



September 29, 2021

NC Housing Finance Agency  
Attention: Ms. Tara Hall and Mr. Scott Farmer  
3508 Bush Street  
Raleigh, NC 27609

Re: NC Housing Finance Agency's 2022 Qualified Action Plan

Dear Ms. Hall and Mr. Farmer,

On behalf of the Blue Zones Project (BZP) Brevard, I am writing to express support the following revisions to the 2022 Qualified Allocation Plan:

- Add Transylvania County to QAP Section II.B.3.(b) "County Award Limits" such that no less than one award will be made in Transylvania County in the West region from the 2022 allocation.
- Add Transylvania County to the chart in QAP Section II.B.3.c. "Disaster Recovery Funds"

As the Senior Community Program Manager for Blue Zones Project (BZP) Brevard, the 50<sup>th</sup> BZP community in North America, I am responsible for ensuring that specific built environment policies are successfully accomplished. Our work is evidence based and data driven as we seek ways to improve the health of individuals and the community by making healthy choices the easier choices. Supporting efforts to increase the amount of affordable – workforce housing was identified as one the most important built environment strategies following an extensive discovery process. Over the past several months, BZP Brevard has assisted the City of Brevard with work related to better understanding the affordable – workforce housing dilemma (please see the attached documents to better understand the concerns).

Tropical Storm Fred and the subsequent flooding that occurred on August 17, 2021 devastated many areas of the County and resulted in the loss of housing. Unfortunately, finding affordable – workforce housing in Transylvania County, the City of Brevard, and Town of Rosman is, even before Tropical Storm Fred, a challenge. The proposed revisions would help Transylvania County and both the City of Brevard and Town of Rosman a greater opportunity to positively affect change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark R. Burrows".

Mark R. Burrows, AICP

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