



November 25, 2020

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Price
Chairman
Subcommittee on THUD
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on THUD
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Lowey, Chairman Shelby, Chairman Price, and Chairwoman Collins:

The undersigned organizations, representing the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coalition, write to urge you to support increased funding for regular CDBG program appropriations and additional economic recovery funding for the program as part of a final negotiated FY21 Transportation-HUD (THUD) spending measure. The CDBG Coalition consists of 31 national organizations dedicated to supporting increased funding for the CDBG program. Our groups represent elected officials, grantees, non-profit organizations, and advocates. As part of a final negotiated THUD spending measure we ask for your support of the following:

1. We ask you to support the \$3.5 billion CDBG funding level approved in the House FY21 THUD spending bill.
2. We ask you to support the additional \$4 billion in CDBG economic recovery funding approved in the House FY21 THUD bill.

With the continuation of the coronavirus pandemic and the sharp decline in state and local government revenue, more CDBG funding is needed to help communities address the crisis and meet the demand for regular program operations and needs. CDBG is a flexible, proven program that allows for the swift delivery of resources to communities and people. It has been an important and effective resource for addressing the pandemic. The program has been used effectively to assist communities address the economic and health impacts of the pandemic by funding operational grants and loans to small businesses, eviction prevention (short-term rent and utility assistance), funds to food banks, and social distancing protocols, among other essential activities. More CDBG funding is needed to ensure continuity of assistance to small businesses and low-income households to help them weather the pandemic.

We urge you to stand with us in seeking increased funding for the CDBG program by providing no less than \$3.5 billion for regular program funding and \$4 billion in economy recovery funding as part of the final FY21 THUD spending bill. Please feel free to contact Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org with any questions.

We thank you for your support of the CDBG program.

Sincerely,

American Library Association
American Planning Association
Boys and Girls Clubs of America
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Council of State Community Development Agencies
Enterprise Community Partners
Feeding America
Habitat for Humanity International
Heartland Alliance
Housing Assistance Council
International Code Council
International Economic Development Council
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
National Association for County Community and Economic Development
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
National Association of Counties
National Association of Development Organizations
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Association of Regional Councils
National Community Development Association
National League of Cities
National Main Street Center
National NeighborWorks Association
National Recreation and Park Association
National Rural Water Association
Rebuilding Together
Rural Community Assistance Partnership
The Trust for Public Land
U.S. Conference of Mayors
YWCA USA