September 10, 2003

Dear Colleague:

For the past several years, the Housing Statistics Users Group (HSUG) has sponsored quarterly sessions on the latest in American Housing Survey and Census data in Washington, DC. This year we are fortunate to have these same federal data experts along with their state and regional counterparts in Berkeley for a day-long session on September 25, 2003, that we are calling “HSUG-West.”

You should attend HSUG-West if you are a housing researcher in local or state government, an academic or researcher with an interest in housing, or an economist in the housing finance industry. This all-day meeting will cover the latest developments in American Housing Survey, the US Census (those pesky new metro definitions), the new CHAS data, construction start and housing vacancy surveys, market absorption data, the residential finance survey, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data, Assisted Housing Tenant Data, and the American Community Survey. State and regional housing data sources will also be presented.

HSUG-West is sponsored by the Department of City and Regional Planning, the Berkeley Program on Housing and Urban Policy, and the Institute of Urban and Regional Development (all at the University of California at Berkeley), the Fannie Mae Foundation, and KnowledgePlex, a cooperative of 19 organizations promoting affordable housing. It will be held at 106 Wurster Hall on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley. The meeting is free, but space is limited, and registration is required.

For the detailed agenda, to register, and for information on how to get to Berkeley and Wurster Hall, please see the meeting website at http://urbanpolicy.berkeley.edu/hsugwest.htm or contact either of us at the addresses, phone numbers, or e-mail addresses below.

We are delighted to host this first time ever event for housing researchers on the west coast. We hope that you will join us at Berkeley on September 25th for the kick-off session of HSUG-West!

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