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July 3, 2025

Tom Davis
Director of the Office of Recapitalization
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street SW
Washington DC 20110

Mr. Davis:

The City of Mankato fully supports Mankato EDA's plan to submit a RAD/Section 18 Small PHA Blend application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") Office of Recapitalization for Orness Plaza and 29 of its Scattered Site public housing units. The City of Mankato has been in discussion with Mankato EDA about the conversion of its public housing portfolio to Project-Based Voucher Section 8 to stabilize rental income and preserve the units as affordable housing for the long-term.

The City supports Mankato EDA in its efforts and understands that ownership of both Orness Plaza and the Scattered Site units will be transferred to the City of Mankato for less than Fair Market Value. The Mankato EDA will continue to manage the properties and will also be the PBV Contract Administrator. The units will be encumbered with a long-term use restriction and all the residents currently living in Orness Plaza and the Scattered Site units will have the right to remain living in their unit's post-conversion.

The City of Mankato looks forward to being partners with Mankato EDA in affordable housing preservation.

Sincerely,

Najwa Massad
Mayor of the City of Mankato