

July 15, 2013

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Transportation, HUD, and Independent Agencies
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, HUD, and Independent Agencies
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murray and Senator Collins:

The CDBG Coalition, consisting of the below listed organizations representing local elected officials, community development practitioners, non-profit organizations, and development organizations, write to thank you for the \$3.150 billion allocation provided to the Community Development Block Grant Program in the FY14 Transportation-HUD (THUD) spending bill and the \$1 billion provided to the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. This could not have happened without your strong commitment and support of the program.

CDBG is a program that works because it is locally driven through local planning and citizen participation and through the commitment of State and local governments and a network of non-profit and development organizations working together to design and deliver high quality programs that meet the needs of low-income people. CDBG dollars matter at the local level where the needs of the most vulnerable are most visible and where the need to spur economic development, affordable housing, and community improvements in blighted and poor neighborhoods is apparent. The need for CDBG has never been more important and we appreciate your recognition of this importance through your support of the FY14 Senate T-HUD allocation.

On behalf of the communities which receive CDBG funding and on behalf of the thousands upon thousands of low-income people who benefit from the program annually, we thank you for your leadership in supporting \$3.150 billion for CDBG in FY14 and for supporting \$1 billion for HOME.

Sincerely,

American Planning Association
Habitat for Humanity International
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
National Association for County Community and Economic Development
National Association of Counties
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials

National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Community Development Association
National League of Cities
Rebuilding Together
U.S. Conference of Mayors