**NOTICE OF OPEN TOWN APPOINTED TENANT BOARD MEMBER SEAT**

May 16, 2022

Dear Residents of Merrimac Housing Authority:

This Notice is to inform you that the Town of Merrimac is soliciting names for consideration to fill the Town Appointed Tenant Board Member seat of the Merrimac Housing Authority. Pursuant to changes made to M.G.O. c. 121B, §§ 5 & 5A by Chapter 358 of the Acts of 2020, “An Act Enabling Partnerships for Growth,” Towns are now required to appoint a tenant of the Local Housing Authority (LHA) to the LHA Board. This position is known as the Town Appointed Tenant Board Member Seat.

The Board is the governing body of the LHA which is responsible for adopting policy, approving contracts, budgets, and annual plans, and hiring and overseeing an executive director to run the day-to-day operation of the LHA. The Board acts by a majority votes which are cast by Board members at open meetings.

As a Tenant Member of the LHA Board, you will receive training provided by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) as well as other training that may be required for public officials by law. DHCD partners with the Mel King Institute which provides a comprehensive overview of the role of the tenant board members and the operations of LHAs in a three-hour training. This is followed up with the opportunity to participate in ongoing trainings throughout the year on topics such as:

* Role of LHA Board and DHCD
* LHA Budgets
* Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
* Annual Plans
* Performance Management Reviews (PMR)
* Statewide online tenant selective system (CHAMP)

In addition, the Mel King Institute offers opportunities for Tenant Board members to connect with one another and share experiences and questions in unstructured peer to peer learning sessions.

If you or an adult authorized household member wishes to be considered for the Town Appointed Tenant Board Member Seat, you must fill out the enclosed “Notice of Intent to be Considered for Town Appointed Board Member Seat” and return it to the Merrimac Town Clerk at the following address:

Gwendolyn Lay Sabbagh, Town Clerk

2-8 School Street

Merrimac, MA 01860

**PLEASE NOTE: In order to be considered for the LHA Town Appointed Board Member Seat you must complete the enclosed form and return it to the Town Clerk at the above address no later than 6/15/2022.**

If you have questions about this notice, the accompanying Notice of Intent to be Considered for Town Appointed Board Member Seat or the Town Appointed Tenant Board Member Seat generally, please contact the LHA with questions.

Sincerely,

**Michelle Bibeau**

Michelle Bibeau

Merrimac Housing Authority

Executive Director