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April 13, 2023

Kathleen K. McCarthy
Community Planning and Development Representative
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development
Philadelphia Regional Office
The Strawbridge Building
801 Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3380

Dear Ms. McCarthy,

The Town of Bloomsburg received its letter dated March 22, 2023, regarding HUD's review of its Program Year 2021 CAPER. At the conclusion of this letter, it was requested that the Town of Bloomsburg notify your office within 35 days regarding any comments.

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

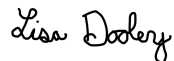
1. The CAPER Review cites that the Town's timeliness ratio was calculated at 1.76 times its annual grant on August 2, 2022. Although this is an accurate statement, it is important to note for the record that Jamie Shrawder, SEDA-COG, submitted a letter to you on July 18, 2022, on the Town's behalf concerning this matter. In Ms. Shrawder's letter, she provided a discussion regarding unanticipated project delays as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Obviously, these delays were outside of the Town's control and ultimately impacted on the Town's timeliness ratio. Several projects, including the Town Park Restoration Improvements Project and Town Parking Lot are now complete and the funds fully expended. The Airport Fuel Pump is now underway, and the Town Pool Removal of Architectural Barriers project will be completed this spring. The Town is confident in meeting the timeliness standard by August 2, 2023.
2. The Fair Housing Accomplishments listed in this year's letter are from the FFY 2020 CAPER. Additional accomplishments in FFY 2021 include:
 - a. Assess the need to provide additional emergency or transitional shelter, rapid rehousing, and homelessness prevention services in the Town and the region. Create a link to Columbia County's utility assistance resources page from the Fair Housing Hub.
 - b. Create a link to SEDA-COG's weatherization program on the Fair Housing Hub.
 - c. Have materials about utility assistance programs available at Town Hall.

- d. Include information about affordable housing programs on the Fair Housing Hub.
3. The ongoing Fair Housing activities listed on this year's letter did not include the following actions:
- a. Continue to support Community Strategies Group's efforts to develop new units of affordable housing.
 - b. Consider affordable housing needs when allocating CDBG funding.
 - c. When opportunities arise, support public and private efforts to create new units of affordable housing.
 - d. Consider accessible housing needs when allocating CDBG funding.
 - e. Continue to educate homeowners, residents, and housing professionals about their rights and opportunities in the flood areas.
 - f. Continue to submit an annual right-to-know request to the PHRC and address any complaints that are received.

Ms. Shrawder will take the initiative, on behalf of the Town of Bloomsburg, to inform the public, interested citizen organizations, and non-profit entities, of the performance letter sent by HUD on March 22, 2023.

Thank you for the technical assistance that you provide our community as it relates to our CDBG program.

Sincerely,



Lisa Dooley, Town Manager
Town of Bloomsburg

CC: Justin Hummel, Town of Bloomsburg
Jamie Shrawder, SEDA-Council of Governments