

Amendment to the Moving to Work (MTW) Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Annual Plan - Brief Summary

Since 2008, Santa Clara County Housing Authority (**SCCHA**) has introduced nationally recognized changes to its affordable housing programs through the Moving to Work (**MTW**) demonstration program. MTW is a federal initiative established by Congress that encourages selected housing authorities to propose and implement, upon the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**) approval, locally-designed changes to the way affordable housing programs are administered.

The goals of the MTW program are:

- To increase cost effectiveness in housing program operations;
- To promote participants' economic self-sufficiency; and
- To expand participants' housing choices.

SCCHA has already submitted the draft MTW FY2024 plan to HUD and is still awaiting its approval. SCCHA is now seeking approval from HUD to amend the FY2024 Plan to add the following activity:

Proposed Activity 2024-10: Enhanced Payment Standards for Housing Mobility

Research supports that where children live has a significant impact on their future health, wellness, and economic outcomes. SCCHA is developing a housing mobility program that would provide pathways for families with children to live in neighborhoods with quality schools, low crime rates, and community amenities; however, even with current payment standards being higher than the Fair Market Rent, several high resource areas in the county remain inaccessible.

This proposed activity would give SCCHA the flexibility to establish enhanced payment standards up to 110% of the Small Area Fair Market Rent (SAFMR) for families participating in the housing mobility program who lease up in units that meet both of the following conditions:

1. Located in a designated opportunity area census tract
2. Located within a zip code where the SAFMR exceeds SCCHA's HCV program payment standard