

# Jacob Price razing OK'd

*By Peggy Kreimer  
Post staff reporter*

Demolition of the Jacob Price Housing Project in Covington could start this summer.

Federal officials have approved the Housing Authority of Covington's plan to demolish three buildings on Robbins Street, the northern boundary of the Jacob Price complex in Covington's Eastside.

The people who live in those apartments will be moved to apartments in other buildings in Jacob Price, said Housing Authority attorney Steve McMurtry.

The Housing Authority plans to make an announcement on Thursday outlining the future of Jacob Price.

The overall plan is to demolish the entire 23-building project by 2009 and move residents to subsidized housing scattered through the city.

McMurtry said the Housing Authority hopes to keep residents in the Eastside neighborhood.

"The next step is to search for funding and try to obtain low-cost housing tax credits from the state of Kentucky, and then with that money and in cooperation with our developer, Model Management, plan to develop scattered-site housing as we go along," McMurtry said.

Bennie Doggett, president of the Eastside Neighborhood Association, has led neighborhood opposition to the demolition plan.

"I did not know approval had come down," she said this morning. "I remain opposed to the demolition. My great concern for the residents is where in the world are they going to go? That's one of the real concerns I have. There is nothing we can do to stop the demolition now, but I hope they know where they are going to put the residents."

McMurtry said the Housing Authority learned of the approval by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development at the Housing Authority board meeting last week.

The approval is only for the demolition of the three buildings, McMurtry said. But he expects the full plan to be approved.

"I don't think there'll be any problem in the future phases of the project. The problem is the scattered-site housing. We have to get the funding and find the locations, and they have to be strategically located. The residents want to stay in the Eastside neighborhood, and we intend to keep them there," he said.

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