Commissioners:

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Chairman

MARC C. SORTMAN Vice Chairman

MARK MUSSINA Secretary

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CHRISTOPHER H. KENYON

Solicitor

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September 11, 2024

Dear Municipal or Civic Leader:

The Lycoming County Board of Commissioners is seeking projects that address affordable housing to include in its 2024 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund (PHARE) proposal to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Authority (PHFA).

Since 2012, Lycoming County has been an eligible county to make applications to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Authority (PHFA) for PHARE funds derived from the Act 13 Marcellus Shale Impact Fee collection. Act 13 of 2012 specifically allocates certain amounts from the impact fee into the PHARE Fund to address the need for affordable housing in the counties where producing nonconventional gas wells are located. Lycoming County has secured a total of \$13.9 million in PHARE funds to date to support households in need of affordable housing.

This year, Lycoming County is again soliciting projects on a competitive basis to include in its November 2024 application to the state for PHARE funds. Based on the Marcellus Shale Impale fees collected from Lycoming County in 2023, we anticipate requesting approximately \$1,095,000 of PHARE funds for projects selected through this competitive process.

To respond to a growing interest in our community to secure these dollars on behalf of projects and programs around the county, the Lycoming County Commissioners have developed an application process to receive formal requests from agencies interested in securing PHARE funds to meet the financial needs of their project or program. Interested parties are to submit the accompanying application materials by October 18, 2024.

The PHARE program has been very successful to date in Lycoming County and we wish to continue to provide resources and support for our communities to address the diverse affordable housing needs in this county.

Those intending to submit an application for consideration or who have further questions should please contact Jenny Picciano, Community Development/Lead Planner for the Lycoming County Department of Planning and Community Development at 570-320-2136 or at jpicciano@lyco.org.

Sincerely,

County of Lycoming

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Marc C. Sortman, Vice Chairman

Mark Mussina Secretary