



CITY of VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

Joseph "Sonny" Vickers
Mayor

November 4, 2011

The Honorable Jack Kingston
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY12 Funding for CDBG and HOME

Dear Congressman Kingston:

As the chief elected official of the City of Valdosta, Georgia, I am writing this letter on behalf of our community to ask you, as you conference H.R. 2112, to support the House-recommended funding level of \$3.5 billion in formula funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and \$1.2 billion in formula funding for the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program. Both CDBG and HOME provide vital funding to projects and services within our community that directly impact the lives of our low- and moderate-income citizens. Both programs provide the flexibility to fund a myriad of activities, fill gaps where needed, and attract additional resources to projects. This combination of CDBG and HOME with other funding sources adds to our local economy and to a better quality of life for our citizens.

On behalf of my community, I also urge you to oppose the House-recommended provision in the bill that would reduce the CDBG administrative cap from 20% to 10%, cutting the administrative allowance in half. CDBG grantees will not be able to fully operate or effectively operate their programs at this level.

I would also like to extend an invitation to you and your staff to tour the City of Valdosta's CDBG- and HOME- funded projects to see the benefits of both programs firsthand. Many citizens have benefited from these programs and it has created tangible value in our redevelopment areas. We thank you, in advance, for your continued support of these valuable programs. Please feel free to contact Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, at (229) 259-3571 or me with any questions.

Respectfully,

Joseph "Sonny" Vickers
Mayor

cc: Mara Register

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