San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC)
Workshop & Discussion: Kearny Vista Apartments
Presentation to the SDHC Board of Commissioners
June 21, 2024

Beto Juarez
Senior Vice President of Property Management and Asset Management
Real Estate Division

Emmanuel Arellano
Vice President of Asset Management
Real Estate Division
Kearny Vista Apartments
Introduction

- 142 affordable units and two managers’ units
  - 108 studios
  - 36 two-bedroom/two-bathroom
- 142 SDHC rental housing vouchers
- 174 current residents
  - 72% of residents are original tenants from December 2020 move-in.
• Decommissioned the exterior fireplace and pool
• Stairway and landing repairs
• Addition of ADA parking stalls
• ADA mobility upgrades to common area restroom
• Addition of ADA trash bins
• Roof repairs
• Boiler and water heater repairs/replacements
• Comprehensive security cameras installed and monitored
• Perimeter fencing
• Installation of gates

• Parking lot paving
• Replacement of all parking lot lights with LED
• Renovated eight units for ADA mobility accessibility
• Renovated two units for individuals with audio or visual impairment
• Fire alarm system upgrades
• Added residential mailboxes
• Added new laundry room
• Additional path-of-travel work on the south side of the property

**Property Management:** Hyder & Company

• Two on-site property managers: One resides at front of the property, and one resides at the back.
• Contract with SDHC
• Selected through competitive procurement process
• SDHC Board approved on November 20, 2023
Kearny Vista Apartments
Site Photos – Unit Interior
Core Components of a Housing First Approach

- Housing-Focused
- Person-Centered
- Low-Barrier
- Harm Reduction

- Focuses on providing appropriate housing options as quickly as possible, with as few requirements or conditions as possible, and access to supportive services, as needed.

- Best practice recommended at the federal, state and local levels.
Kearny Vista Apartments
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

• PSH is long-term rental assistance paired with intensive wraparound supportive services to help maintain housing stability for households that experienced homelessness and have long-term disabilities, extensive service needs, and lengthy or repeated episodes of homelessness.

• SDHC applied intentionally lower barriers than general PSH programs.
  o Residents less likely to have been connected to services previously.
  o Residents more likely to be new to shelters and new to the Coordinated Entry System.
  o SDHC provides homes for some the most vulnerable individuals with high needs, but otherwise may not have been engaging in services.

• At Kearny Vista, some of the most vulnerable people (who were not necessarily already engaged in services) were housed during the height of the pandemic, which made available more shelter beds to help others.
• Each unit is the resident’s home.
  o Not a shelter, short-term or temporary housing program.
  o Kearny Vista tenants have the same rights and responsibilities as any private market tenant, and they execute a standard lease.
  o SDHC and service providers do not have the right to enter a rental housing unit at Kearny Vista without prior notice to the tenant and approval from the tenant.

• PSH does not mean housing is guaranteed.
  o Tenants are required to abide by terms of the lease agreement.

• Tenant responsibilities include:
  o Complying with community rules.
    ▪ Included in lease agreement.
    ▪ Posted in common areas at the property.
  o Paying their monthly portion of the rent, if any.
Kearny Vista Apartments
Supportive Services for Residents

Service Provider: Telecare

Services:

- Case Management
  - Light
    - Behavioral health support and housing stability
    - Minimum of one face-to-face contact per month
  - Clinical
    - For high-risk residents who need behavioral health screening, crisis intervention and coordinate to link to County Behavioral Health Services
    - Minimum of two face-to-face contacts per month

- Mental Health Services
- Healthcare Services
- Behavioral Health Care
- Substance Use Services
- Life Skills Training
- Education Services
- Employment Assistance
- Other services as directed by residents’ needs.
Kearny Vista Apartments
Supportive Services for Residents (Continued)

Telecare – Resident Engagement and Activities

- Community meetings the last Tuesday of each month
  - All residents are invited.

- Event calendars: Hyder places in resident mailboxes each month.

- Examples of Groups Offered
  - Co-Occurring Educational Groups
  - 12-Step Recovery Groups
  - Depression coping skills
  - Housing 101 (review lease and how Telecare can support housing stability)
  - Cleaning 101
  - Healthy Relationships

- Examples of Social Activities
  - Arts and Crafts
  - Karaoke
  - Bingo
  - Basketball
  - Group Walks
  - Game Day
  - Movie Night

- Examples of Additional Resources
  - Disability Help Center
  - Legal Aid Society
  - Psychiatric Emergency Response Team
  - Live Well Bus
  - Veteran’s Courage to Call
  - San Diego Human Society
Kearny Vista Apartments
Proactive Property and Unit Inspections

• SDHC Asset Management: Site walks every two weeks

• Hyder Property Management staff: Housekeeping and maintenance inspections every six months or more frequently, as needed

• Pest Control (Innovative Pest Solutions):
  o Interior inspections of all units once per month or more frequently, as needed
  o Offices and all common areas every two weeks
• Environmental Concerns (J&M Keystone):
  o Includes testing for the presence of microbes and performing remediation, as needed
  o If housekeeping and maintenance inspections identify environmental issues, J&M Keystone is
    engaged to address the issues.

• SDHC Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Inspections: Every two years or when a resident
  requests an HQS inspection.
  o SDHC offered inspections May 3 for any resident who wanted one.
  o Notices in English and Spanish were distributed April 22.
  o One resident requested an inspection.
• Many residents have engaged in case management services, participated in community activities and are stable.

• Some of those matched to permanent supportive housing will not be able to be successful live on their own.
  o A variety of housing solutions is necessary to meet each individual’s unique needs.
  o One housing solution does not fit everyone.

• Continuing to work with residents to help them become stable in their homes and get back on their feet takes time.

• Challenges occur throughout this process.
  o More frequent occurrences of damages to apartments than market rate or typical affordable housing.
Rent receipts:
Third-party property management provides rent receipts to residents when requested.

Mail service:
- U.S. Postal Service (USPS) delivers all resident mail in one drop-off daily.
  - USPS will not sort the mail by individual unit due to the zoning of the property.
  - Zoning allows for a commercial use of the site, including as a single-room occupancy (SRO) property, the use that applies to Kearny Vista apartments.
- Third-party property management staff then sorts the mail manually for the 142 affordable housing units and two managers’ units at the property.
- Mail is then delivered by 4 p.m. daily into individual, secure mailboxes that were installed on the inside of the security fence to the west side of the management office.

Property address:
- Address for resident mail has not changed
- City of San Diego required addition of a number in the address on the office building for the permitting for work completed at the property.
• **Safety and Security:**
  - SDHC contracts with third-party security.
    - Two security guards on-site 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
    - Third security guard has been added on occasion, if needed.
    - Monitors 110 cameras that SDHC installed at the property to enhance security after acquiring the property.
  - SDHC installed perimeter fencing and a controlled-access gate system after acquiring Kearny Vista.
Mold:
- Follow-ups with speakers after the April 12, 2024, SDHC Board meeting have not identified the presence of mold in their units.
- Contract with environmental and remediation vendor J&M Keystone for any environmental issue from testing for the presence of microbes to performing remediation.
- Like any other tenant in the private market, tenants are responsible for maintaining the housekeeping of their unit and notifying property management if an issue arises.

Pest Control:
- Contract with Innovative Pest Solutions, which performs recurring inspections for the presence of roaches, ants, silverfish, food pests, lice, mites, fleas, ticks, termites, rodents, and bed bugs.
- Treatments completed within three days of an inspection where pests were observed and if the resident complies with preparation requirements and allows access.
• **Lender**
  o Chase Bank provided financing toward SDHC’s purchase of the Kearny Vista property.
  o April 2, 2024, and April 19, 2024: Chase Bank conducted due diligence inspections.
    ▪ All common area spaces
    ▪ All vacant units
    ▪ Seven occupied units
    ▪ Clubhouse/office building
    ▪ Boiler rooms
    ▪ Gas meters
    ▪ Electric panels
  o No issues were identified.
  o Hyder’s Property Manager reported that the inspector provided positive feedback on the property’s condition.