

Dear [Agency Executive Director],

President Obama has identified technology as an essential component of opportunity and equal access for all Americans. As a Senator, he said the following in a speech on Renewing American Competitiveness: “When kids in downtown Flint or rural Iowa can’t afford or access high-speed Internet, that sets back America’s ability to compete. As President, I will set a simple goal: every American should have the highest speed broadband access – no matter where you live, or how much money you have.” Now President, he has established a Broadband Initiative to make this vision a reality.

In order to best shape this effort, we need to gather information on the state of broadband access in HUD-assisted housing. **I am writing to request the participation of your agency in a study of broadband internet availability and usage in public and HUD-assisted housing.** The study is designed to collect information on the availability of broadband internet service to residents of these projects and the extent to which residents are utilizing broadband. The data collected through this study will support the development of new policies to expand broadband to underserved areas and populations.

Your participation in the study would entail completing and e-mailing/mailling/faxing the attached six-question survey on broadband availability and usage in each of your developments. Your participation is voluntary, but any information provided will be invaluable in developing HUD’s broadband plan. If you have any questions about the survey, please don’t hesitate to contact XXXX at 202-XXX-XXXX or XXX@hud.gov.

Sincerely,