

From: [Jake Abbott](#)
To: [CDBGCommittee](#)
Subject: Commonwealth development
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 11:46:45 AM

This message is in response the Commonwealth Developments request for MY tax dollars to be used to find another slum for them to mismanage while they count their cash. I strongly oppose it. Their current property Yahara Riverview apts is an absolute nightmare. I'll be damned if they are going to get more tax money to build another development in this city when they clearly can't manage what they already have. This is outrageous.

Sincerely,
A concerned neighbor and citizen.
Jake.

From: [tanya cohen](#)
To: [CDBGCommittee](#)
Cc: [Rummel, Marsha](#); [Heidi M. Wegleitner](#)
Subject: Opposed to Commonwealth Development's Request for Housing Forward RFP
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 6:59:06 PM

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I oppose Commonwealth Development's Request for Housing Forward RFP, due to the way they treat current renters at Yahara River View Apts, as I live there.

I have lived here 6 years.

It used to be wonderful. It was a healthy space. Now this building, and the staff, are making us residents sick, literally.

Still no "mask required" signs on entry doors at this property today, missing from them at the River side of the complex.

CWD/YRVA turned off the a/c and air circulation here at YRVA to "safe money" DURING A WORLD PANDEMIC. Which has turned into a nightmare with mold.

Apartments around the building are running a/c all winter this year, due to apartments getting up to 83 degrees. This is supposed to be a "Green Building". My bills used to be under \$30/mo. My MG&E has been over \$100 in recent months. I have been outpriced from this building.

(I have 3 layers of bandages on my legs for edema. It has become weepy due to the HEAT that builds up from these units now, Since March 2020, having temperatures that are WAY TOO HIGH 83degrees? Yet in my 6 years it had only happen 3 times, the temp would be too high, maintenance would come, fix something, and it would correct the temperature. Since March 2020 to Nov 2020 I complained of this heat issue and high MG&E bills, but was told nothing was wrong with the "heat".

This is supposed to be a sustainable green building. It is NOT anymore. Running a/c during the winter? I was offered a SECOND a/C unit for my bedroom last month by Ashley as a solution. I cannot afford the one a/c running I cannot afford to run a second, DURING THE WINTER.

I have been "solution based" my entire life, including throughout this. I have been met with gaslighting, shaming, and ignorance from the current Executive EDirector and housing staff.

Since Ashley and Justice took over, along with Conner, I have been gaslighted, treated with zero respect from the go, my notices to them about marijuana/cigarette use in the building (chronicly since Feb 2019 with no change), mice infestations (was gaslighted and told by Ashley there is no money for sensitivity training for staff), black mold (Ashley said it did not exist, wouldn't even hear me when I said my CPAP has black mold in it according to LinnCare the CPAP company who told me last Feb 2020 that it was black mold). Neighbors are talking now that packages were stolen and found in a closet that was reported the first week of Dec to housing staff, Conner, and the closet sat for 20 days beyond notification that it was a mess with garbage, feces, drug paraphenalia, and now the neighbors are ALL SAYING THEIR APARTMENTS ARE TOO HOT & THERE IS MOLD.

The apts are too hot. It has not always been this way. I was gaslighted by Ashley, Conner, maintenance, Maria, all of them saying there is not heat trouble and I'm the only one complaining of suddenly having outrageous energy bills.

It is constant, the unprofessional behavior and treatment of the renters here at YRVA. How on Earth could Commonwealth be responsible for helping people BUY THEIR HOMES when they are not taking responsibility of the property they already own? The running them in all of these agencies requesting this RFP for Housing Forward, is RESPECTFUL TREATMENT of their participants.

Commonwealth needs sensitivity training, and, in my opinion and experience, an overhaul of their mission and their housing staff and Executive Director too. This staff and current ED, are not interested in the health and safety of their tenants currently. There are constant safety issues at Yahara River View Apts, and , when pointed out to housing staff, is met with ZERO CHANGE/action or accountability.

This spring and summer we saw an increase in chaos in the Madison Area. With the riots and increase in gun violence a secure residence is even more important. There have been times as well in the last 8 months, that I founds exit doors in the building propped open with no one around who appeared to be exiting or entering. While I reported these incident to management they have never addressed my concerns seriously, and, have turned my concern into gaslighting me.

We have secured entry as well as locked stairwell doorsd. This is what I pay for and it has been lax this past year. This has caused increased anxiety and what I feel i an increased safety risk for the whole complex. I had reported a concern for a particular situation, that, turned into the discovery of crimes and a space that those crimes were allowed to take place, spaces that were reported over 8 months ago to this current YRVA/CWD housing staff. Why did it have to get so bad that crimes occurred?

I don't feel management takes my concerns serious when all I am asking is to accomdate my needs and provide the security I am paying for.

Why did the mice, and the unhealthy disgusting cable closet have to reach the point of getting Building Inspection involved? Two times in 2020 and now again in 2021 I am activating the Building Inspector in regards to mold and mice. Why couldn't Commonwealth Development get proper exterminatino services and block all mouse entry points in every single unit? Ashley stated they could not afford it? Is that the FIRST LESSON of property ownership? Protect yourself from loss and damage, protect your investment? How can they teach this to prospective homeowners in this proposed RFP program if they do not do it with their current property?

Respect to the consumer is REQUIRED with public monies especially.

Please hear my plea to let Commonwealth Developemtn take the time to MANAGE THEIR CURRENT BUSINESS with respect and attention to health, safety, and overall community wellness before being REWARDED with government monies for a \$500,000 RFP project.

Thank you,

Tanya Cohen

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.