



NYC TENANTS UNITED! OUR VISION FOR NYC



1 FUND PUBLIC HOUSING

Public housing is one of the largest sources of affordable housing in New York. There are **161,400 units of public housing** (also called “Section 9”) in New York City, **housing one out of every 17 New Yorkers**. Yet, chronic underfunding has resulted in public housing being demolished or sold off. Much of what remains is in such poor condition that it is at risk of being lost. Public housing residents across the city suffer from frequent heat and hot water outages, mold, infestations and apartments that are falling apart.

In the upcoming budget, New York City must commit:

\$3.55 billion for NYCHA capital repairs to **preserve 15,000** public housing units.

\$355 million to cover all **rental arrears** for families still recovering from the pandemic and dealing with the effects of inflation.

2 PASS THE COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE ACT (COPA)

COPA gives Community Land Trusts and other mission-driven nonprofits a **first right to purchase multifamily buildings when landlords sell**. Modeled on successful legislation implemented in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco, COPA would curb speculation and level the playing field for nonprofits to expand the supply of permanently-affordable, and tenant-controlled housing.



3 FULLY FUND EXISTING PROGRAMS THAT PROTECT TENANTS

Neighborhood Pillars helps community organizations **acquire and rehabilitate for-profit-owned housing**. This would allow community-based organizations with deep ties to the local neighborhood to control housing stock. The City put this program on the back burner in June 2019 and preserved less than 400 units since the program was launched in December 2018. Increased funding would scale this program back up to its original vision.

Open Door finances the new construction of multi-family shared equity co-operatives. This grants New Yorkers **a path toward homeownership so that they can stay in their homes and create generational wealth**. For thousands of New York families left out of the traditional homeownership market, this can change the trajectory of generations. NYC should quadruple the annual budget of this program, creating more affordable homeownership opportunities for working-class New Yorkers.

Right to Counsel protects tenants from unjust evictions. By all metrics, Right to Counsel works: **evictions plummeted, landlords sued tenants less often, and almost everyone who had Right to Counsel stayed in their home**. Now, all of that is at risk. The City must fully fund Right to Counsel in the coming session

NYC must commit to:

- A capital investment of **\$2 billion** over the next 4 years for **Neighborhood Pillars** and **Open Door**.
- Fully fund **Right to Counsel** with **\$300 million** to keep tenants in their homes.
- Fully fund **HPD's Code Enforcement work** to ensure that tenants have their repair claims addressed.

4 SUPPORT A RESOLUTION TO ROLLBACK RENTS

New Yorkers face an affordability crisis and rents are skyrocketing. Yet, the Rent Guidelines Board has still allowed landlords to raise rents higher and higher. **The City Council should call on the Rent Guidelines Board to reduce rents in the coming year.**

