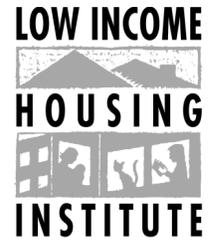


June 2, 2022

Peter Lynn
Chief Program Officer
King County Regional Homelessness Authority



Dear Peter,

We received your letter, and we are responding point by point to the issues you have raised. We acknowledge receipt of your letter. We understand that Morgan Modde, KCRHA Program Coordinator, visited Othello Village and True Hope Village on May 19, 2022.

1. Hygiene

The hygiene trailer at Othello Village is operational. The sinks and showers function, and the toilets were specifically taken offline years ago because the sewer line was not upgraded nor did we have the necessary funds to install a new sewer line. LIHI has provided five portable toilets near the trailer that are serviced and cleaned by Honey Bucket multiple times throughout the week. These have been used by clients of all ages with no incidence. Contrary to your statements, we do have a portable toilet that is ADA accessible.

There are no sewage leaks or effluent on the surface by the trailer. It was pointed out specifically to Morgan that there are no observable leaks because the hygiene trailer toilets are not in use. Use of portable toilets has not been a safety hazard for children, no child has drowned or fallen in. Also, if portable toilets were a risk to children, they would not be available for use at City parks or other public areas.

We believe that Morgan misunderstood the information about the hygiene trailer and its use. For the four years we have operated Othello Village under the City of Seattle Human Services Department, these toilets have not been functional due to limited sewer capacity. HSD was well aware of this, and it had never been raised as a compliance issue as we are providing a safe alternative with on-site Honey Buckets. Our sites have been inspected by the City of Seattle Human Services Department, Seattle-King County Public Health, City of Seattle Fire Department, and the City of Seattle Department of Code Enforcement. Please note that there are currently two households with four children residing on-site.

2. Units Offline at Othello

The fire that took Unit #24 offline occurred February 14, 2022, prior to LIHI having an established contract with KCRHA. No one was injured in the fire. Unit #2 was destroyed by an occupant that is no longer residing at Othello Village. This incident also occurred in February, prior to the contract with KCRHA being signed. Both units are located in a space that would be difficult to replace. New tiny houses are brought in on a flatbed

truck, and there is insufficient room to do this. The HOPE Team is aware that these units are not available for referrals because we have not reported the units to Chatbox as vacant and available. LIHI had notified KCRHA staff including Lisa Gustavason and Janelle Rothfolk.

LIHI's original plan was to relocate all clients at Othello Village this upcoming Summer with the expectation that we plan to begin development of MLK Family Housing with funding from the Office of Housing. This has been delayed until next year, therefore, Othello Village will not remain open beyond next year.

3. *Families with Children at Othello and True Hope*

We have two families at Othello Village and six families at True Hope Village. We will be in violation of Federal Fair Housing rules by posting signs and notices according to the Office of Civil Rights and Federal Fair Housing Justice Department. If KCRHA believes it is legal to post notices, please provide us with documentation. LIHI's attorney has advised us that it is discriminatory to display such signage, which can only be posted if there is a "demonstrable safety issue, like a swim pool or spa." Families with children are a protected class, and requiring parental supervision is a violation of their civil rights. If this is a requirement, "they (KCRHA) need to sign an indemnity agreement that they accept all responsibility, defend LIHI, and pay all damages."

Per our Code of Conduct which all clients sign upon intake, "Participants are responsible for the actions of all their household members..." A copy of this Code of Conduct is provided to each household upon intake and is posted publicly. Staff remind clients of the Code of Conduct diligently in order to provide a safe environment for all clients, including children. We are not permitted to single out clients based on familial status or age without opening ourselves up to discrimination charges.

Therefore, unless KCRHA tells us otherwise, LIHI will not post any requirements regarding childcare and supervision in any public spaces in the villages. Please provide us with the legal language you would like us to use, and this signage will be attributed to a KCRHA requirement.

4. *Propane Tanks*

John Syverson, LIHI Facilities Director, went on-site and inspected Othello Village for propane tanks. There were no propane tanks in the common areas as of June 2, 2022. Propane tanks are permitted on-site per an agreement with the City of Seattle Fire Department that they be stored safely for outdoor cooking using grills. The propane tanks on-site at Othello Village are in a secured location labeled for staff access only (see photo). Additionally, the Fire Marshall recently audited the site five days after Morgan's site visit and we received a close out letter stating that the site is in compliance per the Fire Department standards.

5. *Storage Limits*

We have two households at Othello Village that are hoarding. We work with them consistently to remove excess belongings using a trauma informed care approach. We

will continue to work with these clients to remove excess items including bicycles and bicycle parts. All other households have no more than one bicycle.

Peter, I hope you are aware we have operated ten tiny house villages under the direction of the City of Seattle Human Services Department. KCRHA took significant time to provide LIHI a contract for the continued operation of tiny house villages, and we are surprised at the tone of your letter as it does not exemplify a true partnership. The KCRHA inspection report is an example of the inherent bias KCRHA has exhibited against LIHI's tiny house village program. Christina Comer, Tiny House Village Program Manager, walked with Morgan during the inspection, and many of these issues were discussed.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, we are requesting a meeting with you to discuss.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Lee
Executive Director