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DIRECTOR

69 W. Washington St., Suite 2900 2 Chicago, Illinois 60602 2 (312) 603-1000

July 23, 2019

The Honorable John P. Daley Chairman, Finance Committee Commissioner – 11<sup>th</sup> District Cook County Board of Commissioners 118 N. Clark Street, Room 567 Chicago, IL 60602

Re:

Response to July 18, 2019 Inquiry of FY18 External Audit Findings Report on Federal Awards – Significant and Material Deficiencies

Dear Chairman Daley:

Washington, Pittman and McKeever's Single Audit for FY'18 determined that Cook County's Department of Planning and Development did not adequately document the monitoring of HOME grant sub-recipients – specifically:

- 1) consistent documentation of a subrecipients' risk of noncompliance, and
- 2) a sub-recipient's compliance with federal Wage Rate (Davis Bacon) requirements for the HOME program;

Prior to the auditor's departure, the Department of Planning and Development worked on an acceptable Corrective Action consisting of a monitoring tool/checklist to evaluate and document risks, notifications, review report forms and a monitoring schedule. This corrective action was submitted to and accepted by the County Comptroller and Washington Pittman and McKeever.

Monitoring of HUD's HOME grant sub-recipients is conducted during the summer months. Implementation of specific corrective action tasks and tools began earlier this month. The checklist was used to assess risk. Notices to sub-recipients are being sent this week with an August 8, 2019 deadline established for submission of documents. Pending document reviews, a schedule of tasks (per the Monitoring checklist) will be deployed to ensure grant compliance internally and with grantees.

In addition; the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Chicago Field Office, has scheduled an on-site monitoring visit for this grant the week of August 19, 2019. This will provide staff with additional support and training for the monitoring and

file management aspects of the program, per the grant's federal funder, to correct the conditions underlying the finding within the fiscal year.

Thank you for your concern. Should you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact me at:

(312) 603-1036, susan.campbell@cookcountyil.gov

Sincerely,

Susan M. Campbell, Director

Department of Planning and Development

cc: Lawrence Wilson, Comptroller

Ammar Rizki, Chief Financial Officer

Tanya Anthony, Director, Budget and Management Xochitl Flores, Bureau Chief Economic Development