

# Archives

## Sarasota Herald-Tribune (FL){PUBLICATION2}

### Housing adviser urges changes

January 11, 2006

Section: B SECTION

Page: BS1

DALE WHITE dale.white@heraldtribune.com

Sarasota's dilapidated public **housing** complexes should be replaced with mixed-income neighborhoods, an adviser to the Sarasota **Housing** Authority said Tuesday.

David Gilmore of Washington, D.C.-based Gilmore Kean LLC, who has headed and advised public **housing** agencies for 36 years, is drafting a redevelopment plan for the **Housing** Authority's four projects in Newtown. Gilmore told a coalition of advocates for Sarasota's public **housing** tenants that he agreed with the **Housing** Authority's conclusion that those projects should be replaced with neighborhoods of low-, moderate- and middle-income residents.

He said projects exclusively for low-income families are proven failures. Public **housing** complexes segregate a community's poorest residents and have devolved into a societal mistake that should not be repeated, Gilmore said. They largely have become distressed places for keeping "very low-income people in very defined perimeters."

If the authority replaces its family rental complexes with exclusively public **housing**, it will find itself again with stigmatized, racially unbalanced neighborhoods, Gilmore warned.

"Is that the social fabric you want to end up with?" he asked the Public **Housing** Task Force, a group of civic and church leaders