



SETTLED 1786
BOROUGH OF BERWICK
CITY HALL
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April 14, 2022

Xiaomin Cai
Senior CPD Representative
HUD CPD Philadelphia Office
The Strawbridge's Building
801 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3380

Dear Ms. Cai,

The Borough of Berwick received HUD's letter dated March 14, 2022, concerning its review of its Program Year 2020 CAPER. At the conclusion of this letter, it was requested that the Borough of Berwick notify your office within 35 days regarding any comments.

Please accept this letter as formal notification that the Borough of Berwick has received and reviewed this letter. Please accept the following two comments concerning the CAPER review:

1. Berwick Borough has exchanged correspondence with HUD numerous times concerning its 2019 and 2020 program year LMI certification period change to two years. The borough continues to disagree with the determination provided in HUD's February 25, 2022, letter and feels that there is no statutory or regulatory language in the CDBG program which restricts the borough to make this change. As previously discussed, the September 21, 2016, memorandum utilized by HUD to support its determination was not previously provided to the borough and has not been accessible to the public through HUD's website.

Regardless, the borough still wishes to bring this compliance matter to a conclusion with its colleagues at HUD.

2. HUD's letter dated March 14, 2022, provides an inaccurate discussion of the Affirmatively Further Fair Housing activities discussed in the borough's Program Year 2020 CAPER. Regardless, the borough feels confident that it is meeting its Affirmatively Further Fair Housing obligations as discussed later in the HUD letter dated March 14, 2022.

Mr. Dombroski will take the initiative, on behalf of the Borough of Berwick, to inform the general public, interested citizen organizations, and non-profit entities, of the performance letter sent by HUD.

Thank you for the technical assistance that you provide our community as it relates to our CDBG program. Please contact Mr. Dombroski of any matters related to our CDBG program moving forward.

Sincerely,

Damien Scoblink, Borough Manager
Borough of Berwick

CC: Tyler Dombroski, SEDA-Council of Governments
Aaron Crawford, SEDA-Council of Governments