



The Honorable [Congressional Representative]
United States House of Representatives
1541 Longworth House Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

February 9, 2009

Dear Representative:

I am writing to you regarding the potential benefit **Project-Based Section 8 properties in your district could have from the use of funds in the Economic Stimulus Package**. These Project-Based Section 8 Properties continue to receive federal investment and have proven to be a vital attribute in our community. I believe that further investment into these properties, with resources from the Stimulus package, would prove to be extremely beneficial.

As you know, this Stimulus bill surrounds construction of "Infrastructure." As investment in our roads, bridges, water systems, and utility grids will be of great benefit to Illinois, we consider affordable housing to be a critical component of our state's infrastructure, as well. Too many of our fellow residents have been struggling with rising rents and home prices over the last decade, without commensurate increases in income.

While Congress is determining the final details of the second stimulus package, we request that a portion of this funding be used to build new or improve existing affordable housing. While Illinois needs funding for basic services and safety net provisions, we believe that affordable housing provides the stability that families and individuals need to overcome struggles and in turn can fuel our economic recovery.

The economic benefit is striking. According to a recent study by the National Association of Homebuilders, a typical 100 unit multifamily project creates: 116 new jobs, \$8.6 million in income from related industries, and \$3.3 million in tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

As this Economic Crisis worsens, and more people continue to lose their homes, nothing can be more certain than recognizing that strong communities need affordable housing. These Project- Based Section 8 properties continue to remain affordable, which is crucial when the need for affordable homes is greater than ever. For your convenience, I have attached a sample of Project-Based Section 8 properties in your community that could benefit from these funds. Please let me know if you would like to see full list of Project-Based Section 8 properties.

Sincerely,

Gene' Moreno
Policy Director
Chicago Rehab Network