



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-5000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

March 25, 2010

Mr. Ross A. Rutledge
OMB Desk Officer
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Rutledge:

The Department is seeking emergency review of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) requirements contained in the Housing Choice Voucher Program information collection which supports the reporting capacity for the Voucher Management System (VMS). The Notice of Paperwork Submission (copy enclosed), explains the burden of the collection requirements. This is a revision of a previously approved collection.

In compliance with the requirements of 5CFR 1320.13, this letter requests emergency processing within seven days from the date of this letter. This request for emergency processing is essential for the immediate identification and correction of incipient and actual financial shortfalls of Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) that will threaten the participation of qualified families. The Department requests the addition of four fields to VMS as part of our prevention strategy: Net Restricted Assets (NRA), Unrestricted Net Assets (UNA), Cash/Investments, and the number of vouchers issued but not under active housing assistance payments (HAP) contracts.

The reporting enhancements will provide a more complete picture of the PHAs' resources and program activities, promote financial accountability, and improve the PHAs' ability to provide assistance to as many households as possible while maximizing budgets.

The shortened processing period that we are requesting will help facilitate the prompt reporting of information required to identify and provide assistance to PHAs that are serving our most vulnerable demographics.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra B. Henriquez", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Sandra B. Henriquez
Assistant Secretary