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February 25, 2021

Mr. Stacy L. Spann Executive Director Housing Opportunities Commission 10400 Detrick Avenue Kensington, Maryland 20895

RE: Endorsement of FFY 2021 (HOC FY 2022) PHA Plan

Dear Mr. Spann:

This letter certifies that the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) to the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) of Montgomery County reviewed and discussed the proposed Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 (HOC FY 2022) Annual Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan. Please be advised that the RAB fully supports and endorses the proposed PHA Plan.

We are excited to hear that HOC has completed the conversion of all Public Housing units using the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Component One. By converting HOC's public housing units over to the housing assistance payments programs under Section 8, RAD is helping Montgomery County's low-income residents to have greater flexibility in their housing choices as well as receive renovated, more up-to-date units.

Importantly, however, the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program's funding picture is troublesome. Having a waiting list of over 38,000 households speaks to the need for greater funding than is now available. The HCV program represents the primary hope for affordable housing, especially in an expensive area such as Montgomery County. We hope you can convey the message to HUD that adequate funding is critical and extremely important to meet the housing dilemma faced by so many low-income families.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lakeyia Thompson

President