



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

JUL 31 1985

Mrs. Kathleen Beasley
Councilwoman, City of Augusta
1130 Turpin Street
Augusta, Georgia 30901

Dear Mrs. Beasley:

This is in reply to your letter of June 25, 1985, regarding the Gilbert Manor public housing project in Augusta, Georgia. You express concern that the project is being considered for sale to the Medical College of Georgia by the Augusta Housing Authority (AHA).

The AHA has submitted a request for the disposition of the Gilbert Manor project to our Atlanta Regional Office. That Office recently requested guidance from this Office in reviewing the AHA disposition request in accordance with the requirements of the public housing demolition/disposition regulation, 24 CFR Part 970, and Section 18 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended (Act), which governs approval of such requests. We advised the Regional Office that, as initially submitted, the request could not be approved because sufficient evidence had not been provided to indicate that the criteria for approval had been satisfied.

The Regional Office was also directed to inform the AHA that the practice of deliberately failing to fill vacancies at the project must be stopped until the disposition issue is resolved. Such a practice threatens the viability of the project and is contrary to Departmental requirements.

~~This Office will take no final~~ action on the AHA request until a thorough review of the proposal is completed by the Regional Office, in accordance with the requirements in Part 970 and Section 18 of the Act, and a recommendation for action is received from the Regional Administrator. Please be assured that the Department will give full consideration to the comments of the tenants and the local governing body in its evaluation of the disposition proposal. Your input in this process is welcomed.

Sincerely,

J. E. Baugh
Warren T. Lindquist
Assistant Secretary

EXHIBIT "F"