

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Birmingham Office Region IV Medical Forum Building, Suite 900 950 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, North Birmingham, Alabama 35203-5301

July 26, 2021

Wayne Dyess County Administrator Baldwin County 301 D'Olive Street, Bay Minette, AL 36507

SUBJECT: Eligibility for Urban County Entitlement Status Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Dear County Commissioner Dyess,

This letter is to advise you that Baldwin County, Alabama has been identified by the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Community Planning and Development Division as an eligible Urban County. The planning target grant amount for Baldwin County for fiscal year 2022 is \$1,159,100. Should you choose to accept Urban County Entitlement status for fiscal year 2022, please select one of the options listed below and respond to this office both by mail and electronically by September 10, 2021.

- (1) Accept the status as an Urban County Entitlement grantee.
- (2) Defer status as an Urban County Entitlement grantee and participate through the State CDBG program.

If the County chooses to accept Urban County Entitlement status, it will have to choose a program year start date (between January and October 2022), develop a Consolidated/Action Plan and submit it to HUD. In developing a Consolidated Plan, it is important that the jurisdiction has sufficient time to develop a housing market analysis and meet the citizen participation requirements of 24 Code of Regulations (CFR) Part 91. If the County wishes to use January 1, 2022, as your program year start date, but you are concerned that there will not be adequate time to develop a Consolidated Plan for submission, you can take advantage of the provision at 24 CFR Part 91.10(b), which provides for program years to be changed. Therefore, you could initially use a later program year start date to allow for completion of the Consolidated Plan and then change the program year start date.

The County can choose to defer its status and have the opportunity to accept Urban County Entitlement status in the future year, provided that it continues to meet the statutory and regulatory criteria for such designation in effect at that time. Please direct all written and electronic correspondence to the attention of Renee Ryles, Acting Director, Community Planning and Development Division.

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality, affordable homes for all.

If you have any questions pertaining to this correspondence, you may contact Karen A. Morris, CPD Program Manager at <a href="mailto:Karen.A.Morris@hud.gov">Karen.A.Morris@hud.gov</a> or by phone at (205) 745-4366.

Sincerely,

Renee D Ryles

Renee Ryles Acting CPD Director Community Planning and Development