

Notice of Public Hearings on Proposed Revisions to 2025/26 Moving to Work Supplemental Plan, 2025/26 Annual Plan, and Amendment to the 2025/29 Five Year Plan

The Housing Authority of the County of Kern (Authority) will hold a public hearing on December 10, 2025, at 2:00PM at 601 24th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301 to receive public comments on a proposed safe harbor waiver to the Minimum Rent Moving to Work (MTW) Waiver. In addition, the Authority will hold a public hearing on January 14, 2026, at 2:00PM at 601 24th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301 to receive public comment on proposed revisions to the 2025/26 MTW Supplemental Plan, 2025/26 Annual Plan, and Amendment to the 2025/29 Five Year Plan. The proposed waiver and revisions include:

- The Authority intends to implement an alternative Minimum Rent under MTW. Specifically, we intend to implement a Minimum Rent of \$105 beginning April 1, 2026, in the Public Housing & Housing Choice Voucher programs. This is equivalent to the inflation adjusted Minimum Rent of \$50 first established in 1996. The minimum rent will be adjusted annually thereafter by the increase in CPI, rounded to the nearest whole dollar amount. We are requesting a safe harbor waiver so the minimum rent will apply to all households, including elderly and disabled households, excluding households participating in the Stepped Rent Demonstration Study until the study concludes. The following safe harbor requirements will be adhered to:
 - Minimum rent must not exceed \$130 per month.
 - An impact analysis will be completed
 - A hardship policy will be implemented

The implementation of these activities will help the Authority serve more households and establish a reasonable rent policy that incentivizes increase in income.