

The Town of Warrenton P.O. Box 341 Warrenton, VA 20188 P (540) 347-1101 F (540) 349-2414

May 2, 2023

Ms. Charlsie "Jeanie" Barbrow, Director United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Single Family Home Program Jeanie.barbrow@usda.gov

RE: Comment Letter Regarding Notice of Changes to Eligible Area Maps

Town of Warrenton, VA

Dear Ms. Barbrow:

I am writing to respectfully request that the rural designation from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Town of Warrenton and Fauquier County be retained during the current review process. This designation is critical for helping families achieve the dream of attainable homeownership by providing 100% financing options in this incredibly competitive real estate market.

It has come to our attention that a list was recently issued which proposed removing the Town of Warrenton and Fauquier County from USDA Rural Development eligibility, which includes access to the Guaranteed Loan Program. Rural Development is the best 100% financing option available and results in the lowest monthly mortgage payment, lowest mortgage insurance, and almost always the lowest interest rate. Having the Rural Development Guaranteed Loan Program available to as many buyers as possible is critical to helping them achieve their goal of homeownership on the best terms possible. While the Town of Warrenton and Fauquier County have grown in recent years, the area's rural character remains intact, and many residents are able to realize homeownership through USDA's Rural Development programs.

Warrenton, Virginia is a small, rural town center of Fauquier County located approximately 47 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. The Towns population was approximately 10,057 as of the 2020 Census. The 2000 Census found Warrenton to have a population of 6,670 which rose to 9,611 in 2010 and finally 10,057 in 2020. The Town of Warrenton generates 24,000 vehicle trips per day in and out of the Town.

Please retain eligibility of USDA Rural Development home loan programs for the Town of Warrenton. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Frank Cassidy Interim Town Manager Town of Warrenton, VA

CC: U.S. Representative Abigail Spanberger or Jennifer Wexton



## COUNTY OF FAUQUIER OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

PAUL S. McCULLA
County Administrator

10 Hotel Street, Suite 204 Warrenton, Virginia 20186 PHONE 540-422-8001 FAX 540-422-8022

ERIN M. KOZANECKI Deputy County Administrator

E-mail: paul.mcculla@fauquiercounty.gov

May 4, 2023

Ms. Charlsie "Jeanie" Barbrow United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Single Family Home Program

Jeanie.barbrow@usda.gov

Dear Ms. Barbrow:

I am writing to respectfully request that the rural designation from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for Fauquier County be retained during the current review process. This designation is critical for helping families achieve the dream of attainable homeownership by providing 100% financing options in this incredibly competitive real estate market.

It has come to our attention that a list was recently issued which proposed removing Fauquier County from USDA Rural Development eligibility, which includes access to the Guaranteed Loan Program. Rural Development is the best 100% financing option available and results in the lowest monthly mortgage payment, lowest mortgage insurance, and almost always the lowest interest rate. Having the Rural Development Guaranteed Loan Program available to as many buyers as possible is critical to helping them achieve their goal of homeownership on the best terms possible. While Fauquier County has grown in recent years, the area's rural character remains intact, and many residents are able to realize homeownership through USDA's Rural Development programs.

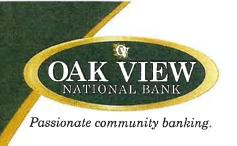
Please retain eligibility of USDA Rural Development home loan programs for Fauquier County. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Paul S. McCulla County Administrator

PSM:rd

cc: The Honorable Jennifer Wexton



128 Broadview Avenue, Warrenton, VA 20186

Phone: (540) 359-7100

Fax: (540) 359-7150 OakViewBank.com

April 3, 2023

To: U. S. Department of Agriculture

Virginia Office

This letter serves as public comment regarding your review of areas eligible for Rural Development housing programs.

Fauquier and Culpeper counties are two of the primary lending areas for Oak View National Bank. Both counties, while growing, remain rural in character, and should remain as eligible communities in your program.

Many of our buyers would not be able to realize their dream of home ownership without the USDA Rural Development program, offering 100% financing.

We respectfully request that Fauquier and Culpeper counties remain as eligible counties in the USDA Rural Development housing program.

Thank you for your consideration.

David W Meadows

Vice President

NMLS#659463



## **Greater Piedmont REALTORS**

47 Garrett St. Warrenton, VA 20186 Telephone: (540) 347-4866 Fax: (540) 347-2459 Web Site: www.gprealtors.net



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Tyler Ross
Emily Tucker
Paul Klinger - Ex Officio

CEO
Debbie Werling

April 6, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Wexton U.S. House of Representatives 1210 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Wexton:

On behalf of the more 600 Realtor® and affiliate members of the Greater Piedmont Realtors® (GPR), I am writing to respectfully request your assistance in retaining a rural designation from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Town of Warrenton, and Fauquier County. This designation is critical for helping families achieve the dream of attainable homeownership by providing 100% financing options in this incredibly competitive real estate market.

As you may know, USDA conducts periodic reviews of regions eligible for USDA Rural Development programs including the Guaranteed Loan Program. A list was recently issued which proposed removing the Town of Warrenton and Fauquier County from USDA Rural Development eligibility. Rural Development is the best 100% financing option available and results in the lowest monthly mortgage payment, lowest mortgage insurance, and almost always the lowest interest rate. Having the Rural Development Guaranteed Loan Program available to as many buyers as possible is critical to helping them achieve their goal of homeownership on the best terms possible. While the Town and County of Fauquier have grown in recent years, the area's rural character remains intact, and many residents of these jurisdictions are able to realize homeownership through USDA's Rural Development programs.

Please help the Town of Warrenton and Fauquier County retain their designation for eligibility of USDA Rural Development home loan programs. Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your service to our country.

Sincerely,

Kelly Thornton

President

Debbie Werling

CEO

