into housing and live in housing. They will just have to smoke outside.

CHA is not asking anyone to stop smoking, but we realize some smokers may view this as an opportunity to stop smoking. We are working with area agencies to provide cessation materials and support to any resident who decides to stop smoking.

Copies of these proposed policy changes, with a full list of scheduled resident meetings, are available for review and comment at 201 Switzler Street as well as at every Public Housing Manager's office. All changes are available online at www.columbiaha.com.

The CHA Board of Commissioners will also accept public comment on these proposed changes at their meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 and Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at 201 Switzler Street. Written comment may be submitted to the CHA Administration Building at 201 Switzler Street or online at www.columbiaha.com/contact.