



CITY OF CARPINTERIA

Members of the City Council
Mayor Natalia Alarcon
Vice Mayor Mónica Solórzano
Councilmember Al Clark
Councilmember Julia Mayer
Councilmember Wade T. Nomura

April 29, 2026

Office of the General Counsel
Rules Docket Clerk
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street, SW, Room 10276
Washington, DC 20410-0500

RE: DOCKET NO. FR-6524-P-01
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1980: VERIFICATION OF
ELIGIBLE STATUS

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Carpinteria expresses its opposition to HUD's proposed rule titled *Housing and Community Development Act of 1980: Verification of Eligible Status*.

This proposed rule is not an abstract federal policy issue for our community. It would have direct and harmful consequences for families living right here in the City of Carpinteria.

According to local data summarized by our Housing Authorities, Santa Barbara County is home to approximately **302 mixed-status families** currently receiving lawful federal housing assistance. These households include **587 children**, the vast majority of whom are U.S. citizens.

Under current law, these families already comply with federal requirements. Assistance is prorated so that ***no federal subsidy is provided on behalf of ineligible household members***. Eligible family members receive assistance; ineligible members do not.

The proposed rule would eliminate this long-standing framework and force families into impossible choices:

- Family separation
- Loss of housing assistance
- Increased risk of eviction and homelessness

Santa Barbara County is one of the least affordable housing markets in the country. Many of the families affected have extremely low incomes. Without housing assistance, remaining housed would simply be impossible.

The consequences would not be limited to individual families. Our entire community would feel the effects:

- Increased homelessness
- Greater pressure on shelters and services
- Disruptions to children's education
- Greater strain on local resources

Mixed-status families are part of the City of Carpinteria community. They are our neighbors, coworkers, classmates, caregivers, and essential workers.

Current law already ensures that federal assistance is provided only to eligible individuals. This rule does not correct improper subsidy payments. Instead, it removes housing stability from eligible family members — including children.

Housing policy should prioritize stability, not displacement.

The City of Carpinteria respectfully urges HUD to withdraw the proposed rule in its entirety. However, should HUD elect to proceed, any regulatory modifications must apply prospectively only, to future applicants, and not to current tenants or participants who relied in good faith on long-standing regulations.

Sincerely,



Natalia Alarcon, Mayor
City of Carpinteria