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Arlington values equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.

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Members of the CDBG committee,
Although the HCA is well-intended in asking for funds to organize tenants for civic engagement to represent their interests there already exist organizations like City Life which provide these services without cost. With fewer funds to award applicants it would be best to allow these outside organizations to furnish these services.
Another issue is that having essentially the landlord organize tenants leads to other problems. Tenants may wish to do what pleases the management which has control over their rents, etc. then follow their own political views.
At AHA we follow the state regulations of which allow tenant organizations many rights such as being involved with hiring the staff grievance procedures, and signing off on the annual budget. Having these rights allows the tenants associations meaning involvement in their housing.
Jo Anne Preston
Commissioner, Arlington Housing Authority