



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Census Bureau
Office of the Director
Washington, DC 20233-0001

October 19, 2022

Mr. Gary D. Bass
Consultant & Executive Director Emeritus, Bauman Foundation
Chair, Census Equity Initiative

Dear Chair Bass:

Thank you for your additional co-signed letter following up on our response to your initial correspondence regarding the Census Equity Initiative and its support for possible improvements to and expanded resources for the Population Estimates Program (PEP). We appreciate your feedback and the support you expressed for our ongoing work to produce highly accurate estimates of the population.

In your latest letter, you highlight the importance of including local governments in our efforts to expand the use of administrative data in the development of our April 1, 2020, population estimates base. As noted previously, our Base Evaluation and Research Team (BERT) is currently tasked with assessing the feasibility of taking coverage measures such as the Post-Enumeration Survey (PES) and Demographic Analysis (DA) and other administrative records into account in the development of the estimates base. One goal being pursued by the team is to identify a mechanism for local governments to contribute feedback and suggestions regarding robust administrative record sources. Although these plans are still in the early stages of development, we hope to provide local governments with the opportunity to assist in further improving the quality of the estimates base.

Similarly, our Population Estimates Challenge Program represents our commitment to enabling local governments to contribute information that may strengthen our population estimates. Efforts are underway to publish a Federal Register Notice (FRN) to resume the program in 2023 for the upcoming Vintage 2022 estimates series. The FRN will feature a comments period whereby members of the public can contribute recommendations pertaining to the format and scope of the program.

Thank you again for your continued support of the PEP. If you have any questions, please contact Maria Olmedo Malagon, Chief Office of Strategic Alliances, at maria.olmedo.malagon@census.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert Santos
Director

cc: Ms. LaShanda A. Jackson, MBA

Executive Director, Funders' Committee for Civic Participation

Ms. Sol Marie Alfonso-Jones

Senior Program Officer, Long Island Community Foundation Chair, Funders Census Initiative,
FCCP