

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission 315 Iron Horse Way Ste. 101 Providence, RI 02908

December 29, 2023

The Honorable Daniel J. McKee Governor of the State of Rhode Island

The Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio President of the Senate

RE: Approved Monitoring Agent Program

Dear Governor McKee, Speaker Shekarchi, and President Ruggerio:

Pursuant to § 45-53-3.2, the Housing Resources Commission ("Commission") is required to submit a report on the approved monitoring agent program by January  $1^{st}$  of each year to the Governor and the General Assembly. Please accept the following updates as this year's report.

The monitoring agent program aims to ensure that municipally subsidized affordable housing developments in the state remain affordable and in compliance with program requirements. The Commission was required under § 45-53-3.2 to promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to Chapter 35 of Title 42 for the implementation of the monitoring agent program, which shall include a process for the selection and approval of monitoring agents.

As we mentioned when we last updated you in June, the Commission has taken multiple steps to develop the proposed rules. The purpose of these rules and regulations is to implement an approved monitoring agent program for municipally subsidized housing developments. These rules and regulations establish a process for the selection and approval of Monitoring Agents including, but not limited to, establishing terms of engagement, standards for approval and recertification, reporting requirements, and minimum qualifications for approved Monitoring Agents. After following the required process with the Office of Regulatory Reform, these regulations were open to public comment from November 21<sup>st</sup> to December 21, 2023. The Commission received comments from one entity. Now that the public comment period has ended, the Commission will consider these comments and continue the process for promulgating the regulations. Once the regulations are finalized and take effect, we look forward to beginning to receive and approve applications for monitoring agents.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this update. We look forward to continuing to advance this important program.

Sincerely, Hannah Moore Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS:

Rules and Regulations Governing the Implementation of an Approved Monitoring Agent Program