



## WHY I SUPPORT DEFEND GLENDALE & PUBLIC HOUSING COALITION

I've been watching developments with respect to Defend Glendale & Public Housing Coalition (DG&PHC) for years now. However, this past weekend, I met with a resident activist who provided me with an even deeper historical understanding of the issue. What she described were brazen actions by the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority that would have the effect of pushing people out of the Glendale Townhomes community, and other public housing properties in Minneapolis. Most recently, evidence from MPHA's portfolio strategy document put together by a consulting firm, and posted to DG&PHC's website, demonstrate that the MPHA is seriously considering demolishing and transitioning Glendale Townhomes to privately owned mixed-income development, and privatizing the public housing high-rises. " See CSG Advisors, *Minneapolis Public Housing Authority: Portfolio Strategy Draft*, at 6 (Dec. 2017), available at, <https://www.dgphc.org/2018/03/05/mpha-contractor-proposes-demolishing-glendale-and-privatizing-the-high-rises/>.

I strongly believe that privatizing Glendale and other public housing properties will have the inevitable effect of displacing low-income residents. This strategy not only affects the residents of the Glendale community but also public housing tenants city-wide. Again, the effect of privatization would be to extricate a large swath of people, disproportionately people of color, from Prospect Park and other communities throughout Minneapolis.

DG & PHC's advocacy is inspirational. I support Defend Glendale & Public Housing Coalition and will do everything in my power as a state legislator to make sure public housing tenants are not displaced, and that those units are never privatized. Moreover, if we truly believe that housing is a human right, we need to not only defend public housing in Minneapolis, but also substantially increase the share of *public* housing throughout the Twin Cities and across the state.

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