

Memo

To: Nick Pittman, Managing Trustee, Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund

From: Brielle Calderan, Somerville Homeless Coalition

Cc: Lisa Davidson, City of Somerville

Date: 3/18/2026

Re: Emergency Resident Displacement Prevention Contract Term

The Somerville Homeless Coalition (SHC) submitted an emergency funding request in June of 2025 in response to changes HUD made to contract language for SHC's Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program. SHC requested emergency funding to be used for households currently enrolled in the PSH program who were at risk of having their program eligibility revoked due to their eligibility for federal benefit programs.

At the time of the request, SHC was in a position of being unable to continue rents for these households effective July 1st, 2025. We were extremely grateful for the Trust's support of our request which allowed us to keep these vulnerable households in their units past June 30th.

Since the approval, there have been a lot of moving pieces. Notably, there was a lawsuit filed that challenged HUD's authority to change the interpretation of "federal public benefit" and who would be required to verify this information. The judge issued a preliminary injunction and guaranteed that any changes would not be applied retroactively. This meant that SHC could continue to support these households with HUD funds through the duration of the lawsuit. Given this, SHC has not yet had to utilize the funds approved by the Trust for Emergency Resident Displacement.

SHC would like to request an extension on the Emergency Resident Displacement Prevention contract which is currently set to expire 6/30/2026. We would request that an extension until 6/30/2028 be approved, in line with the standard 3-year contract term often used for city contracts.

This approval will allow SHC to be immediately responsive in the scenario that (a) the court rules **not** in our favor or (b) HUD updates the language in other guidelines that circumvents the current precedent that states that nonprofits are not required to verify eligibility for federal benefit programs. It is very clear what the administration's intention is and as such, we hope to remain prepared to ensure all households we are serving can stay in their units until alternative housing solutions are identified.