

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE POLICY

The Brooklyn Park Economic Development Authority (EDA) is committed to actively promoting new development and redevelopment within the City of Brooklyn Park. From time to time, development activities may lead to displacement of tenants, homeowners, property owners, and/or businesses. The EDA recognizes the hardship this creates and is committed to minimizing the impact of displacement. If displacement occurs, the EDA will use its best efforts to minimize this hardship guided by this policy.

1. Minnesota law shall govern if and when a person or business is entitled to relocation benefits under Minnesota Statutes Sections 117.50 to 117.56 for acquisition, development or redevelopment projects with City/EDA involvement.
2. The EDA will provide advisory services to any displaced person reasonable and necessary to assist with preparing a relocation claim and identifying other local resources to minimize the hardship of displacement.
3. The EDA will provide all services reasonable and necessary to ensure the relocation process does not result in different or separate treatment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
4. For displaced renters, the EDA will provide services and resources to assist with the transition to homeownership. Provided the displaced person meets the eligibility requirements under 49 C.F.R. 24.402, replacement housing payments used for down payment assistance that are calculated at less than \$5,250 will be increased to an amount not to exceed \$5,250. In addition, the EDA will permit these funds to be used for taxes, insurance, and prepaid interest associated with the purchase of a home.
5. Replacement housing payments must be used to lease or purchase decent, safe, and sanitary housing. Replacement housing payments for renters shall be paid in equal quarterly installments over the duration of the benefit as calculated at the time of displacement. Different installments may be allowed if required to secure decent, safe, and sanitary housing.
6. Any displaced person qualifying as low-income may be eligible for increased benefits. For the purpose of this policy, a person is classified as “low-income” by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Annual Survey of Income Limits for the Public Housing and Section 8 Programs. This survey is updated annually and available through the Federal Highway Administration’s website at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/realestate/ua/ualic.htm>.
7. Any displaced person may file a written appeal if he or she believes that the EDA has failed to properly consider an application for assistance. All appeals must be filed within sixty (60) days after receipt of written notification from the EDA regarding the claim. Appeals will be reviewed by the EDA promptly and guided by the EDA’s Relocation Assistance Appeal Policy.