

HUD working to expedite housing

The Dept. of Housing and Urban Development will make an all-out effort to complete 500 units of native housing now under construction during this construction season, HUD Secretary Carla Hills has told U.S. Sen Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, in a meeting recently.

In addition, HUD expects to complete contracts for another authorized 400 units by Sept. 30, so construction can begin on them in the next construction season.

Completion of the 500 units has been delayed because of cost overruns, but Hills told the senator that HUD will be flexible in approving funds to meet the overruns and to complete the project.

The senator earlier this year

had written Hills regarding the housing programs and requested the recent meeting to get an update on HUD's plans for those projects.

"HUD appears to be working to expedite completion of the 500 units and construction of the 400 units," Stevens said.