Attn: Board of Commissioners

Subject: Integrated Pest Management Pilot at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Development/ AMP

Pests such as cockroaches, rodents, and bed bugs are problems. They can trigger or cause asthma and allergies, contaminate food, violate housing codes, transmit disease, and lead people to overreact and ignore pesticide labels. In an effort to provide healthier homes for our residents through improved pest management, the \_\_housing provider name\_\_\_\_ will be piloting integrated pest management (IPM) at \_\_development/AMP name\_\_\_\_.

IPM is the coordinated use of pest and environmental information with available pest control methods to prevent unacceptable levels of pest infestation by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment. IPM practitioners manage pests with non-chemical approaches and utilize pesticides that minimize the risk of chemical exposure to residents. IPM is a science-based, common-sense approach to pest control that focuses on *preventive* measures—getting at the root of the problem before it gets serious.

In the next year, \_\_development/AMP name\_\_\_\_ will use IPM by working with the Northeastern IPM Center at Cornell University and

1. Training site staff, residents, and contractors on IPM using resources from www.stoppests.org
2. Inspecting and monitor every unit to identify focus areas
3. Reducing pest infestation—allocating pest control time and resources to solve pest problems in focus areas using the steps of IPM
4. Reducing the risk of pest infestation—turning units over so that they are pest-free and sealed up, and continuing to educate staff and residents
5. Aiming for early detection and rapid response—continuing to monitor and inspect

Through IPM we hope to realize

* Increased cooperation and communication between management, staff, residents, and contractors
* Decreased pesticide applications
* Infestations limited to periodic introductions that establish—no high-level infestations
* Increased partnership with outside agencies
* PHA will be a community leader for pest-free initiatives

The success of the IPM program will depend, in part, on local support. The team working on IPM has reached out to \_\_\_\_list partnering organizations\_\_\_\_\_\_. If you can think of other local groups who can support our effort, please let insert project contact name know.

If you have any questions about the IPM program at \_\_development/AMP name\_\_\_\_, please be in touch with insert project contact name by phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx) or e-mail (xxxxx@xxxx.xxx). We will kick off the IPM pilot with an on-site training that you are welcome to attend.

Date: Time: 8am-4pm Location:

Instructions for parking:

Thank you for your continued support of our mission.

Sincerely,

References:

HUD’s Guidance on IPM: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=PIH-2011-22.pdf

The Northeastern IPM Center’s StopPests in Housing Program: www.stoppests.org