COMMITTEES: COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS FOREIGN RELATIONS

United States Senate

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October 6, 2011

The Honorable Stephen P. Pougnet Mayor of Palm Springs P.O. Box 2743 Palm Springs, CA 92263-2743

Dear Mayor Pougnet:

Thank you for writing to me regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. I appreciate hearing from you, and I share your support for strong federal investment in CDBG.

I joined a bipartisan group of my colleagues in writing to Senators Patty Murray and Susan Collins, Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) urging the Subcommittee to support the highest possible funding for CDBG in the Fiscal Year 2012 THUD Appropriations bill.

As we noted, CDBG is one of the most effective federal programs to revitalize America's cities and neighborhoods through initiatives promoting home ownership, housing rehabilitation, public improvements, public services, and community economic development. Over the past six years, CDBG has helped to create and retain more than 250,000 jobs for low- and moderate-income Americans while providing vital public services to more than 24 million people.

I have consistently supported CDBG in the past and believe that we should sustain this wise investment in our nation's future. As the appropriations process continues, be assured that I will keep working to secure robust investment in this important job-creating and community development program.

Again, thank you for writing to me. Please contact me again about this or other issues of concern to you and the people of Palm Springs.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boxer

United States Senator