

The Blatant Double Standard!

The Galveston Housing Authority has categorized all of the census tracts in the County as either low-poverty or high-poverty. The following map shows the low-poverty census tracts in green and high-poverty census tracts in brown. Note that all three of the former housing project footprints, Oleander Homes 7240, Magnolia Homes 7243, and Cedar Terrace 7246 are in census tracts that **GHA has designated as high-poverty**, so they are **discouraging their Section 8 clients from living in those areas**, but, on the other hand, these census tracts are still **totally acceptable as building sites for their mixed-income developments!** Talk about a double standard!

Note how the following email also confirms the basic elements of the Communities of Opportunities metrics that we are using in our lawsuit!

*From: Alberta Stoneham [mailto:lll@ghatx.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2011 3:00 PM
To: 'Linda Denson'
Subject: FW: Rent reasonable*

Hi Linda,

The table alone does not determine the rental subsidy. Rent reasonable is taken into consideration as well. Is the rent reasonable in relation to other 2 bedroom units in the area? Is the square footage the same?, how old is the unit?, was it built before or after 1978?, is there covered parking?, is there a security system? These and several other variables are considered as well.

*We have a designated area payment standard whereby we pay 90% or 110% of the FMR. **The census determined whether the area was a Low or High Poverty area.***

*So that families can **choose areas where they are more likely to succeed**, the green area was designated as the low poverty area and the brown as the high poverty area. Families are more likely to succeed if there are jobs in the area, transportation, hospitals, etc. The county was surveyed and it was determined that there was better transportation, etc., in some areas and they were designated as the low poverty area.*

I hope this help you understand the process a little better.

THANK YOU,

ALBERTA STONEHAM

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To summarize:

- 1.) GHA's Section 8 clients receive a **financial incentive to move to low-poverty census tracts.**
- 2.) Low-to-Moderate Income homeowners, whose homes were damaged in Hurricane Ike, **will be given the choice of having their homes rebuilt in low-poverty neighborhoods.**
- 3.) Under the GHA rebuilding plan, all of their Public Housing clients, in Galveston County, will be **forced to live in high-poverty census tracts in the City of Galveston.** No choices are offered to their Public Housing clients!
- 4.) The GOPP Opportunity-Based Public Housing plan would place all new Public Housing EXCLUSIVELY in the low-poverty census tracts throughout the County that **offer their residents the greatest opportunity to escape from a life of intergenerational dependency and poverty!**

