

## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-0001

NOV 12 2014

THE SECRETARY

Dear Tribal Leader:

Attached for your review and comment is a revised, draft version of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's "Tribal Government-to-Government Consultation Policy."

On November 5, 2009, President Barack Obama signed an Executive Memorandum on Tribal Consultation (President's Memorandum) directing all Executive Departments and Agencies to engage in regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials of federally recognized Indian tribes when developing Federal policies that have tribal implications.

In response, HUD is reassessing its consultation policy, issued in 2001 (66 FR 49784, Sept. 28, 2001). HUD held a series of regional consultations in January 2010, offering tribes the opportunity to review and comment on it. Some tribes commented through HUD's website. Most tribal comments have been related to: (1) the need to define certain terms used in the policy, (2) the need to more clearly emphasize the government-to-government relationship, (3) the need for timeliness to complete proposed actions, and (4) the need to more closely adhere to existing provisions. Based on these comments, HUD has drafted proposed revisions to the policy.

With this letter, the Department now seeks tribal comments, under a second comment period, on the draft revisions of its tribal consultation policy. Please submit your comments by December 16, 2014, to <u>HUDtribalconsultationpolicy@hud.gov</u> or to the following address:

Ms. Emily Wright
Office of Native American Programs
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 4126
Washington, DC 20410

HUD will review these comments, make changes to the document as necessary, and then finalize the draft policy for publication in the *Federal Register*. The *Federal Register* notice will provide another 60-day public comment period for the proposed, revised policy.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Julián Castro