RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CEO, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO WRITE OFF UNCOLLECTIBLE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE OF \$282,914 for SECTION 8 PROGRAMS

Douglas Guthrie President and CEO

Patricia Kataura Director of Finance

Purpose:

To comply with federal regulations and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), HACLA writes off unpaid accounts receivable deemed uncollectible from vacated tenants and former program participants on a semi-annual basis.

Issues:

The Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) *Management Handbook* and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) dictate that as a matter of good business practice, the Board of Commissioners, on the recommendation of the President and CEO, should periodically write off receivables due the Housing Authority when they are deemed uncollectible.

From an accounting standpoint, the write-off reflects receivables that are from inactive program participants and landlords that are not likely to be collected. Therefore, these aged receivables should not continue to be recorded as assets in the agency's books.

The Housing Authority takes extensive steps in collection efforts before determining if amounts owed by participants and landlords are deemed uncollectible. Collection letters are sent and follow up actions are taken before the Final notices are sent to debtors. The Section 8 Collection unit determines probability of collection rate for Section 8 participants and landlords on a case by case basis. For cases with high probability of collection based on internal research, including but not limited to, identifying landlord assets from public databases, the Housing Authority takes appropriate legal actions to recapture amounts owed.

Amounts written off are still owed to the Housing Authority and the write-off does not in any way hinder collection activities. The Housing Authority continues to pursue past-due funds in the ordinary course of business whenever possible. For participant families, the Housing Authority is required to enter debts owed and termination information of participants who leave the program into HUD's Enterprise Income Verification Module. This system is used by all Housing Authorities as part of the application process to identify if a family owes money to any Housing Authority. In order to qualify for any of the Housing Authority's programs, the Housing Authority performs an internal clearance on any applicants 18 years of age and older to verify whether they have any debts owed to the Housing Authority, including any debts already written off. In addition, the Housing Authority's business system. Should an applicant have a past receivable that was written off, the applicant must repay the amount owed before being reconsidered eligible for any program.

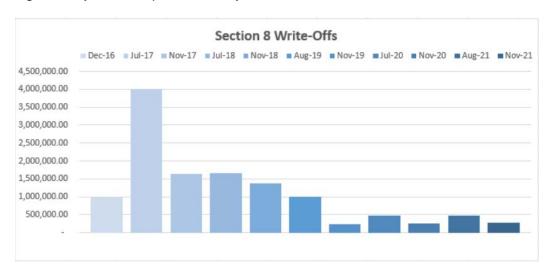
Section 8 Programs

For Calendar Year 2020, the Housing Authority paid approximately \$632.3 million to more than 13,200 private landlords on behalf of approximately 49,200 participant families.

The Authority proposes to write off \$282,914 or 0.05% of total housing assistance payments of a one-year period. However, this write-off amount includes receivables dating back to 2014, and as a percent of total funding for this comprehensive period, the amount written off is 0.01%.

Write-Off Trend

As shown in the chart below, the collectible debt requiring write-off has diminished significantly over the past several years.



The \$4 million write-off in the second half of 2017 represents the culmination of an extensive data reconciliation project. This multi-year project consisted of researching and reconciling data from various systems resulting from several years of process issues, data migration and mapping from the transition to Elite and integration between Elite and Oracle. Prior to completion of this project, the aforementioned issues prevented the Housing Authority from conducting write-offs more periodically. As anticipated at the completion of the data reconciliation project, the write-offs have diminished significantly since 2017 and have maintained at a steady level since the latter part of 2019.

Vision Plan: PATHWAYS Strategy #7: Identify opportunities to reduce operating and administrative costs so that scarce resources are maximized

Consistent collection efforts are critical to ensure that the Housing Authority maximizes HUD resources. Timely collection of outstanding debt and timely handling of uncollectible receivables are key factors in optimizing the Authority's cash in-flows.

Funding: The Chief Administrative Officer confirms the following:

Source of Funds: In order to write off uncollectible debt, an allowance for doubtful accounts must be established which is reflected as an operating expense for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program and Special Programs.

Budget and Program Impact: The cost of writing off the uncollectible receivables is included in the 2021 annual operating budget.

Environmental Review: Not applicable

Section 3: Not Applicable.

Attachments:

- 1. Resolution
- 2. Section 8 Proposed Write-off as of September 30, 2021

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CEO, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO WRITE OFF UNCOLLECTIBLE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE OF \$282,914 for SECTION 8 PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the President and CEO has furnished a schedule reflecting delinquent accounts receivables deemed uncollectible with the recommendation that these accounts be written off:

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles to follow Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and periodically write off uncollectible accounts receivable so as not to overstate assets and income:

WHEREAS, the Code of Federal Regulations (24 CFR 902.33), as further defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development in supplementary guidance, requires that financial reports shall be prepared in accordance with GAAP, which dictate that Accounts Receivables be stated at the net realizable value; which is the gross receivable less the allowance for doubtful accounts, and that bad debts are to be written off if accounts are deemed to be uncollectible:

WHEREAS, the uncollectible accounts receivables for the Section 8 Programs through September 30, 2021 totaled \$282,914; and

WHEREAS, the removal from the books of accounts of such uncollectible accounts receivables shall not constitute a waiver by the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles of any of its rights to collect such amounts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles that all accounts receivables on the attached schedule totaling \$282,914 for Section 8 Programs are hereby deemed to be uncollectible, and the President and CEO is authorized to reduce the allowance for doubtful accounts to the applicable developments and programs affected thereby.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED AS TO FORM: JAMES JOHNSON	HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES		
BY:	BY:		
General Counsel	Chairperson Cielo Castro		
DATE ADOPTED:			

Attachment 2
Section 8 Programs Proposed Write-off as of September 30, 2021

Year Debtor ID	AR	Year Debtor ID	AR
2014 0955	1,928	2020 5953	2,016
2014 Total	1,928	8341	1,761
2017 4939	55,433	6539	2,900
8526	592	5342	1,814
0362	1,800	1991	1,584
2017 Total	57,825	6006	1,802
2018 8615	6,600	6968	1,036
5014	13,692	5502	825
5334	770	4066	2,637
4977	687	6515	1,148
5972	1,237	5597	898
8198	609	4776	165
2018 Total	23,595	8536	960
2019 1469	4,277	2459	5,424
9923	464	5777	1,199
8561	3,775	5508	971
2814	55,031	7434	119
5247	2,306	9181	1,984
9182	958	6666 2654	499 4 071
9309 4513	1,635 591	5316	4,071 368
9636	1,210	8653	1,224
2276	1,210	8034	1,001
4951	1,280	8510	772
4227	1,064	8394	3,012
1886	1,711	2025	1,299
5445	2,070	0050	2,494
4040	1,440	2572	919
0651	941	8738	1,442
8928	1,666	2912	1,293
0526	3,309	1630	1,099
2538	565	4126	764
1379	541	2188	1,250
6736	1,898	8823	2,430
0383	1,048	5329	947
5056	1,182	5626	1,253
4604	1,992	0724	2,072
4517	591	9125	1,161
0481	2,049	8883	5,580
1106	1,287	2779	2,184
6641	1,820	2087	3,999
2062	1,512	0425	10,136
2806	212	0658	1,125
7953	1,876	6713	2,701
1270	497	5397	776
5430	1,530	2020 Total	85,114
5349	964	Grand Total	282,914
7090	3,072		
0511	1,024		
5342	936		
0038	682		
7244	1,004		
9987 4917	1,208 267		
6555	989		
6503	989 875		
9060	976		
2019 Total	114,452		
2013 10tai	117,732		