



CITY OF LONG BEACH

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CITY COUNCIL

April 6, 2016

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza, Suite 3541
New York, New York 10278
ATTN: Holly M. Leicht, Regional Administrator
ATTN: Luigi D'Ancona, Public Housing Director

U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza, Suite 1337
New York, New York 10278
ATTN: Jerome Hatfield, Regional Director

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery
25 Beaver St., 5th Floor
New York, New York 10004
ATTN: Lisa Bova-Hiatt, Executive Director

Dear Sirs and Madams:

On March 29, 2016, this office received a report from the organization "ERASE Racism," entitled "North Park: Left Out & Denied – A Study of Remediation Efforts Post Superstorm Sandy." A copy is enclosed for your review.

As you may be aware, the North Park neighborhood of Long Beach includes the Channel Park Homes community that falls under the jurisdiction of the Long Beach Housing Authority and, in turn, the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

This office is aware that HUD's most recent assessments consider the Long Beach Housing Authority to be high performing. Nevertheless, there are issues raised in this report that are of concern – particularly those that relate to critical health and safety issues. We can all agree that those issues must be of paramount importance to us all.

We strongly agree with HUD's mission to "create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all." It is with that mission in mind that we ask for you to:

- Review the enclosed report and provide relevant information and observations;
- Provide us with the full and comprehensive review of the Long Beach Housing Authority's physical, financial, and management assessments;
- Dispatch an engineering team to reevaluate HUD's survey of critical repairs for health and safety concerns;
- Forward any and all annual assessment reports from the past 10 years and future annual assessment reports of the Long Beach Housing Authority to the City administration.

We understand that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the NYS Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) are working to fund storm recovery and mitigation projects at the Long Beach Housing Authority, and we urge both agencies to expedite this process as quickly as possible so that the Long Beach Housing Authority can rebuild properly and with resiliency. We again stress that health and safety concerns must be paramount and addressed expeditiously.

We would like to thank HUD, FEMA, and GOSR in advance for doing everything possible to facilitate the storm recovery process and assist the residents of the Long Beach Housing Authority.

Sincerely,



Len Torres
President



Anthony P. Eramo
Vice President



Eileen J. Goggin
Council Member



Scott J. Mandel
Council Member



Anissa D. Moore
Council Member



Jack Schnirman

CC: Long Beach Housing Authority
ERASE Racism
Concerned Citizens of North Park