



**Chicago Housing Authority  
Board of Commissioners Public Session  
July 17, 2018 – CHA Corporate Office / 60 E. Van Buren**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Question/Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
1	Leonard Alexander	I am the president of Alexander Builders, I would like to first thank the Chairman and the CEO, and commend Debra Parker for being a grassroots person from the community on the Board. Mr. Hooker, I came to a barbeque and met you, Mr. Jones and Jose, you came out too, and I want to thank you for your interaction with the community. On my speaking card I wrote project continuity, which is my thing with the JOC Program. I want to thank the JOC Program for being an entity for no big contracts, as a contractor for 12 years, it can be hard to compete. When something like this comes along, it's heaven sent. I want to try to bring this to the open, we need project continuity, and tie these projects together. You can't build capital when you have a big lag in between projects.	Thank you for your comment, we're glad to hear about your positive experience with the Section 3 JOC Program.
2	Cassandra Pittman	I am here to represent Pittman Construction, I want to express gratitude to the Board, CHA and the Gordian Group. The bigger picture is giving back and it feels good to employ people who are Section 3, so they can feel good about what's happening in their building. Let's put more into the Program, and not take away.	Thank you for your comment, we're encouraged to hear your enthusiasm.
3	Edith Da La Cruz	Good morning Board and CEO. I am the CEO of Antigua Construction. I have had the company for 13 years, and it is woman and minority owned and I am proud to say I am one of your CHA general contractors in your Section 3 Program. CHA has created real economic opportunities for firms such as mine. We are aware that many years ago the Section 3 Program had a rough beginning, but under Mr. Jones, the program has made real commitment to economic development for small firms such as mine. I thank you for having the Gordian Group, through them we have been able to have accessibility, it has been a friendly atmosphere. Thank you for teaming up with the Gordian Group for the Section 3 Program.	Thank you for your comment and we're happy to hear that the program is creating economic development opportunities, as it was designed to do.

4	Angela Parker	It's a privilege to be here, I am elated to be a part of the JOC Program, it has helped me hire 35 residents, six of whom are seniors and I am real grateful. My mom always embedded in me to help others, and Mr. CEO, I'd like to say the JOC Program has been great and I hope we keep it going. I'd like to thank the Procurement department, you have a good team and you've changed a lot of lives, and I'd be remiss not to congratulate my sister!	Thank you for your comment and for the positive things you've said about the Section 3 JOC Program, and about your sister!
5	Paul McKinly	I would like to bring up the JOC Program, it was a good idea that grassroots organizations sat with the CHA, but you always have haters in the background who don't want low-income people to have independence. We have a lot of violence in our communities, we don't have a religious problem, and our issue is to put our young men to work. As soon as we can do this, it will resolve a lot of issues. I had a real controversial argument with people on 71 <sup>st</sup> , that only come out with the police protests. They never come out to put our people to work, or help schools, they only come out when we're upset and provoked. Our people need to make sure we don't let other people use us. We can put our people to work, other people are looking out for their folks, and I'm with that, but we need to put our people to work.	Thank you for your comment.
6	Brenda Perry	I was pleasantly greeted by Mr. Jones when I came this morning, and he said how are you doing, and I said not too well, and I told him why. Because my building is not complete, we're in the 7 <sup>th</sup> year, that is unacceptable. For the 15 people put out last month because they said you're killing us and laid down in the foyer of the building, yes, you are killing us, you're impacting our quality of life. Seven years is unacceptable and not one thing is complete. Okay is not good enough if it doesn't pass City inspection. There is no preventive maintenance, and I think politics is involved. Get us finished, I deserve a quality of life. Just because I'm poor, I don't have choices with CHA. You want to send me to the suburbs somewhere, I'm not going.	As stated at the meeting by Chairman Hooker, Board members have been to the site, which includes Chairman Hooker the week before the July Board meeting. As you know, CHA had to remove a contractor at the site, however a schedule has been prepared and CHA and contractors are proceeding with this project as quickly as possible.
7	Darrell Jones	I want to say, months ago I came to my first JOC meeting for the contract, and CEO Jones said I have a good team I am confident with. Claudia Weems stood out to me for some reason, she exudes professionalism, and everyone from that office does the same. I was a resident business with CHA, with work at Ickes. CHA and Section 3 is giving people jobs. Back in the day, people used to not get paid for work with CHA, but now there are systems in place, B2G is perfect. There's good and there's bad, but I like what we're doing.	Thank you for your comment, we're thrilled to hear about the opportunities you've had through the Section 3 JOC Program.
8	Owen Pittman	The JOC Program should have been implemented 30 years ago. You're saving us from the unions. We're saving lives in this program. Let's keep it going.	Thank you for your comment, keep up the good work!
9	Ken Gibbs	I want to commend CHA for their commitment to the JOC Program, it's been an asset to the community, I want to say thanks.	Thank you for your comment and for your commitment to the program too.

10	George Blakemore	<p>Good morning to our citizens and to staff. These affordable and mixed housing, our neighborhoods have been devastated, it's a form of gentrification. The federal government has been an enemy to Black people. Then they come in with illegal immigrants. It's had a bad effect in the community, and Black leadership is quiet, they are not speaking out against it, because it's a pay to play. I am here to educate and inform. When Ms. Perry say seven years, that's unacceptable, bad public policy. CHA is still a failure. The truth will set you free, not what you want to hear.</p>	Your comment has been received.
11	Marquita Summer-Sapp	<p>I am a guard for CHA, I am here to ask that we are represented by the Local 1 SEIU. The reason why is because we are the first responders before CPD gets to any CHA property and we deal with all types of everything. The last site I was at, I was shot at twice. We need to be represented, we need better pay and benefits. I love what I do, but we need better benefits. I am here on behalf of Kates and security guards for other companies too. We just don't serve and protect CHA, we serve and protect the community. I am 12 am to 8 am, everything is going on. Abuse, shootings, and we're there first. We need to be protected, better pay and benefits. Half of us working for CHA, have no benefits, so can we please be represented by the Local 1?</p>	CHA has no role in any negotiations between a union and a company that CHA contracts with.
12	Jackie Paige	<p>1) I would like to say congratulations to the new Board members, I hope you're a breath of fresh air. Congratulations to CHA for what you're doing with the youth. I hope it can get aside the Authority where they are independent, and they can function on their own. I would like to ask, there was a lawsuit about zip code vs. metropolitan areas, what has CHA done in response and what changes has CHA put in place related to that lawsuit?</p> <p>2) Also, my daughter is here today and I steered her towards the Section 3 Program. They have some issues with the program, and CHA you need to administer that contract closely. There were inappropriate comments made, you need to look at how the program is administered. Participants were told that nobody downtown would tell them how the program is administered, well, you give them the money, they should not be intimidated or talked down to.</p>	<p>1) We're not sure what lawsuit you're referencing, please provide additional information so CHA can respond to your comment.</p> <p>2) Your comment has been received and CHA will look into this matter.</p>

13	Mike Sullivan	<p>Thanks for the whooping last week Mr. Hooker, some was earned some wasn't. I want to throw that on your people's lap, we've gone over some of the issues, I appreciate it. Like Ms. Perry says, we're tired of being on the job this long too, we're doing everything we can. I want to let you know we're out there, we're still dealing with issues, we have some obstructions, but 95% of each floor except the 8<sup>th</sup> is complete. I want to move on to say I am a CHA former resident at Altgeld, I am proud of my community, Altgeld Gardens is happening, we have millionaires and successful people coming out of there. Let's work together.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment, we agree, working together is the best way to work.</p>
14	Osby Abdullah	<p>This is my second go-round as a fire sprinkler contractor. I came in the industry in 1972. We know our vendors, but we are not getting paid on a timely basis. We are union, we can't pay benefits on these guys, I started in 1998, I was retired from the union. In 1998, there were 60 African American sprinkler fitters in Local 281, now it's 1,300 and there is less than 11 African American sprinkler fitters. We need the help of CHA to pay us so we can bring more African Americans back to work.</p>	<p>This company was on compliance hold from January – May 2018, and all issues were resolved on May 24, at which time the vendor was removed off hold, and payments were resumed. CHA last made a payment to the vendor on August 21, and CHA has not received any invoices since that payment.</p>
15	LaZerrick Kennard	<p>I am from World Class Fire Protection, reading the mission statement was fantastic and powerful. I would like to thank CEO Jones and Chairman Hooker. I heard about your conversation with Mike Sullivan, the schedule will be done today. We would like to continue the process, when we put the effort in we want to see the effort back. As much pressure as you put on your people to perform, then we work together. I appreciate you, each one of you who have stepped forward to help the program. You have our commitment to get the project done.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
16	Cal Jackson	<p>I would like to give commencement to Claudia Weems, they are doing a fantastic job over there, they are working with us. And also with Gordian, they are doing a fantastic job. This is the model for around America. I want to talk about, the people watching at HUD, come to Chicago and drain the swamp. Section 3 is about downtown Chicago, who is here to push on enforcement for Section 3? I live on 71<sup>st</sup> and Euclid across the street from these Communists, white kids from the North Side coming down there. We're experiencing an economic crisis, which is violence. Last night they talked about fixing the sidewalks, and you see seven people who are not Black, fixing the sidewalks. We are asking you help us get a meeting with the Cook County Construction trades Council, so we can talk about the PLA and CBA.</p>	<p>Your comment has been received.</p>

17	Tamiko Holt	<p>Welcome new Board members. Let me thank you Mr. Jones, Mr. Hooker and Jose, for implementing this special JOC Program. We have to get our knowledge up before we can move out of CHA. Because of this JOC, we have gained income. There is big money in poverty, and when people see others are moving onward, that becomes a problem to them. you can have a company all day long and not do contracting, if you're not walking the walk in JOC, you can't come in here talking about it. It has it's flaws, but the concept is awesome. Thank you for implementing the non-union clause in the PLA, but I want to make sure I make it clear where I stand, as I'm one of your biggest critics.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment, as you know, CHA is always looking to make improvements to any and all programs, including the Section 3 JOC Program.</p>
18	Omar Shareef	<p>My concern is I think we need to look at tweaking and working more closely with the Gordian Group. We went to a site at 2111 N. Halsted, brought staff people, we were supposed to be doing work. Three weeks later, Gus calls us back and say the unit has been occupied and now I'm in the red, I had to pay employees to come out and look at it. Then we went to another site on Campbell, I was thinking he would be more astute in knowing the project was already finished. We go to three sites, and we find out that these sites were already done. I would have thought he would have looked at these sites before we went out there. As a team, we have to starting tweaking what Gordian does, or we need a new vendor. You're putting the vendors more in the red, since people need to come out and look at it.</p>	<p>Your comment has been received and we continue to work to improve our procedures</p>
19	Joyce Williams	<p>I work as a security officer for Kates Security. My colleague spoke earlier about her concerns, and I want to underscore those concerns and add some of my own. My concerns are two-pronged. It's a lack of communication between CHA and Kates. I'm a breaker at Kates, meaning I come in and give breaks to people at the desks. It seems that with each building there are a different set of requirements which I have not been apprised of. It makes for confusion and puts me in hot water. When I go back to my supervisors to ask what is required of me, this say this is what you're supposed to do. Secondly, there are a lot of people who are in the buildings when I am on post, and they regard me as a go-to person, and I can't answer all their questions. When my colleague spoke about being under a union at Kates, I know you said you can't do anything, but you can bring your influence to bear on the administration at Kates. If we can't work under fair conditions, we can't do our jobs properly, and if we can't do our jobs properly, it sets up the potential for something tragic to happen.</p>	<p>CHA has no role in any negotiations between a union and a company that CHA contracts with.</p>

20	Bernadette Williams	<p>1) I want to speak on the domestic violence in the community, CHA needs to take another look at victim's assistance when they move citizens to other developments. They still allow ex's to come back in.</p> <p>2) The next thing, about the youth, I think it's a really excellent program and I would like to see them come to other CHA properties and bring our youth. I think they need to come and visit and go to other developments, so the kids can see there is more to live. I think it's a good idea if they come and let other children see what they're doing.</p>	<p>1) Thank you for your comment on this very important matter. CHA is committed to relocating victims of domestic violence as required by the Violence Against Women Act. Once a tenant is relocated they are treated the same as all other tenants and held to the terms of their lease. Information about victims assistance relocations are confidential and CHA treats these residents no differently than any other.</p> <p>If you, or anyone else has questions about Victims Assistance please call CHA at 312-913-7396. The aforementioned number can also be used for anyone in need of Victims Assistance services. If anyone has questions about the clinical services provided by CHA's FamilyWorks providers, please contact Anne Lehocky at 312-786-3252.</p> <p>2) Thank you for your comment.</p>
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