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GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces DDAs and QCTs for 2022

Today in the Federal Register, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published a notice announcing the 2022 difficult development area (DDA) designations and qualified census tracts (QCTs) for the low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) program. LIHTC properties developed in areas with a DDA or QCT designation are eligible to receive up to a 30 percent basis boost. HUD makes new DDA and QCT designations annually on the basis of income and fair market rent (FMR) data. The 2022 QCTs and DDAs are effective for allocations of credit or if the bonds are issued and the building is placed in service after December 31, 2021. An explanation of the effective date for other circumstances can be found in part VII of the notice.

As in the past, the notice does not actually contain the revised lists of QCTs and DDAs. Instead, the data and other supplementary information are available on this page at PD&R's website.

HUD Takes Actions to Help Prevent Evictions

In an email yesterday, HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) announced that the Department and its partners are taking a broad range of actions to help prevent evictions in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that invalidated the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) eviction moratorium. The actions include:

- Fighting unfair evictions: HUD is making over \$19 million available to fair housing partners to help them respond to possible fair housing violations, many of which relate to the COVID-19 pandemic and evictions.
- Providing legal assistance: HUD is making \$20 million available to nonprofit or governmental entities to improve the availability of legal assistance at no cost to lowincome tenants at risk of or subject to eviction.
- Keeping people housed: HUD will act to require PHAs and owners participating in HUD's project-based rental assistance program to provide tenants facing eviction for nonpayment of rent with additional time and other protections. For the duration of the presidentially declared national emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD will extend the time its programmatic regulations require before a tenant must vacate a unit once a notice of lease termination for nonpayment has been issued from 14 days to 30 days, consistent with CARES Act protections.
- · Connecting people with rent and utility relief: HUD is working with the Department of <u>Treasury</u> to help Emergency Rental Assistance Program (<u>ERAP</u>) grantees connect tenants behind on rent and utilities with financial assistance.
- Providing tools to help PHAs, HUD-assisted landlords and tenants, and people experiencing homelessness: HUD program offices have hosted webinars, issued FAQs documents, and granted waivers to ease administrative burdens created by the pandemic. HUD is also distributing relief resources such as Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) and additional assistance to people experiencing homelessness as quickly as possible.

For further information, read the complete announcement and visit the Rent Relief Resources webpage at HUD's website.

HUD Announces Assistance for NJ, NY, and NE Disaster Survivors

In two press releases posted yesterday, HUD announced the implementation of federal disaster assistance for areas in the States of New Jersey and New York impacted by Hurricane Ida, and for areas in the State of Nebraska affected by severe storms and straight-line winds from July 9 to July 10, 2021. Three presidential major disaster declarations issued on September 5 and September 6, 2021, allow HUD to offer assistance to affected families living in impacted communities in New Jersey, New York, and Nebraska. Effective immediately, for the three states, the Department will:

- Grant a <u>90-day moratorium</u> on foreclosures of FHA-insured homes
- Make mortgage insurance available under <u>HUD's Section 203(h)</u> program
- Make insurance available for both mortgages and home rehabilitation under HUD's Section 203(k) program
- Make <u>information on housing providers</u> and HUD programs available
- Provide flexibility to PHAs, which can apply for needed administrative flexibility through disaster waivers. Click here to see the notice for PHAs on disaster waivers and administrative flexibilities.
- Ensure <u>HUD-approved housing counseling agencies</u> are ready to assist
- Assist with housing discrimination

For New Jersey and New York, HUD will issue regulatory waivers to allow communities more flexibility to use their existing Community Development Block Grant, Continuum of Care, HOME, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, and Emergency Solutions Grant funds.

Click here for more information about disaster resources.



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