



NATIONAL LOW INCOME
HOUSING COALITION

*Dedicated solely to ending America's
affordable housing crisis*

RegWatch Project

NLIHC is expanding its monitoring of federal regulatory actions, with a focus on preservation.

The purpose of RegWatch is to prevent regulatory actions that will reduce the stock of public and assisted housing. RegWatch will monitor public housing, project-based Section 8, Sections 236 and 221(d)(3), HOME, HOPE VI, Tax Credits, and USDA 515.

RegWatch has five basic components:

- A.** Tracking all HUD and USDA policy and administrative actions, such as proposed regulations and formal policy notices, affecting the existing affordable stock.
 - Analyzing and summarizing these policies in order to inform state and local organizations, as well as national allies.
 - Submitting formal comments to HUD or USDA.
 - Encouraging state, local, and national partners to submit formal comments.
 - Engaging NLIHC's "Saving Housing Resources" committee and establishing a working group of organizations not currently active in preservation advocacy.
 - Creating a RegWatch section on the NLIHC web site.
- B.** Developing and sustaining relationships with HUD and USDA staff in order to ensure participation by advocates and residents at HUD- and USDA-convened meetings and informal consultations.
- C.** Promoting the addition of language fostering preservation in localities' federally required planning documents, including ConPlans, PHA Plans, Continuum of Care Plans, Ten Year Plans to End Homelessness, and Qualified Allocation Plans.
 - Developing a manual and other materials about such plans.
 - Training advocates and residents at state and local housing conferences.
- D.** Assessing the feasibility of developing a comprehensive catalogue of existing federally assisted housing stock for each jurisdiction.
 - Testing feasibility in the first year by cataloguing units in DC and one other jurisdiction.
 - Convening a working group of NLIHC's local, state, and national partners to identify and assess existing catalogues and to develop a framework for a new comprehensive catalogue that will be continuously updated and publicly accessible in tabular and map form.
- E.** Establishing a communications mechanism that enables advocates in the field (as well as HUD and USDA staff) to report on HUD and USDA actions at the local and state level that threaten the existing housing stock.
 - Identifying local practices, including disconnects between HUD Headquarters guidance and Field Office practice, which lead to consistent problems.
 - Compiling and publicizing all threats.
 - Convening key actors to develop responses to specific threats.

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