



THE CITY OF
SAN FERNANDO

CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR
JOEL FAJARDO

July 2, 2019

VICE MAYOR
SYLVIA BALLIN

The Honorable Ben Carson
Secretary

COUNCILMEMBER
ROBERT C. GONZALES

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street S.W.

COUNCILMEMBER
ANTONIO LOPEZ

Washington, DC 20410-0001

COUNCILMEMBER
HECTOR ANDRES PACHECO

**SUBJECT: Housing and Community Development Act of 1980 – Proposed Rule
Re: Verification of Eligible Status**

Dear Secretary Carson:

This letter is being sent to express the City of San Fernando's strong opposition to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) proposed changes to section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980.

The proposed rule requires verification of eligible immigration status and specifies that individuals who are not in eligible immigration status may not serve as the leaseholder. It will effectively end assistance to these mixed status families and pose a devastating threat to our most vulnerable residents and their housing stability. For over two decades, the Department has allowed mixed-status families to live in subsidized housing provided at least one person is an eligible resident or citizen.

If implemented, this rule would result in the displacement of thousands of families across the country, including a number of families in San Fernando. It will be particularly impactful for U.S. born children who will be at increased risk of becoming homeless as a direct result of this rule. Los Angeles County is currently facing a homeless crisis. This action will further exacerbate this epidemic in our region and across the country.

This proposal, which follows on the heels of reports of the shameful targeting and substandard treatment of immigrant children at the southern border, further demonstrates how far we have strayed from the core values of this country, which was founded by immigrants. It is also in direct conflict with HUD's mandate to create strong, sustainable, and inclusive communities with quality affordable homes for all.

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SECRETARY BEN CARSON


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For these reasons, the City of San Fernando strongly urges the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to withdraw the proposed rule.

Sincerely,


Joel Fajardo
Mayor


Sylvia Ballin
Vice Mayor


Robert C. Gonzales
Councilmember


Antonio Lopez
Councilmember


Hector A. Pacheco
Councilmember