

Heritage Foundation Report Calls for Elimination of CDBG; Reach Out to Your Congressional Members and Participate in National Community Development Week – April 17-22

The conservative Heritage Foundation released a report, [Blueprint for Reform: A Comprehensive Policy Agenda for a New Administration in 2017](#), outlining a set of federal reforms and calling for the outright elimination of some federal programs, including CDBG. Although the report was released early last year, the Trump Administration is rumored to be looking at the report in developing their FY 2018 budget.

Page 66 of the report reads as follows:

Community Development. The federal government operates the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), which provides money to state and local governments for low-income housing, infrastructure development, public services, and other activities. This program has been in place since 1974 and has cost the taxpayers more than \$100 billion during the course of its lifetime. The CDBG is not well-targeted to low-income communities, and due to a lack of transparency in the data it is difficult to assess whether the program is meeting its stated goals of, among others, creating jobs for low-income individuals and eliminating “slums and blight.” **The report goes on to recommend the elimination of the CDBG program in FY 2018.**

Besides the elimination of CDBG, the report calls for the elimination of the Federal Housing Administration, and the transfer of subsidized housing programs (Section 8, Public Housing) from HUD to the States in the form of a means-tested block grant that would be phased-out over 10 years, leaving States and local authorities with the responsibility of funding the programs on their own.

Further, the Republican Study Committee issued a report last year, [Blueprint for a Balanced Budget 2.0](#), calling for elimination of CDBG (and Section 108) in FY 2017 as well as many other federal programs.

President Trump’s FY 2018 budget is not expected to be released until late spring, so it’s too early to tell if any of these draconian recommendations will be put forward by the Administration for FY 2018. We urge you to make your voices heard on FY 2018 funding for CDBG by reaching out to your Congressional Members and **participating in National Community Development Week; April 17-22.**

Please contact Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org with any questions.