



Homes and Community Renewal

Housing
Trust Fund
Corporation

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

RUTHANNE VISNAUSKAS
Commissioner/CEO

June 18, 2025

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of the State of New York
The Capitol, Executive Chamber
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

Pursuant to Section 170 of the Executive Law, I am submitting this response to the recommendations for corrective action in the Office of the State Comptroller's Report 2023-S-53, Housing Trust Fund Corporation: Oversight of the Rural Rental Assistance Program.

Sincerely,

RuthAnne Visnauskas
Commissioner/CEO

cc: Honorable Thomas P. DiNapoli, Comptroller, State of New York
Honorable Antonio Delgado, NYS Senate President
Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins, NYS Senate President Pro Tempore and Majority Leader
Honorable Robert G. Ort, NYS Senate Minority Leader
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senate Chair, Finance Committee
Honorable Thomas O'Mara, NYS Senate Ranking Minority Member, Finance Committee
Honorable Carl E. Heastie, NYS Assembly Speaker
Honorable Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, NYS Assembly Majority Leader
Honorable William A. Barclay, NYS Assembly Minority Leader
Honorable J. Gary Pretlow, NYS Assembly Chair, Ways and Means Committee
Honorable Edward P. Ra, NYS Assembly Ranking Minority Member, Ways and Means Committee

Recommendation 1. “Obtain and continue to receive the results of USDA triennial supervisory reviews in accordance with the MOU.”

Based on discussions with staff, the USDA Rural Development (USDA RD) office has not been conducting triennial supervisory reviews on a regular basis due to staffing limitations.

Recommendation 2: “Work with USDA to clarify language in the MOU to reflect current practices, including but not limited to, providing HTFC with the results of reviews conducted by USDA’s contractor.”

A draft revised MOU was submitted to USDA RD on February 5, 2025. HTFC has not received a formal response yet.