OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT

November 10, 2022

Marc Dones, Chief Executive Officer
King County Regional Homeless Authority
400 Yesler Way
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Marc:

I am writing both to recognize the progress that the King County Regional Homeless Authority (KCRHA) and its many partners have made in housing people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and to clarify some requirements related to Coordinated Entry (CE).

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) supports communities in their work to end homelessness, especially unsheltered homelessness, by finding sustainable housing for every household experiencing homelessness. The Seattle-King County Continuum of Care's support for Emergency Housing Voucher implementation and recent steps to develop a Housing Central Command (HCC) are very positive steps, and I'd like to commend KCRHA for its leadership.

At the same time, it has come to our attention that some Continuum of Care (CoC) funded projects in the Seattle-King CoC are bypassing the CE System required by 24 CFR 578.7(a)(8) through a process known as "External Fill". Use of the CoC's CE System is required under 24 CFR 578.23(c)(9) for all CoC funded projects, and this process does not appear to meet this requirement. We urge you to ensure that all CoC projects comply with the CE requirements as soon as possible--other than for the exceptions provided for projects serving people fleeing Domestic Violence, all referrals are coming from the CE System. The availability of technical assistance from SNAPS for HCC offers a great opportunity to get any support the CoC and other partners need to come into compliance. Please contact me if you need any other technical assistance, support or if you have any questions.

Thank you for your interest in the Department's programs.

Sincerely,

Norm Suchar
Director
Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs

cc: Jack Peters, CPD Field Office Director, Seattle