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May 11, 2011

Ms. Megan Harrington
Lake County Community Development
500 W. Winchester Road, Unit 101
Libertyville, IL 60048

Ref: PY2010 HOME Scattered Site Grant, #H1065

Dear Ms. Harrington,

As you know, Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) received a Program Year 2010 HOME grant to acquire, rehabilitate and re-sell five scattered-site homes in Highland Park which will remain permanently affordable using the community land trust model. The community land trust model is rapidly gaining momentum as one of the most cost-effective and sustainable models of developing and preserving long-term affordable housing; the home is not only affordable for the first family, but it will forever remain affordable for future generations.

CPAH has been very successful in Highland Park and recognized as a leader in the region. As such, several other communities in Lake County have expressed interest in partnering with CPAH to expand their inventory of affordable housing. This best-practice, collaborative approach will help other communities more efficiently address their affordable housing needs, build the capacity of CPAH, take advantage of economies of scale, develop a critical mass of permanently affordable units in Lake County and provide more and better services to clients.

I am very pleased to report that the City of Lake Forest recently approved a pilot program to partner with CPAH to acquire, rehabilitate and re-sell two scattered-site homes in Lake Forest. I am therefore writing to request an amendment to the 2010 Action Plan to adjust the grant's service area from "Highland Park" to "Highland Park and Lake Forest." This amendment remains completely consistent with the funding priorities and scoring criteria in the Consolidated Plan as follows: 1) same proximity to public transit, 2) same commitment to environmental sustainability, 3) same commitment to unit size, 4) same education and counseling, 5) same commitment to permanent affordability, 6) still providing affordable housing in a traditionally non low-income community and 7) same demonstrated need. The committed match and budget will also remain unchanged.

I am very excited about this opportunity to advance our shared goal of spreading the supply of affordable housing throughout Lake County and creating more diverse, healthy and sustainable communities.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Anthony
Executive Director