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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Future Still Uncertain at Grove Parc

A low-income housing development in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood continues to face an uncertain future. It failed a federal inspection and the government is moving towards foreclosure. But some residents and the owner want the government to wait. They say a nonprofit from Boston could save the development, and by doing so, keep in Woodlawn precious federal money for low-income housing. Chicago Public Radio's Catrin Einhorn reports.

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The 504 apartments that make up Grove Parc stretch over three blocks, just south of the University of Chicago.

Faith McGhee is on the tenants' council there.

McGHEE: I want to see the homes preserved, I don't want to see people being dislocated.

But if the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development continues on its course, residents would likely have to leave with vouchers to rent on the private market.

Right now, the type of federal subsidy that supports Grove Parc is attached to the apartment itself.

If its lost, it's gone forever, because the government isn't awarding new subsidies of that kind.

A national nonprofit called Preservation of Affordable Housing, or POAH, hopes to buy and save Grove Parc.

Karen Blomquist is with the group.

BLOMQUIST: We're going at this now 100 percent, 110 percent.

HINSBERGER: I would like to get a plan, but we're not going to wait for a long period of time.

Ed Hinsberger is with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

HINSBERGER: We've got people living in the units, the units are not in good shape, we're paying big subsidies for those apartments.

Hinsberger says the agency could start action to foreclose within a month or so.

But POAH says its timetable to submit a proposal is more like two or three months.

A lawyer for residents, Kate Walz, says a federal law puts certain requirements on the government to preserve the subsidy at Grove Parc.

She's threatening to sue if it gives residents vouchers instead.

*Producer:* Catrin Einhorn

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