

From: Rafe Rabalais [<mailto:rabalais@gchp.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2014 5:49 PM
To: Steve Auger; Ken Reecy
Subject: Proximity points for forthcoming 9% funding round

Good afternoon:

While the draft RFA/QAP for the forthcoming 9% funding round has not yet been released, we would like to provide several suggestions regarding the allocation of proximity points based on recent RFA's that Florida Housing has released. My concern is primarily with Medium Counties, though at least some of my comments may be applicable to counties of any size. In no particular order, here they are:

- The grocery store requirement establishes a minimum size threshold of 4,500 square feet. In many Qualified Census Tracts however, groceries are provided at smaller, independently owned—though still fully licensed—grocery stores. As the definition of grocery store that Florida Housing uses already requires that stores be FDACS certified, we would like to see the minimum size threshold eliminated.
- In many Medium Counties, there are extremely few opportunities to meet the definition of Public Bus Transfer Stop, as few systems have stops where three or more routes converge. Because of the limited transit service in many Medium Counties, we would prefer that the definition of Transfer Stop for Medium Counties be changed to a stop with at least two transit routes rather than three.
- The present scoring system does not allocate any proximity points for schools. Proximity to schools is a key amenity for Family developments. We would like to see some allocation of points for proximity to schools.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Rafe Rabalais
Project Manager
Gulf Coast Housing Partnership
1610A Oretha Castle Haley Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70113
(504)525-2505 x 209

