



The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is seeking recommendations regarding administrative and procedural changes to expedite the approval of applications for FHA-insured multifamily mortgages involving Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) or Tax-Exempt Bonds. This notice, located in the **April 29 Federal Register**, invites stakeholders in HUD-insured multifamily projects, as well as interested members of the public, to provide comments.

In addition, HUD is specifically soliciting public comment on the following areas: improving the efficiency of approval procedures; simplifying approval requirements; establishing time deadlines or target deadlines for required approvals; modifying division of approval authority between field and national offices; improving outreach to project sponsors regarding information that is required to be submitted for such approvals; requesting additional funding for increasing staff; and, any other actions which would expedite approvals.

This is an opportunity for multifamily developers in Northern Virginia to let HUD know what administrative and procedural changes would support their tax credit projects. In a speech given at the **Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers (HAND)** Annual meeting, **Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing Carol Galante** urged the group to respond to the request for comments; so that she can help nonprofit developers address the hurdles inherent in some of the HUD and Treasury programs.

To read the entire notice in the Federal Register, including deadline for comments and where to send recommendations, see below.

through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report.

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2510-0011.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: Section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (HUD Reform Act) requires the Department to ensure greater accountability and integrity in the

provision of assistance administered by the Department. One feature of the statute requires certain disclosures by applicants seeking assistance from HUD, assistance from states and units of local government, and other assistance to be used with respect to the activities to be carried out with the assistance. The disclosure includes the financial interests of persons in the activities, and the sources of funds to be made available for the activities, and the proposed uses of the funds.

Each applicant that submits an application for assistance, within the jurisdiction of the HUD, to a state or to a unit of general local government for a specific project or activity must disclose

this information whenever the dollar threshold is met. This information must be kept updated during the application review process and while the assistance is being provided.

Agency form numbers, if applicable: HUD 2880.

Members of affected public: Applicants for HUD competitively funded assistance.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: The form, HUD 2880, must be submitted as part of an applicant's application for competitively funded assistance.

Number of respondents	Burden hours	Frequency of response	Total burden hours
16,900	2.0	1.2	40,560

Status of the proposed information collection: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Camille Acevedo,

Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5299-N-01]

Request for Recommendations Regarding Administrative and Procedural Changes To Expedite the Approval of Applications for FHA-Insured Multifamily Mortgages Involving Low-Income Housing Tax Credits or Tax-Exempt Bonds

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice, pursuant to statute, solicits recommendations from stakeholders in HUD's insured multifamily projects, as well as interested members of the public, on administrative and procedural changes that HUD should adopt to expedite approval of multifamily housing projects involving low-income housing tax credits or tax-exempt bonds under the jurisdiction of HUD. In addition to soliciting, generally, recommendations on expediting the approval process of multifamily housing projects, HUD is

soliciting recommendations on specific topics as stated in this notice.

DATES: *Comment Due Date:* June 29, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this notice to the Regulations Division, Office of General Counsel, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 10276, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC 20410-0500.

Communications must refer to the above docket number and title. There are two methods for submitting public comments. All submissions must refer to the above docket number and title.

1. *Submission of Comments by Mail.* Comments may be submitted by mail to the Regulations Division, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 10276, Washington, DC 20410-0500.

2. *Electronic Submission of Comments.* Interested persons may submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. HUD strongly encourages commenters to submit comments electronically. Electronic submission of comments allows the commenter maximum time to prepare and submit a comment, ensures timely receipt by HUD, and enables HUD to make them immediately available to the public. Comments submitted electronically through the <http://www.regulations.gov> website can be viewed by other commenters and interested members of the public. Commenters should follow the instructions provided on that site to submit comments electronically.

Note: To receive consideration as public comments, comments must be submitted through one of the two methods specified above. Again, all submissions must refer to the docket number and title of the rule.

No Facsimile Comments. Facsimile (FAX) comments are not acceptable.

Public Inspection of Public Comments. All properly submitted comments and communications submitted to HUD will be available for public inspection and copying between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays at the above address. Due to security measures at the HUD Headquarters building, an advance appointment to review the public comments must be scheduled by calling the Regulations Division at 202-708-3055 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Copies of all comments submitted are available for inspection and downloading at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Stevenson, Deputy Director, Office of Multifamily Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 6152, Washington, DC 20410, Telephone 202-708-1142; e-mail: Eric.Stevenson@hud.gov. Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

Background: Title VIII, subtitle B of the Housing and Economic Development Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA), (Pub. L. 110-289, approved

July 30, 2008), which is cited as the "Housing Tax Credit Coordination Act of 2008," increases HUD's ability to facilitate and coordinate the use of low income housing tax credits or tax-exempt bonds with multifamily projects that receive FHA assistance.

Section 2832 of HERA requires that HUD implement "administrative and procedural" changes to expedite the approval of assistance for certain multifamily assisted housing projects for which HUD approval is required. The multifamily housing projects covered by this section include projects for which HUD provides assistance in conjunction with low-income housing tax credits under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 42) or tax-exempt housing bonds, and public or assisted housing projects for transactions, in conjunction with any low-income housing tax credits or tax-exempt bonds, involving the preservation or rehabilitation of the project.

Section 2832(c) of HERA directs HUD to solicit recommendations from project owners and sponsors, investors and stakeholders in housing tax credits, state and local housing finance agencies, public housing agencies, tenant advocates, and other stakeholders in multifamily housing projects that will be receiving the benefit of low income housing tax credits or tax-exempt bonds, regarding administrative and procedural changes that could be implemented to expedite the approval of applications for HUD insured mortgages for such projects. The category of assisted multifamily housing projects to which this notice applies also includes, in addition to projects applying for FHA mortgage insurance, projects that will no longer have FHA insured mortgages, but which request to continue to retain the benefits of interest reduction payments under Section 236 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1), with LIHTC or tax-exempt bond financing. This notice seeking comment from stakeholders and other interested members of the public is issued in response to the direction in section 2832 of HERA to solicit recommendations on the multifamily housing approval process.

In addition to soliciting recommendations, generally, on administrative and procedural changes that HUD should adopt to expedite and facilitate its approval of multifamily housing projects, HUD specifically

solicits public comment on the following areas:

- (A) Improving the efficiency of approval procedures;
- (B) Simplifying approval requirements,
- (C) Establishing time deadlines or target deadlines for required approvals;
- (D) Modifying division of approval authority between field and national offices;
- (E) Improving outreach to project sponsors regarding information that is required to be submitted for such approvals;
- (F) Requesting additional funding for increasing staff, if necessary; and
- (G) Any other actions which would expedite approvals.

Those stakeholders and interested members of the public who wish to comment on these or related topics should submit their comments as provided in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Dated: April 17, 2009.

Brian D. Montgomery,
Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal
Housing Commissioner.

[FR Doc. E9-9677 Filed 4-28-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. 5200-FA-12]

Announcement of Funding Awards for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2008

AGENCY: Office of Native American Programs, Office of Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Announcement of funding awards.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989, this announcement notifies the public of funding decisions made by the Department in a competition for funding under the Fiscal Year 2008 (FY 2008) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Program. This announcement contains the consolidated names and addresses of this year's award recipients under the ICDBG.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions concerning the ICDBG

Program awards, contact the Area Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) serving your area or Deborah M. Lalancette, Office of Native American Programs, 1670 Broadway, 23rd Floor, Denver, CO 80202, telephone (303) 675-1600. Hearing or speech-impaired individuals may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This program provides grants to Indian tribes and Alaska Native Villages to develop viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low and moderate incomes as defined in 24 CFR 1003.4.

The FY 2008 awards announced in this Notice were selected for funding in a competition announced in a NOFA published in the **Federal Register** on May 12, 2008, (73 FR 27047). Applications were scored and selected for funding based on the selection criteria in that notice and Area ONAP geographic jurisdictional competitions.

The amount appropriated in FY 2008 to fund the ICDBG was \$62,000,000. \$3,960,000 of this amount was retained to fund imminent threat grants in FY2008. In addition, a total of \$3,332,433 in carryover funds from prior years was also available. The allocations for the Area ONAP geographic jurisdictions, including carryover, are as follows:

Eastern/Woodlands	\$8,129,890
Southern Plains	12,832,443
Northern Plains	9,038,717
Southwest	21,432,835
Northwest	3,257,000
Alaska	6,681,548
Total	61,372,433

In accordance with Section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (103 Stat. 1987, 42 U.S.C. 3545), the Department is publishing the names, addresses, and amounts of the 83 awards made under the various regional competitions in Appendix A to this document.

Dated: April 9, 2009.

Paula O. Blunt,
General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public
and Indian Housing.

Appendix A