



Federal Housing Finance Agency

MEMORANDUM

MEETING PURPOSE/OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this meeting was for Freddie Mac to submit formal verbal comments to FHFA regarding the Duty to Serve Colonia Notice of Proposed Rule published on November 5, 2022.

DATE: November 17, 2022

TIME: 9:30 AM-10:00 AM

LOCATION: Online via Microsoft Teams

PARTICIPANTS: FHFA: Ted Wartell, Marcea Barringer, Arun Barman, Toi Roberts, Eric Howard, Dinah Knight, Sharon Like, Lauren Boyd
Freddie Mac: Simone Beaty, Dana Gould

At the beginning of the call, prior to Freddie Mac providing its comments, FHFA explained that FHFA staff would be taking notes and would prepare and post a summary of Freddie Mac's comments in the public comments file on FHFA.gov for the Proposed Rule.

Freddie Mac stated that it appreciated the opportunity to comment on FHFA's Proposed Rule, which would add a definition of "colonia census tract" and amend the definition of "rural" to include colonia census tracts regardless of their location.

Freddie Mac stated that it fully supports the Proposed Rule. Freddie Mac acknowledged the extensive analysis, testing, and stakeholder feedback, and stated that the proposal would provide a reliable mechanism to provide more targeted and efficient delivery of loans to long-overlooked colonia communities. Freddie Mac added that no strategy is perfect, but this strategy takes into consideration research and public input.

Freddie Mac stated that it anticipates that there will be an FHFA-prepared data file that includes all eligible colonia census tracts that will be posted on the FHFA website similar to the current data file for Middle Appalachia and the Lower Mississippi Delta. Freddie Mac requested that the data file distinguish colonia census tracts that would have satisfied the previous "rural area" definition from colonia census tracts that would only satisfy a revised "rural area" definition if FHFA would like to collect that information from the Enterprises in the future.

Freddie Mac also requested a three-month implementation timeframe after the data file is posted to give it enough time to update its reporting platform to be able to accurately report on loan purchases in colonia census tracts.