

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-3000

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

JUN - 4 2009

6/16M

Mr. Carl Malamud President and CEO Public.Resource.Org 1005 Gravenstein Highway North Sebastopol, CA 95472

RE:

Freedom of Information Act Request

FOIA Control Nos.: 09-FI-HQ-01586 and FI-478396

Dear Mr. Malamud:

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This letter acknowledges the Department of Housing and Urban Development's receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated May 20, 2009. Your request was received in the Department's FOIA Office on May 26, 2009.

Pursuant to the FOIA, 5 USC 552(a)(6)(A)(i), once HUD properly receives a FOIA request, the Department has 20 working days within which to make a determination on the request unless unusual circumstances exist. Under unusual circumstances, such as an agency's backlog, or the need to examine a voluminous amount of records required by the request, HUD can extend the 20-day time limit for processing a request. As of June 1, 2009, HUD's FOIA Office had 230 open FOIA requests. Based upon HUD's experience and current inventory, it is estimated that it may take approximately 30 days to complete processing of your request.

HUD's policy is to process FOIA requests using "multi-track processing," which allows the Department to process FOIA requests on a first-in/first-out basis, within each track. HUD places FOIA requests in its routine or complex track based on the amount of work and time involved in processing the request. The criteria for assignment to a specific track are found in HUD's FOIA regulations, 24 CFR 15.105(a), which were published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on January 22, 2001, at 66 FR 6964. Your request is being processed on the routine track. Please note that upon further evaluation of your request, you may be notified that your request has been transferred to another track.

The Department will comply with your request to the extent permissible by law. Any records not subject to an exemption will be forwarded to you promptly upon the completion of HUD's search and review process. Your request has been assigned to Ms. Joan Gill for processing. If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Ms. Gill at (202) 402-5082.

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

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. O'Connor

**Executive Secretary**