



Request for Action

TO: Faribault Housing and Redevelopment Authority

FROM: Kim Clausen, Community Development Coordinator

MEETING DATE: July 8, 2019

SUBJECT: Mobile Home Safety Programs

PURPOSE: Determine the HRA's interest in creating new mobile home safety programs this budget cycle or for FY 2020.

BACKGROUND: Staff met with the manager of Cannon River Mobile Home Park as well as representatives of Growing Up Healthy and Jeff Urban of Bear Creek Church in Rochester about safety/maintenance issues in the mobile home parks. Two of the biggest issues they have are frozen pipes in the winter and water infiltration from deteriorated roofs.

Currently, residents run water continuously through the winter to keep their lines open, resulting in a substantial amount of water consumption as well as extremely high water bills. If their lines do freeze, they often use dangerous methods to thaw them, which resulted in at least one home fire and injuries last winter. Residents often need education and assistance about the need for heat tape and insulation in order to safely keep water lines open. Materials cost approximately \$75-100 per unit.

Old flat roofs often result in leaks and water damage to the homes. Urban's church has developed a program to replace the roofs for approximately \$2,000 each using OSB and a rubber membrane. Their church provides no-interest loans for the materials and they provide labor for the installations.

While at least one area church is investigating ways to assist in addressing these safety issues, there may be a role for the HRA to play as well.

REQUESTED ACTION: Discuss and determine the HRA's interest in establishing programs to increase safety in the mobile home parks.