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**STATE'S LARGEST AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONSTRUCTION FIRM  
AWARDED TEN MILLION DOLLARS RENOVATION CONTRACT  
UBM, Inc. to begin work at CHA's Lowden Homes in February 2003  
December 19, 2002**

The Chicago Housing Authority Board of Commissioners has awarded a ten million dollar contract to Chicago-based UBM, Inc. for general renovation work at the Lowden Homes family development, located at 200 W. 95th Street.

The work will cover a total of 123 units in 18 buildings and includes new roofing systems, masonry work, parking lots, rehabbed kitchens and bathrooms, upgraded electrical, telephone and cable services as well as replacement of interior and exterior lighting fixtures. There also will be a focus on making sure there are ADA compliant features in the units.

"The CHA is honored to have a company with such a tremendous track record become involved in making life better for our residents," said CHA CEO Terry Peterson. "We're keeping our promise and UBM, Inc. is going to play a significant role."

UBM, Inc., the largest African-American construction firm in Illinois began in 1975 as a construction consulting firm. It now has professionals in civil, structural, architectural, mechanical, electrical and environmental engineering.

"I have long lamented over the state of public housing. To be part of revolutionizing that gives me a great deal of pride," said Paul King, chairman of UBM, Inc. "This is more about pride than profit."

Lowden Homes was built in 1953 and is located in the city's 21st ward, where Alderman Leonard DeVille has given his unwavering support for the Plan for Transformation, embracing the move toward offering public housing residents the same comfort, safety and access to services as other Chicago citizens. DeVille welcomes UBM, Inc. as the company to help in that effort.

"One of the things I promised when I became alderman was quality homes for our citizens," Alderman DeVille said. "This work at Lowden Homes helps CHA residents know that they are part of the community, just like everyone else."

UBM, Inc. was one of nine firms that bid for this contract. A recent Dunn and Bradstreet report found UBM, Inc. to be financially and technically capable of

performing the services requested.

Work is scheduled to begin in February 2003.