



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Contact: Sharon Linstedt
716.855.6711, Ext. 243
716.480.3068
slinstedt@bimahousing.com

**BMHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVES THE AUTHORITY'S
2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR OPERATING BUDGET TOTALING \$58.4 MILLION,
A 14% INCREASE OVER THE CURRENT SPENDING PLAN**

Buffalo, NY – The Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority (BMHA) Board of Commissioners today unanimously approved a \$58.4 million budget for the 2023-24 Fiscal Year which starts July 1, 2023 and runs through June 30, 2024.

The approved budget includes a 15% rise in revenues resulting from an anticipated \$5.1 million increase in federal operating subsidies tied to inflation. The Authority also expects a \$730,000 jump in rent revenues, from \$14.07 million to \$14.8 million as the post-pandemic recovery continues.

On the expense side, the key factors driving the 14% increase include \$2.3 million to cover increased utility costs, \$658,000 for maintenance costs, led by the BMHA's new pest control program, and increased funds in salary lines to prepare for on-going labor negotiations.

"This balanced and responsible budget will enable the BMHA to continue the hard work of emerging from "Troubled Agency" status, while fulfilling its obligations to our thousands of residents," said BMHA Executive Director Gillian D. Brown.

The approved operating budget also anticipates a positive cash flow of \$2.3 million, up from \$1.2 million in the current fiscal year. The primary factors in the Authority's improved fiscal stability are the increased federal subsidy and decreased interest payments tied to a multi-year energy performance initiative.

The operating budget approved today does not include funding for the BMHA's on-going or planned capital improvement or redevelopment projects. Those expenditures are addressed in the Authority's capital budget.

The Board also approved the projected 4-year Financial Plan which is required to be submitted to the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority by May 1.

In other action, the Board approved a \$473,000 contract with Allstate General Contracting for renovations at 305 Perry St., a site which will house a relocated Catholic Charities community services facility.

The Board also approved creation of a Housing Development Finance Corporation to facilitate the future redevelopment of the Frederick Douglass II and Francis John Apartments. Through the corporation, BMHA affiliate Bridges Development will be able to access enhanced financing opportunities for reinvestment and modernization of the two senior housing developments.

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