From: Handelman, Ethan D <<u>Ethan.D.Handelman@hud.gov</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:50 AM
To: HSNG\_MF\_ALL STAFF <<u>HSNG\_MF\_ALLSTAFF@hud.gov</u>>
Subject: Notifications for eligibility for expanded routine telework

Dear Multifamily Team,

Later today, Multifamily's AFGE and non-bargaining unit employees will receive notification of their eligibility for expanded routine telework under the agency's new Flexiplace policy. I am excited that we are able to extend to you this additional flexibility for up to 8 days a pay period of telework. This is a major expansion of telework for Multifamily managers and staff. It will allow us to take advantage of the many benefits of telework that became even clearer during the pandemic, while maintaining space for the regular in-person collaboration, site visits, and meetings with key internal and external stakeholders that are so critical to our work.

Nearly all Multifamily staff will receive the same notification of eligibility for expanded routine telework. A few, like me, will be in the office most days. We did not designate any Multifamily positions for remote work, because we concluded that regular in-person collaboration, site visits, and meetings for building and sustaining relationships are essential to our duties. Some of what sustained us through the pandemic has been the relationships built previously through in-person collaboration. Future interactions in-person will be essential to sustain and expand that capacity.

We understand that the new form to submit updated telework agreements will be available tomorrow. I encourage you to work with your supervisor to determine a telework plan that will work for you and will meet the business needs of your team. We will support our supervisors in ensuring that requests are processed quickly, in accordance with the new Flexiplace policy guidance.

We look forward to providing further information to NFFE employees as soon as their bargaining is complete.

Thank you all for your continued work to make housing a source of stability for people and communities.

-Ethan

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