Mr. Bart Mitchell  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
The Community Builders, Inc.  
95 Berkeley Street, 5th Floor  
Boston, MA 02116-6240  

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

The Department received The Community Builders, Inc.’s (TCB) NSP2 substantial amendment request dated May 16, 2017. The Community Builders, Inc. was originally awarded a Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP2) grant of $78,617,631 from the Department to address targeted multifamily properties located in 9 census tracts.

The Community Builders, Inc. has requested the following amendment:

1.) Approve the City of Cincinnati, Ohio ("City") as a sub-grantee under TCB’s NSP2 Grant for the purpose of establishing a $1,500,000 fund to be known as the Cincinnati Housing Improvement Fund ("CHIF"), which will be funded from TCB’s NSP2 program income.

The Neighborhood Stabilization Program, authorized by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA), provided $3.92 billion (NSP 1) in emergency assistance for the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes allocated on a formula basis to all states and 255 local governments. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) authorized an additional $1.93 billion (NSP2), which the Department allocated through a competitive process among states, units of general local government, nonprofit entities, and consortia of nonprofit entities.

NSP2 is regulated by the above statutes as well as the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for NSP2 which states that: “No amendment to an approved application may be made unless HUD rates the approved application as amended and it scores high enough to have been selected for funding under the NSP2 competition.” HUD convened an NSP2 Amendment Panel and reviewed TCB’s NSP2 amendment request and justification. The Panel discussed each of the 6 NSP2 rating factors and examined how a change in the composition of the area of greatest need targeted by TCB would affect each rating factor.

The Panel determined that the substantial amendment to TCB’s NSP2 action plan would increase the score of the original NSP2 application, and thus the amendment has been approved by HUD, on the condition that TCB continue to work in the states where it had originally proposed to carry out NSP2 activities.

Please contact John Laswick, Deputy Director, Office of Block Grant Assistance, Entitlements, at (202) 402-4521 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stanley Gillmor
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Grant Programs