

Maintenance and Repair Plan**Maintenance Objective**

The goal of good property maintenance at a public housing authority is to serve the residents by assuring that the homes in which they live are decent, safe, and sanitary.

About This Maintenance and Repair Plan

This Maintenance & Repair Plan consists of several subsections describing maintenance systems followed by charts showing typical preventive maintenance, routine maintenance, and unit inspection tasks and schedules. These subsections are:

- a. **Classification and Prioritization of Maintenance Tasks** - Defines and prioritizes types of work to be accomplished by maintenance staff and vendors. Explains how the housing authority is expected to respond to work orders (tasks or requests) based on the work order classification.
- b. **Emergency Response System** - Defines what constitutes an emergency and how to notify staff of an emergency.
- c. **Normal Maintenance Response System** - How to contact the maintenance staff for a non-emergency request.
- d. **Work Order Management** - Description of the housing authority's system for managing work orders (tasks and requests).
- e. **Maintenance Plan Narrative & Policy Statement** - Self-assessment, basic information, and goals for the coming year, along with a description of the housing authority's maintenance program.
- f. **Preventive Maintenance Schedule** - A listing and schedule of tasks designed to keep systems and equipment operating properly, to extend the life these systems and equipment, and to avoid unexpected breakdowns.
- g. **Routine Maintenance Schedule** - A listing and schedule of ordinary maintenance tasks such as mopping, mowing, raking, and trash collection required to keep the facilities in good condition.
- h. **Unit Inspections** - Scheduling of annual unit inspections.

Classification and Prioritization of Maintenance Tasks

Maintenance items are tracked as “work orders” and are classified in the following categories. They are prioritized in the order listed. The following classifications and prioritization are required by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

- I. **Emergencies** - Emergencies are only those conditions which are **immediately threatening** to the life or safety of our residents, staff, or structures.
 - **Goal: initiated with 24 to 48 hours.**
- II. **Vacancy Refurbishment - Work necessary to make empty units ready for new tenants.**
 - After emergencies, the refurbishment of vacancies for immediate re-occupancy has the highest priority for staff assignments. **Everyday a unit is vacant is a day of lost rent.**
 - **Goal: vacancy work orders are completed within 30 calendar days or if not completed within that timeframe, LHA has a waiver.**
- III. **Preventive Maintenance** - Work which must be done to **preserve and extend the useful life** of various elements of your physical property and avoid emergency situations.
 - A thorough Preventive Maintenance Program and Schedule that deals with all elements of the physical property is provided later in the document.
 - The Preventive Maintenance Program is reviewed and updated annually and as new systems and facilities are installed.
- IV. **Programmed Maintenance** - Work which is important and is completed to the greatest extent possible within time and budget constraints. Programmed maintenance is grouped and scheduled to make its completion as efficient as possible. Sources of programmed maintenance include:
 - Routine Work includes those tasks that need to be done on a regular basis to keep our physical property in good shape. (Mopping, Mowing, Raking, Trash, etc.)
 - Inspections are the other source of programmed maintenance.
 - o Inspections are visual and operational examinations of parts of our property to determine their condition.
 - o All dwelling units, buildings and sites must be inspected at least annually.
 - o **Goal: Inspection-generated work orders are completed within 30 calendar days from the date of inspection, OR if cannot be completed within 30 calendar days, are added to the Deferred Maintenance Plan or the Capital Improvement Plan in the case of qualifying capital repairs (unless health/safety issue).**
- V. **Requested Maintenance** - Work which is requested by residents or others, does not fall into any category above, and should be accomplished as time and funds are available.
 - Requests from residents or others for maintenance work which does not fall into one of the other categories has the lowest priority for staff assignment.
 - **Goal: Requested work orders are completed in 14 calendar days from the date of tenant request or if not completed within that timeframe (and not a health or safety issue), the task is added and completed in a timely manner as a part of the Deferred Maintenance Plan and/or CIP.**

Emergency Request System

For emergency requests call the numbers listed here. Qualifying emergency work requests are listed below.

METHOD	CONTACT INFO.	TIMES
Call LHA at Phone Number	617-988-HELP (4357)	24 Hr. Work Order center
Other	617-988-HELP (4357)	24 Hr. Work Order center

List of Emergencies - Emergencies are those conditions which are immediately threatening to the life or safety of our residents, staff, or structures. The following is a list of typical conditions that warrant an emergency response. If there is an emergency condition whether or not enumerated on this list please notify the office or answering service at the numbers listed above. If you have any questions regarding this list or other matters that may constitute an emergency, please contact the Boston Housing Authority main office.

QUALIFYING EMERGENCY WORK REQUESTS
Fires of any kind (Call 911)
Gas leaks/ Gas odor (Call 911)
No electric power in unit
Electrical hazards, sparking outlets
Broken water pipes, flood
No water/ unsafe water
Sewer or toilet blockage
Roof leak
Lock outs
Door or window lock failure
No heat
No hot water
Snow or ice hazard condition
Dangerous structural defects
Inoperable smoke/CO detectors, beeping or chirping
Elevator stoppage or entrapment
Any other maintenance condition causing a health/safety hazard

Normal Maintenance Request Process

Make normal (non-emergency) maintenance requests using the following methods:

METHOD	CONTACT INFO.	TIMES
Text Phone Number		
Call Answering Service		
Call Housing Authority Office		
Submit Online at Website		
Email to Following Email		
Other	617-988-HELP (4357)	24 Hr. Work Order center

In addition to calling the 24-hour BHA work order line, residents may also report maintenance issues directly to their management office, during business hours. Management staff will create work orders for any reported maintenance issues.

Work Order Management

A. DHCD review of this housing authority’s operations shows that the authority uses the following system for tracking work orders:

Type of work order system: DHCD's usual on-site review for this housing authority's work order system was cancelled due to the COVID-19 emergency.

Work order classification used:

Emergency	
Vacancy	
Preventative Maintenance	
Routine	
Inspections	
Tenant Requests	

B. We do not track deferred maintenance tasks in our work order system.

C. Our work order process includes the following steps:

Step	Description	Checked steps are used by LHA
1	Maintenance Request taken/submitted per the standard procedures listed above for the Emergency Request System and the Normal Maintenance Request Process.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Maintenance Requests logged into the work system	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Work Orders generated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Work Orders assigned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Work Orders tracked	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Work Orders completed/closed out	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Maintenance Reports or Lists generated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Maintenance Plan Narrative

Following are Boston Housing Authority’s answers to questions posed by DHCD.

A. Narrative Question #1: How would you assess your Maintenance Operations based on feedback you’ve received from staff, tenants, DHCD’s Performance Management Review (PMR) & Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP), and any other sources?

The Boston Housing Authority has a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) that includes all facets of the maintenance operation at the properties. It includes detailed information on work rules, standards and priorities, the work order system, inspections of buildings, units and common areas, the handling of emergencies, preventive maintenance planning, and quality control.

The SOP was put together by a group of BHA maintenance superintendents, managers and other staff in 2001, and has been revised regularly since then. BHA views the SOP as a "Work-In-Progress" as it is continually evaluated to include updated requirements and to always reflect proven best practices throughout the agency so that all maintenance and management staff have access to the best information, regardless of location.

B. Narrative Question #2: What changes have you made to maintenance operations in the past year?

The BHA is currently implementing new software to enhance the efficiency of the annual inspections. The new process will utilize hand held tablets with UPCS inspection software. This will enable staff to spend less time working with the current paper-driven inspection process, and remove some of the impediments to conducting better, more consistent inspections of units and common areas across the portfolio. It will also ease the generation and tracking of inspection-based work orders as the results will always be clearly legible and the deficiencies will be consistently described and easily identified, with the ability to add notes and photographs when necessary. Several unit inspections have been conducted with the software and results have been positive from all staff involved. BHA anticipates doing 100% of annual inspections on the tablets by the end of the current fiscal year.

C. Narrative Question #3: What are your maintenance goals for this coming year?

The BHA has committed to the implementation of new work order software to enhance the efficiency of the maintenance operation. This will reduce the reliance on printed work orders and allow the agency to move away from the current paper-driven process which can lead to the creation of duplicate work orders which must be periodically reconciled. The new software will allow supervisors to more easily assign, track, and perform better quality control on all types of work, as they will be able to spend less time managing and reviewing the paperwork and more time supervising jobs and conducting follow-up inspections. These efficiencies should lead to opportunities for the agency to improve performance monitoring, with the availability of better real-time information. This should lead to better tracking, quality control, and improved work order completion time.

D. Maintenance Budget Summary

The budget numbers shown below are for the consolidated budget only. They do not include values from supplemental budgets, if any.

	Total Regular Maintenance Budget	Extraordinary Maintenance Budget
Last Fiscal Year Budget	\$6,284,670.00	\$100,000.00
Last Fiscal Year Actual Spending	\$6,158,000.00	\$35,888.00
Current Fiscal Year Budget	\$0.00	\$0.00

E. Unit Turnover Summary

# Turnovers Last Fiscal Year	82
Average time from date vacated to make Unit "Maintenance Ready"	65 days
Average time from date vacated to lease up of unit	102 days

Attachments

These items have been prepared by the Boston Housing Authority and appear on the following pages:

Preventive Maintenance Schedule - a table of preventive maintenance items showing specific tasks, who is responsible (staff or vendor), and the month(s) they are scheduled

Deferred Maintenance Schedule - a table of maintenance items which have been deferred due to lack of resources.