




U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Knoxville Field Office, Region IV
John J. Duncan Federal Building
710 Locust Street, Suite 300
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-2526

October 23, 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mary Wilson, Director, Knoxville Office of Community Planning and Development, 4JD

FROM:  Krista Mills, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Region IV, Programs and Compliance Director, 4IEP

SUBJECT: Review of Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report for Grantee: Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Program Year 2013-2014

The Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO), Programs and Compliance Division, reviewed the above Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) in accordance with HUD Regulations at 24 CFR 91.520(a) and the Fair Housing Act review criteria. FHEO recommends approval of the 2013-2014 CAPER. Although approval is recommended, FHEO notes the following fair housing concerns to be communicated to the grantee regarding the 2013-2014 CAPER.

FHEO notes that the CAPER does not indicate that the jurisdiction took any affirmative steps to solicit citizen participation from racial, ethnic, and religious minorities, families with children, or persons with disabilities. FHEO is advising the jurisdiction that its CAPER should include specific actions taken to encourage public participation, by people of all races and ethnicities, people with disabilities, female-headed households, and families with minor children.

FHEO notes that the jurisdiction's activities for the subject program year did not address some of the fair housing impediments identified in the jurisdiction's Analysis of Impediments (AI). Said impediments include, but are not necessarily limited to: the need for the jurisdiction to incorporate fair-housing and affordable-housing concerns into its zoning process; failure to analyze whether group homes hosting individuals with disabilities are clustered within particular neighborhoods within the jurisdiction; and lack of fair housing awareness among landlords and property managers within the jurisdiction. According to 24 CFR § 570.601 and the AFFH certification, the jurisdiction is obligated to conduct its programs in a manner that will affirmatively further fair housing. Such obligation includes addressing fair housing impediments identified in its AI. FHEO cautions the jurisdiction that failure to address said impediments may result in disapproval of future CDBG-related planning documents.

The Murfreesboro Program Year 2014-2015 CAPER will be reviewed in specific for the concerns noted above. Zachary D. Blair, Equal Opportunity Specialist, will contact the grantee

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within 30 days of receipt of this letter to offer technical assistance to ensure that future submissions correctly reflect the grantee's effort. In the meantime, Mr. Blair can be reached at zachary.d.blair@hud.gov or at 615-515-8597.

CODE KEY: DD5

RISK FACTOR KEY: HRC7

STATUS CODE: N

cc:

LaLonnie McKenzie, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Equal Opportunity Assistant,
Knoxville Field Office, 4JES