Analysis of the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey Results

Every day at HUD, more than 8,000 Americans go to work and they make a difference. Because of their work and the work of many others, there are mothers and their children, veterans and seniors, poor and middle class, who have a place to call home tonight. There are young couples who will buy their first home tomorrow morning. And cities—big and small—that will grow stronger because we’re investing in them.

Over the last 50 years a great deal of progress has been made, but we’re nowhere close to being done. To continue creating opportunity for the American people for the next 50 years, we need to strengthen the culture of opportunity at HUD. That begins with our employees. It is easy to issue platitudes that “Employees are our most important assets,” and move on without making any changes in the way you do business. That’s why I’m so grateful for the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey. It provides the data that ensures we are taking real action, not just making announcements. This data keeps us honest, and I’m pleased to share it with the American people.

There are two things that I am very glad to see in our data. The first is our participation rate. We made it clear that we were listening to our employees and that this survey was a chance to be heard. HUD employees responded with record setting participation. The second is our Employee Engagement scores. This data measures HUD employees’ commitment to our work, our willingness to stretch ourselves, our desire to do more for America. This score climbed 5.2 points, more than twice our annual goal. This tells me our employees seeing the opportunities they have to put their skills to work; the opportunity they have to serve.

The next 50 years will hold many challenges for America, for our cities, and for HUD. The Census Bureau projects that by 2050, our nation’s population will grow by 80 million people, 60 million of whom are likely to live in urban areas. We view cities as places of possibility — where creativity and culture flow, where ideas and imagination are brought to life. HUD employees are working every day to make sure those opportunities are open to all Americans. We’re working so that young couple who buys their first house tomorrow morning can do so in a neighborhood with housing, the infrastructure, the transit, the schools, the economic development that they need to build their lives. This is the opportunity we see, and we are ready to make the most of it.