



Some Comments Emailed to PHA Regarding PETRA Speech, November 8, 2010

From Tony O’Leary, Executive Director, Akron Ohio: I read this and my deputy director and I watched the YouTube of the program-and give a 100% thumbs up. Jon was thoughtful, respectful but made all the key points about what is lacking with PETRA under its various versions. We truly appreciate the time, research and quality of Jon’s presentation. My guess is it will do more to guide Congress than the Administration who seems to be pushing it at all costs regardless of whether it responds to the right issues. Thanks for sharing the written remarks; it will be helpful to us as reference.

From MaryAnn Russ, Executive Director, Dallas Texas: This is an eloquent and well-reasoned argument. It is my sincere hope that HUD and Congress will really give this issue the level of attention that Mr. Gutzmann has. I hope this, but I also doubt it. I know of no member of Congress with Mr. Gutzmann’s moral clarity. We can wish, though.

From NAHRO: Excellent presentation. Hit’s the nail on the head. Thanks Jon for all of us on the Community Revitalization and Development committee of NAHRO.

From Preston Prince, Executive Director, Fresno California: I am very impressed by the thoughtful and comprehensive approach. I love the “200 questions”. JON! Yes, I am shouting your name. I visited your site and saw more than a few items that I will read.

From PHADA: Donovan was on my flight and I talked briefly to him. He said Jon was a “constructive critic.” Unfortunately, HUD is very difficult to reach on the resident choice issue and seems to have its head buried in the sand in regard to the rent-setting issues.

From St. Paul PHA Commissioner Missy Thompson: You did an extraordinary job with your presentation at the Conference on Monday. You articulated concerns with respect and knowledge, while being quite firm in asking some of the tough questions. It was very apparent to all attendees the high regard in which HUD (and Representative Ellison) places the St. Paul PHA. I am so proud to be part of this organization. Thanks to all the staff and to you for impressive work. Missy Thompson

From Greg Russ, Executive Director, Cambridge Massachusetts: Jon I read your excellent comments to the Sect. on PETRA's short comings. Jeff Lines and I have been working up some ideas that might get to some of the shortfalls in the PETRA approach. Attached is a draft paper we have started circulating and if you have an opportunity would love for you to read this over and provide us with some comments. Thanks in advance.

Additional coverage in Sherwood News, local media, etc.