



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Public and Indian Housing

Special Attention of: ONAP Administrators;
Community Development and Tribal Relations
Directors; Indian Tribal Governments; and the
governments of Alaska Native Villages

Notice PIH 96-64 (HA)
Issued: August 14, 1996
Expires: August 31, 1997

Subject: Final Rule - Part 953 - Community Development Block Grants for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages

1. **Purpose.** This Notice transmits a copy of the Final Rule for the Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages.
2. **Background.** This final rule is the end product of a process which began on June 21, 1991, with the publication of a proposed rule. Two interim rules were subsequently published in April 1992 and July 1994. There were several principal reasons for this rule making process. First was the need to implement various statutory mandates included in Section 105 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act as amended by the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. Second, the transfer of the authority for this program to the Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH), specifically the Office of Native American Programs within PIH, provided an impetus for a re-evaluation of various policy determinations which were reflected or embodied in program regulations which had previously been issued by the Office of Community Planning and Development. Finally, this process was seen as an opportunity to provide a means for the clients of this program to make comments and recommendations for changes to a program which has not been substantially revised since its inception in 1978.
3. **Significant Changes.** The regulations have been reviewed and revised to make terminology which was previously more germane to large city urban situation more appropriate to the predominantly rural character of Native American communities and more consistent with the unique legal relationship Indian tribes and Alaska native villages have with the Federal government. To the greatest extent legally permissible and practical, this rule has been made free-standing--all references to Part 570 community development block grant regulations have been removed and replaced with corresponding sections of Part 953, if necessary or appropriate, or eliminated entirely, if unnecessary.
4. **Additional Copies.** Additional copies of the Notice are available from HUD's Direct Distribution Center at 1-800-767-7468.

/s/

Kevin Emanuel Marchman, Acting
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian
Housing

Attachment (not included)
