

Sign the FY15 302(b) Transportation-Housing and Urban Development (T-HUD) Letter to Congress

As Congress begins the fiscal year (FY) 2015 budget cycle, housing and transportation organizations want to strongly convey to Congress that the THUD 302b allocation needs to be increased in order to restore the 25% cut in funding that THUD subcommittee has experienced since FY12. Housing and transportation organizations must exhibit a united front to showcase the diversity and strength of the groups funded by the T-HUD bill.

More than 2,400 organizations signed the FY14 letter to Congress on increasing the THUD 302(b) allocation. We need your organization's support on the FY15 letter.

What is the THUD 302(b) allocation?

At the start of the Congressional budget cycle, the Appropriations Committees take the overall spending budgeted for the fiscal year (called the 302(a) allocation) and divide it between the twelve appropriations subcommittees. The amounts budgeted for the subcommittees are referred to as the 302(b) allocations. The allocation for the THUD subcommittee sets the amount of discretionary funding that Congress can make available for the Departments of Transportation (DOT) and Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Why should housing and transportation organizations advocate together?

Combining the voices of housing and transportation organizations will result in a stronger T-HUD budget outcome than advocating separately. While often viewed individually, there are many overlaps between the work of housing and transportation organizations and it's time that we express that to Congress.

The T-HUD allocation uniquely impacts the well-being of our communities by providing essential seed capital and program funding that allows public and private partners to create much-needed jobs, build transportation infrastructure, provide affordable housing for low and moderate-income families, and deliver necessary services for lasting community and family economic success. Affordable housing, community development and transportation projects are at the backbone of building and sustaining strong communities, and often depend on the success of each other, therefore it makes sense that these two areas join together.

What's at stake?

All housing, community development and transportation organizations have a stake in the outcome of the T-HUD 302(b) allocation. If overall funding for T-HUD is not increased, it will negatively impact critical programs dependent on the appropriations outcome, and our ability to adequately support housing and transportation projects will diminish significantly. As a result, the communities we all care about will suffer as affordable housing and transportation needs are not met.

With a deep and disproportionate cut to the THUD subcommittee in FY12, the across-the-board cuts of FY13, and the discretionary spending caps of FY14 and FY15, and the potential decline of HUD receipts to offset spending in FY15, the THUD allocation will be tight. We need to advocate for an increase to the 302(b) allocation.

What's the goal of the sign-on letter?

Urge appropriators to increase the 302(b) allocation to the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) to the highest possible level in FY15.