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Acting Comptroller General
of the United States

Accessible Version

June 9, 2026

The Honorable Scott Turner
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20410

Priority Open Recommendations: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Dear Secretary Turner:

The purpose of this letter is to call your personal attention to two areas where open recommendations to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) should be given high priority.

In January 2026, we reported that, on a government-wide basis, 77 percent of our recommendations made 5 years ago were implemented.¹ HUD's recommendation implementation rate was 93 percent. As of June 2026, HUD had 101 open recommendations, 10 of which are priority recommendations.² Since our May 2025 letter, HUD has not implemented any priority recommendations.³ Fully implementing the 10 open priority recommendations could significantly improve HUD's operations.

We are highlighting the following areas that warrant your timely and focused attention:

- **Reducing fraud and fragmentation in federal disaster recovery.** The Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grant program is vulnerable to fraud risks from a variety of sources. [We recommended](#) that HUD comprehensively assess CDBG-DR for fraud risk to better understand the scope of the risks and prevent potential fraud, waste, and abuse. Further, HUD has not taken the steps needed to improve its delivery of billions of dollars in community assistance after natural disasters. [We recommended](#) that HUD develop and implement an interagency plan to identify barriers to accessing disaster recovery assistance, as well as coordinate with other federal agencies to address these issues. [We also recommended](#) that HUD better manage fragmentation between its disaster recovery programs and other federal programs. Taking these actions could help HUD improve service delivery to disaster survivors and communities, enhance the effectiveness of recovery efforts, and reduce federal fiscal exposure.

¹GAO, *Performance and Accountability Report, Fiscal Year 2025*, [GAO-26-900644](#) (Washington, D.C.: Jan. 29, 2026).

²GAO considers a recommendation to be a priority if, when implemented, it may significantly improve government operations, for example, by realizing large dollar savings; eliminating mismanagement, fraud, and abuse; or making progress toward addressing a high-risk or duplication issue.

³GAO, *Priority Open Recommendations: Department of Housing and Urban Development*, [GAO-25-108045](#) (Washington, D.C.: May 20, 2025). In this letter, we identified nine priority recommendations. Since then, we removed the priority status from one recommendation and added two priority recommendations.

- **Improving financing and availability of manufactured housing.** Manufactured housing could play a role in easing the nation's critical shortage of affordable housing, but financing options are limited. HUD has taken steps to address long-standing statutory requirements to improve how people finance and secure manufactured housing but has not fully implemented proposed changes. We made [two recommendations](#) for HUD to implement the proposed changes to increase financing options for manufactured homes and to establish time frames and milestones for those actions. Doing so could help HUD promote the availability and affordability of manufactured homes.

These two areas are also included on GAO's [High Risk List](#) as [improving the delivery of disaster assistance](#) and [resolving the federal role in housing finance](#).⁴ Several other government-wide high-risk areas also have direct implications for HUD and its operations, including [improving IT acquisitions and management](#). In addition, we identified actions HUD should take to reduce fragmentation, overlap, and duplication. For example, HUD should fully implement statutory requirements for [high-risk IT investment reviews](#). More information on our [Duplication and Cost Savings](#) work can be found on the GAO website.

A comprehensive list of open recommendations and their status, including new priority recommendations, can be found on the GAO website at [Recommendations Database | U.S. GAO](#). Copies of this letter are being sent to the appropriate congressional committees.⁵ This letter will also be available at [Priority Recommendations | U.S. GAO](#).

We would welcome an opportunity to discuss how to address our open recommendations, as we pursue the shared goal of working to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of government programs and spending. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Dan Garcia-Diaz, Managing Director of the Financial Markets and Community Investment team at GarciaDiazD@gao.gov. Contact points for our Offices of Congressional Relations and Media

⁴This list identifies government operations with greater vulnerabilities to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement. GAO, *High-Risk Series: Heightened Attention Could Save Billions More and Improve Government Efficiency and Effectiveness*, [GAO-25-107743](#) (Washington, D.C.: Feb. 25, 2025).

⁵We also help Congress identify congressional oversight actions that can help agencies implement priority recommendations, such as incorporating them into legislation. James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, Pub. L. No. 117-263, § 7211(a)(2), 136 Stat. 2395, 3668 (2022) (codified at 31 U.S.C. § 719 note). Congress can also use its budget, appropriations, and oversight processes to incentivize executive branch agencies to act on our recommendations and monitor their progress. For example, Congress can hold hearings focused on agencies' progress in implementing priority recommendations, withhold funds when appropriate, or take other actions to provide incentives for agencies to act.

Relations may be found on the last page of this letter. Thank you for your personal attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

//SIGNED//

Orice Williams Brown
Acting Comptroller General
of the United States

cc:
Ronald Kurtz, Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development
Eric Sidle, Chief Information Officer