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**Congress of the United States**  
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November 1, 2016

Julián Castro  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Castro,

I am writing to urge your full consideration of the Denver Housing Authority's application for a Choice Neighborhoods Implementation (CNI) Grant. If approved, the funds would be used to speed the completion of the Sun Valley Homes Redevelopment project.

The Denver Housing Authority has a proven history of leveraging federal funding for community revitalization efforts. My understanding is that a \$30 million CNI grant would be used to replace the existing 333 distressed Sun Valley Homes units which will be redeveloped under a mixed-income, mixed-finance model resulting into 750 new rental units. The overall plan also calls for other critical community investments to include public safety, economic development, recreational opportunities, and environmental sustainability.

The lack of affordable housing in Denver is one of the city's greatest challenges. Denver is quickly growing and has seen double digit percent rent increases for the past several years. This has resulted in a significant number of low and moderate income individuals and families to no longer be able to afford housing in the city. The CNI grant would expedite a major affordable housing project for the citizens of Denver.

I encourage you to give the Denver Housing Authority's grant application every appropriate consideration consistent with all applicable laws and regulations. Thank you for your attention, and please notify our office of any funds awarded.

Sincerely,



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress