

Chris Austin

From: MaryAnn Sloan [masloan1@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 4:59 PM
To: Scott Farmer
Cc: Chris Austin; Tara Hall
Subject: QAP comments

Scott Farmer

North Carolina Housing Finance Agency
P.O. Box 28066
Raleigh, NC 27611-8066

Dear Scott,

We are writing to suggest the criteria for qualifying grocery stores be enhanced. Specifically, there are entire towns and rural economic centers that can support and genuinely need affordable rental housing yet have no grocery store currently on the QAP list. This, in fact, is the issue we face here in Highlands and this factor alone precludes us from realizing affordable workforce housing.

We request that for such areas, where it can be demonstrated that there is no grocery store in the QAP's list for the entire town or area, that the applicant be allowed to submit specific local store(s) for approval, perhaps in advance of the Preliminary Application. In doing so, they must demonstrate criteria such as:

- a full range of produce, meat, dairy, and non-perishable foods is available as well as basic household goods (paper products, detergents, etc)
- that the store is open at least 6 days a week and for a minimum of 10 hours each day
- that the store demonstrate its sustainability by having been in existence for 5 years or more

Most small rural communities probably have a store that meets this criteria, and there are many small rural communities which need affordable housing that cannot compete using the current criteria.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn Sloan
185 Shortoff Ln
Highlands, NC 28741

John R Mayer
Attorney at Law PLLC
PO Box 750
Highlands, C 28741

Donald C Mullen
MD, M.Div., Former Mayor, Highlands
51 Lower Brushy Face Circle
Highlands, NC 28741

Patrick Taylor
Mayor-Elect, Highlands
105 Pinecrest Rd

Highlands, NC 28741

William J Rea, Jr
ReaVentures Group, LLC
PO Box 1259
Highlands, NC 28741

King Young
PO Box 1887
Highlands, NC 28741