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October 29, 2012

The Honorable Maurice Jones
Deputy Secretary of the Department of
Housing and Urban Development
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20410

## US ex rel Anti-Discrimination Center v. Westchester County

Dear Secretary Jones:

As the Monitor overseeing the implementation of the consent decree in *United States ex rel Anti-Discrimination Center of Metro New York, Inc. v. Westchester County, New York,* I write to seek funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") in support of a currently unfunded endeavor that goes to the heart of the consent decree: the process and elements of design and development of affordable housing units in Westchester. The requested amount is \$70,000.

Based on my work with one municipality in particular and architects and designers from, among others, WXY Studio and the Parsons School of Design, I believe there is a need for a tool kit, finely attuned to the Westchester design environment, of possible approaches and solutions to design and process issues and request that HUD support the initiative. The effort would involve two elements: (a) development of the tool kit; and (b) technical design support available to the County and the Monitor as each considers particular proposed developments. I seek HUD funding for only the first of these two elements, the development of the design tool kit.

As conceived, the design tool kit process would yield a publication and knowledge base that could, among other things inform the judgments of municipal zoning boards, architectural review boards, commercial and not-for-profit developers, county officials and the Monitor about approaches to developing and designing affordable housing in Westchester. The requested funds would support the work of the several teams whose functions and proposed personnel are set forth below:

• <u>Technical Design Working Group ("Technical Team")</u>: The Technical Team would: develop understanding of common development pathways/hurdles unique to Westchester; plan the procedure by which tool kit will be developed; develop design process models, not design mandates; gather data concerning of community needs from advisors; confer

with advisory committee and other stakeholders; draft design tool kit document. Members of the Technical Team would drawn from architects, planners, academics, developers and, where appropriate former public officials, familiar with Westchester design challenges or best practices in developing and designing affordable housing. The members of the Technical Team would be paid a reasonable fee for their work.

- <u>Community Design Advisory Committee ("Advisory Committee")</u>: The Advisory Committee would be drawn from community stakeholders who would be expected to articulate key issues concerning the development and management of affordable housing.
- Project Coordinating Team: The Project Coordinating Team would be responsible for the overall direction of the initiative and would work closely with the Monitor. Members of the Project Coordinating team would be paid a reasonable fee for their work in connection with the development of the tool kit. The Project Coordinating Team would also have continuing involvement with the Monitor as he considers particular proposed developments. I am seeking other funding to support the latter function.

The requested funding may also be used to pay for reasonable disbursement related to meeting space and logistical support for the foregoing personnel.

I anticipate that the tool kit will be developed by the end of the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2013.

Please let me know whether you have any questions concerning this request.

Very truly yours,

/s/

James E. Johnson