



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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JUN 8 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 requirements for a new information collection which supports the issuance of \$40 million dollars available through the Community Challenge Planning Grant Program that was part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117, approved December 16, 2009). The Appropriations Act also provided up to \$35 million to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for its Transportation Planning Grants to be awarded as part of the National Infrastructure Investments program.

HUD and DOT, have decided to issue this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) jointly in order to better align transportation, housing, economic development, and land use planning and to improve linkages between the three Partnership agencies' programs. DOT and HUD also believe this program has the potential to encourage and reward more holistic planning efforts and result in better projects being built with Federal dollars.

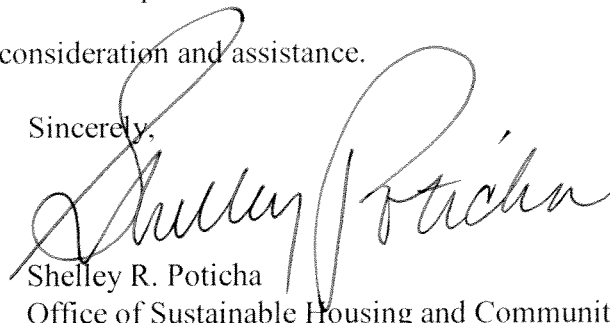
The Community Challenge Planning Grant program is a new program at HUD that requires compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. On the other hand, DOT will be using their current OMB approval number of the National Infrastructure Investment program to issue this NOFA.

The Notice of Paperwork Submission (enclosed), proposed for immediate *Federal Register* publication, which explains the burden of the collection requirements and invites public comments on them.

In compliance with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.13, this letter requests emergency processing, we also request to be allowed to issue the NOFA with a pending OMB approval number. This request for emergency processing is essential because our NOFA requesting pre-applications and applications from the public is intended to be announced on June 21, 2010.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,



Shelley R. Poticha

Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities