

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

The undersigned organizations enthusiastically support the nominations of Brian D. Montgomery for Deputy Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and David C. Woll, Jr., for Assistant Secretary of the Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD). We urge votes on their nominations by the full Senate as soon as possible.

Mr. Montgomery's long and comprehensive experience at HUD will greatly benefit the administration of the Department. While serving as Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Commissioner from 2005 to mid-2009 – under both the George W. Bush and Obama Administrations – Mr. Montgomery realized the immense counter-cyclical benefits that FHA can provide in the middle of the housing crisis. He also led HUD's response to Hurricane Katrina and chaired the Hurricane Recovery and Response Center at HUD headquarters. Mr. Montgomery's current role as FHA Commissioner has led to significant program changes, including implementing improved FHA condominium rules and the new False Claims Act protocol. In his dual capacity as acting Deputy Secretary of HUD he has overseen the increasingly sound financial health of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, which now has a 4.84% capital reserve ratio – more than double the level required by statute.

Mr. Woll is already a great asset to the Department, having dutifully served HUD in various capacities. As the current Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of CPD, he is immersed in the office's mission to support and encourage affordable housing and economic development in low- and moderate-income communities. He is a long-time public servant, having held counsel positions with HUD, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, and worked on disaster recovery for the Governor of New Jersey in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. This extensive experience will serve the beneficiaries of CPD well.

We strongly support the nominations of Brian D. Montgomery and David C. Woll, Jr., and implore you to send his nomination to the Senate floor with haste.