

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY FAIR AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
August 9, 2010**

**Appendix F-3(ii): May 14, 2010 Letter from Deputy County Executive Plunkett to
NYS DHCR Commissioner Lawlor**



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

May 14, 2010

Hon. Brian Lawlor, Commissioner
N.Y.S. Division of Housing & Community Renewal
Chief Executive Officer & President
NY Homes
Hampton Plaza
38-40 State Street
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Commissioner Lawlor:

On behalf of the County Executive, I want to extend our congratulations on your recent appointment as Commissioner of the State Division of Housing and Community Renewal ("DHCR"), and CEO and President of NY Homes. The appointment is testimony to your many years of leadership and commitment to the State's housing programs, particularly in the field of fair and affordable housing.

As I am sure you are aware, Westchester County is undertaking a fair and affordable housing program pursuant to a settlement last year of litigation entitled *United States ex rel Anti-Discrimination Center of MetroNew York, Inc. v. Westchester County, New York*. The previous administration elected to settle the matter by entering into a Stipulation and Order of Settlement (the "Settlement") which calls for the creation of 750 fair and affordable units over seven years. To accomplish this, the County has agreed to make available \$51.6 million in County funds.

In 2009, to comply with the Stipulation and Order of Settlement, the County met with your predecessor and provided comments on the Qualified Allocation Plan. In view of the change in County administration and your new role overseeing a consolidation of the State's housing agencies, we would like the opportunity to meet with you informally and at your convenience, for the purpose of understanding how we can work cooperatively with you in complying with the Settlement.

As illustrative of what the County would discuss with you and your staff, as DHCR and HFA start to develop their Qualified Allocation Plans for the 2011 competitive Low Income Housing Tax Credits ("LIHTC"), the County would like to have input into the priorities for the Plans. Similarly, as the Affordable Housing Corporation ("AHC")

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develops its 2011 priorities for the Acquisition and Rehabilitation program for home ownership opportunities, we would like to provide input.

The economic feasibility of the housing developments we expect to have ready for construction will be largely determined by the availability of tax credits and other programmatic funds from the State in 2011 and thereafter. The State's support is critically important to the County's ability to meet its mandate under the Stipulation to afford wider opportunities for fair housing choice.

To that end, we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss how we might work with you in furtherance of our mutual goals.

Very truly yours,



Kevin J. Plunkett
Deputy County Executive

Cc: Robert P. Astorino, County Executive
Mary J. Mahon, Esq., Senior Assistant to the County Executive