

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)  
BETWEEN  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN (HUD)  
DEVELOPMENT  
AND  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (DOI)**

**I. PURPOSE**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a formal partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) to explore and implement strategies for utilizing federal land to address the nation's housing affordability crisis. Through collaboration, the agencies will identify underutilized federal lands suitable for residential development, streamline land transfer processes, and promote policies that increase the availability of affordable housing while balancing environmental and land-use considerations.

**II. AUTHORITY**

This MOU is executed pursuant to the statutory authorities of both agencies, including but not limited to:

- a. **HUD's Authority:** The U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. § 1437 et seq.), the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.), the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. § 5301 et seq.), and other relevant housing and urban development laws.
- b. **DOI's Authority:** The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.), and other relevant public lands and conservation statutes.

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### III. OBJECTIVES

- a. **Identifying Available Federal Land:** DOI will conduct an inventory of federally owned lands under its jurisdiction that may be suitable for residential development. DOI and HUD will work together to evaluate lands that can be repurposed for housing while maintaining environmental stewardship.
  - b. **Streamlining Land Transfers and Lease Agreements:** DOI will develop mechanisms for transferring or leasing federal land to state and local governments, public housing authorities, and nonprofit housing developers for affordable housing projects. HUD will provide guidance on housing needs and collaborate with local jurisdictions to ensure that transferred land is used effectively for affordable housing initiatives.
  - c. **Supporting Infrastructure and Development Readiness:** HUD and DOI will coordinate with other federal agencies to secure funding and support for infrastructure, such as roads, utilities, and public services, necessary to make federal lands viable for housing. DOI will assess environmental impact concerns and work with HUD to implement mitigation strategies as needed.
  - d. **Promoting Sustainable and Affordable Housing Solutions:** HUD will provide policy recommendations and funding support to encourage innovative and sustainable housing solutions, such as modular housing and mixed-use developments. DOI will ensure that land use aligns with conservation goals while prioritizing responsible residential development.
  - e. **Engaging with State, Local, and Tribal Governments:** DOI and HUD will collaborate with state, local, and tribal governments to facilitate partnerships and
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ensure that housing projects meet local needs. Special attention will be given to rural and tribal areas where housing shortages are particularly severe.

#### **IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### **a. HUD Responsibilities:**

- Assess the housing needs in areas where federal land may be made available.
- Develop and implement housing programs that leverage federal land resources.
- Provide technical assistance and funding support to state and local governments for housing development on federal lands.
- Work with DOI to ensure that housing developments align with national housing policies and affordability goals.

##### **b. DOI Responsibilities:**

- Conduct an inventory of available federal lands and assess their suitability for residential development.
- Facilitate the transfer or lease of federal land for housing projects in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Ensure environmental and cultural resource considerations are addressed in land-use decisions.
- Collaborate with HUD to streamline regulatory processes for developing housing on federal lands.

#### **V. IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING**

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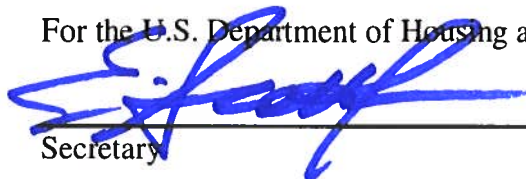
A Joint Task Force on Federal Land for Housing will be established, consisting of representatives from HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research, HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development, DOI's Bureau of Land Management (BLM), DOI's National Park Service (NPS), and DOI's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The task force will meet quarterly to review progress, evaluate land transfer opportunities, and address any challenges. An annual report will be submitted to the National Economic Council by April 15th detailing the number of land parcels identified, the number of housing units developed, infrastructure progress, and any policy recommendations for improving the program.

## **VI. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

All actions under this MOU must comply with applicable laws. Any land transfers or lease agreements will be executed in accordance with DOI and HUD statutory authorities and regulatory requirements.

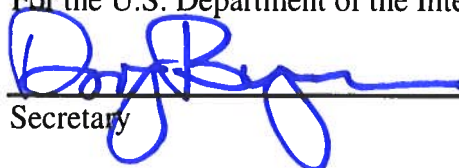
## **VII. SIGNATURES**

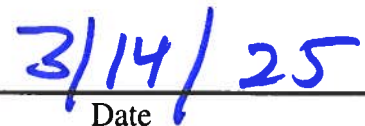
For the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

  
Secretary

  
Date

For the U.S. Department of the Interior

  
Secretary

  
Date