



## **NCDA Washington Report**

**October 27, 2015**

### **Appropriations Update; Continuing Resolution in Place; Budget Deal Near Completion**

Congress approved and the President signed a Continuing Resolution (CR) funding government programs through December 11, 2015, averting a government shutdown.

House Republicans in a closed-door vote on Wednesday, October 28, plan to nominate Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) to be the 54<sup>th</sup> Speaker of the House; with a floor vote the next day. John Boehner (R-OH) plans to resign from Congress on Friday, October 30.

Congressional leaders are working with the Administration to wrap-up a two-year budget deal within the next day or so in time to pass it in conjunction with a debt limit increase. In good news for federal programs, the deal is expected to raise discretionary spending caps in FY 2016 and FY 2017. The deal would increase discretionary spending by \$80 billion over two years and would be spread equally between defense and non-defense spending. The \$80 billion in relief would be implemented as follows: \$50 billion increase in spending caps in FY 2016 and \$30 billion increase in spending caps in FY 2017, so this equates to a \$25 billion increase in non-defense spending (HUD and other federal agencies) in FY 2016 and a \$15 billion increase in FY 2017. The deal would also extend borrowing authority to March 2017.

While this is good news, Congressional appropriators will have to reach agreement on specific funding levels for each federal program. NCDA (see under NCDA News) has been meeting with appropriators on CDBG and HOME funding.

### **Senate Stops Movement of the Sanctuary Cities Bill**

The Senate thwarted efforts by Senator Vitter (R-LA) and others to move forward S. 2146 – the Stop Sanctuary Policies and Protect America Act. The Senate voted 54-45 on October 20 against a motion to invoke Cloture to continue forward with the bill. NCDA worked to stop movement of the bill, which would have stripped CDBG funding from jurisdictions with so-called “sanctuary” immigration policies in place. NCDA thanks members who reached out to their Senators to ask them to vote against movement of the bill.

## **HUD NEWS**

### **Opportunities for Small Contractors and HUD Grantees**

HUD and BusinessUSA are collaborating to improve the flow of information about contract opportunities from federal grantees to businesses looking for opportunity. BusinessUSA has created a simple online form that allows grantees to:

- Post a notice of your bid opportunity, with details on the location, type and size of job, trades needed, whether Section 3 requirements apply, and other specifics.
- Automatically notify businesses using the system.
- Download a record of the posting to document your outreach efforts

To start posting bid opportunities, view the tutorial on how to post a bid opportunity at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aTnECFJRpa8>

To view a tutorial on how to download a record of the bid opportunities you have posted, for documentation purposes go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMQ7tqRAfg>

To post a bid opportunity, go to:

<http://business.usa.gov/federally-funded-construction/add-opportunity>

#### **FY 2015 Continuum of Care Competition NOFA Posted**

HUD has posted the NOFA for the FY15 CoC program competition. The information is available at the following site. The submission deadline is Friday, November 20.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/e-snaps/fy-2015-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>

## **NCDA NEWS**

### **Long-Standing Director of the New York City Community Development Block Grant Program Retires**

Paul Cataldo, the long-standing Director of New York City's CDBG Program recently retired. Paul had served as the Director for the past 36 years. When he began his career in New York City government 41 years ago, he was hired to conduct environmental reviews for the fledgling CDBG program enacted by the Federal government. Thus, his whole career in public service has been working on the CDBG program.

Paul was passionate about the CDBG program and the good it could do for the neediest members of the NYC community. He was extremely dedicated to his job, always going above and beyond what was required of him. He enjoyed great relationships with all of his partners in the running of the CDBG program – his staff, NYC agencies receiving CDBG funds, fellow members of NCDA, and his counterparts at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. We all thank him for his years of dedicated service to CDBG and to NCDA and wish him all the best in his retirement.

### **NCDA Revisits with Appropriators**

NCDA began meeting with House appropriators last week to continue to shore up support for level funding for CDBG (\$3.0 billion) and HOME (\$900 million) in the FY16 budget.

NCDA has also been educating appropriators on the need for additional money for CDBG grantees to implement the Assessment of Fair Housing Tool. While only 22 grantees will be required to draft an AFH Tool next year, over 100 grantees will be responsible for development of the Tool in 2017. In addition to the need for additional resources, NCDA has also requested appropriators to consider the insertion of

language in the final FY16 budget agreement to require HUD to provide a certification to grantees upon approval of their AFH Tool that they have met HUD's requirements to affirmatively further fair housing.

Moreover, NCDA has requested HUD to provide a streamlined tool for small CDBG grantees. HUD has agreed and NCDA will begin working with HUD on this effort in the new few weeks.

NCDA will begin meeting with Senate appropriators next week.

#### **Congressional Briefing on the HOME Program**

The HOME Coalition, of which NCDA is a member, will hold a briefing on the HOME program for Congressional Members and staff on October 28. The briefing will introduce a report developed by the HOME Coalition on the impact of the program through facts and stories collected from States and participating jurisdictions from across the country. The report discusses the recently proposed Congressional cuts to the program and the effect on housing programs nationwide as well as the importance of the linkage of HOME with the LIHTC and other programs. The report, "Building HOME: The HOME Investment Partnerships Program's Impact on America's Families and Communities," will be released during the briefing on Wednesday, October 28, at 2 pm at the Congressional Visitors Center (Room 203). We encourage you to invite your Congressional Members and their staff to attend the briefing to learn about the importance of the HOME program.

#### **Please Complete the CDBG Coalition Survey by October 30**

If you have not already done so, please complete the CDBG Coalition survey by **October 30**. The survey is instrumental to our advocacy efforts in FY16 and FY17 and only takes about 30 minutes to complete. Please read through the survey first to compile any information that may be needed before starting it. It may be helpful to assign one staff person to collect and enter the information into the survey.

The information derived from the survey is extremely important to the Coalition's advocacy efforts to protect CDBG funding, so it is critical that NCDA members complete the survey. NAHRO is taking the lead on the survey on behalf of the CDBG Coalition, so if you have any questions, please reach out to Jenny Hsu at [jhsu@nahro.org](mailto:jhsu@nahro.org). The survey is available at the following link.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDBGSurveyAugust2015>

#### **NCDA Accepting Submissions for the 2016 Audrey Nelson Award**

NCDA is pleased to announce the opening of its 2016 Audrey Nelson Community Development Achievement Award application. The award recognizes exemplary projects funded with CDBG and/or HOME funds. The application deadline is December 11, 2015 and all applications must be submitted electronically. The application submission criteria is attached. NCDA encourages those member communities who have never submitted an application to do so. The winners will be recognized during a special luncheon at the NCDA Winter Conference on Friday, January 22, 2016, in Washington, DC. Please contact Vicki Watson at [vwatson@ncdaonline.org](mailto:vwatson@ncdaonline.org) with any questions.

#### **Interested in Hosting the 2017 or 2018 NCDA Annual Conference?**

NCDA is soliciting proposals from members to host the 2017 and 2018 annual conferences. Hosting an NCDA conference provides the opportunity for you to showcase your community and local projects, add to your local economy, involve your local agencies and elected officials in the process, and develop new partnerships. NCDA will be there to assist you. The attached RFP outlines the host community requirements, hotel requirements, and other information.

Proposals are due to Vicki Watson at [vicki@ncdaonline.org](mailto:vicki@ncdaonline.org) no later than December 18, 2015. The Planning and Professional Development Subcommittee will review the proposals at their January 2016 meeting and will forward their recommendations to the NCDA Board of Directors for approval on January 22, 2016. The selected communities will be contacted shortly thereafter.

#### **NCDA Training**

Please go to <http://ncdaonline.org/CDBG.asp> if you are interested in registering for the following course.

**Advanced CDBG: Managing an Effective Program (1-1/2 days); CDBG/HOME Underwriting (1/2 day) -**  
*These courses are offered together in a two-day block.*

November 17-18, 2015

Providence, RI

Fee: \$250 members/\$300 non-members

Are you interested in having NCDA conduct a CDBG or HOME course in or near your community? Please reach out to Vicki Watson at [vwatson@ncdaonline.org](mailto:vwatson@ncdaonline.org) or Steve Gartrell at [sgartrell@ncdaonline.org](mailto:sgartrell@ncdaonline.org). Minimum requirements: The host community is responsible for providing the training facility and a/v. The host community must guarantee a minimum of 25 participants.

#### **NCDA Seeking Sponsors for its 2016 Winter Conference**

NCDA is accepting sponsorships for its 2016 Winter Conference, which will be held in Washington, DC on January 20-22, 2016. Conference sponsorship provides the opportunity to support NCDA, network with NCDA's members, and market your materials, products, and programs. As with any conference, our financial success depends on strong partnerships to help defray the costs. Please reach out to your regions and local networks to advise them of the sponsorship opportunities. The minimum sponsorship level is \$1,000. The sponsorship chart and form is attached and is also available at <http://ncdaonline.org/>. Please contact Vicki Watson at 540-626-9552 with any questions.

#### **Save the Date: 2016 Winter Conference – January 20-22; Early Registration Ends October 30**

The 2016 NCDA Winter Conference will be held on January 20-22 at the Holiday Inn Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. The conference promises to be a venue for learning, partnerships, and showcasing local projects for all who attend. NCDA's Planning and Professional Development Subcommittee has developed an agenda that is focused on issues of importance to you and your fellow grantees. Session topics will include the following:

- Grant-based accounting for HUD's CPD programs
- Funding infrastructure projects
- Underwriting CDBG economic development projects
- Underwriting HOME rental projects
- Working with developers on LIHTC projects
- Redeveloping blighted and vacant areas
- Disaster planning and preparedness
- Online mapping tools
- American Community Survey
- Leadership roundtable
- CDBG Coalition
- HUD policy update

- Fair housing
- Small roundtable discussions will be held on the following topics: section 3, housing rehabilitation, sustainable communities, National Housing Trust Fund, Uniform Physical Condition Standards for HOME, CDBG basics

Since this is NCDA's legislative conference, we have set-aside time on the agenda for you to meet with your Congressional Members to educate them on the need to provide full funding for CDBG and HOME in FY17. Please arrange the meetings directly with your Congressional Member ahead of time. To contact your Congressional Member call the Capitol Hill switchboard at 202-224-3121. Once connected your Member's office, ask to speak to the scheduler. Please begin NOW to compile data on your CDBG and HOME programs, such as activities funded in the past few years, beneficiaries served by the programs, unmet housing and community development need in your community (this will relay the importance of increasing funding for the programs), and other information you deem important. It would also be helpful to pepper your data with testimonials from program beneficiaries and photos of projects. On the first morning of the conference you will receive guidance from Congressional staff and NCDA staff on how to conduct your visits.

The Winter Conference is where most of NCDA's policy is developed and approved for the coming year and we encourage you to participate in the subcommittee meetings to hear first-hand NCDA's policy priorities and participate in the process.

HUD headquarters staff will participate in the HUD policy update session, grant-based accounting session, underwriting economic development projects, and several subcommittee meetings.

The full agenda is attached and is also available at <http://ncdaonline.org/>

NCDA is instituting a new tiered registration system, as follows. **Register early!** Go to [http://ncdaonline.org/events/Winter16\\_Regform.asp](http://ncdaonline.org/events/Winter16_Regform.asp) to register for the conference.

#### **Registration Fee Schedule**

##### Early Registration (register by October 30)

Members: \$400

Non-Members: \$450

Payment Deadline: December 1, 2015; Payment received after this date will incur a \$50 late fee.

##### General Registration (October 31 – January 3)

Members: \$450

Non-Members: \$500

Payment Deadline: January 15, 2016; Payment received after this date will incur a \$50 late fee.

##### Late Registration (registrations received after January 4)

Members: \$550

Non-Members: \$600

Payment Deadline: January 20, 2016; Payment received after this date will incur a \$50 late fee.

Group Discounts

When three or more persons attend from any single community, each person receives a \$50 discount.

**Save the Date: 2016 NCDA Annual Conference – June 22-25, 2016**

NCDA will hold its 2016 Annual Conference in Milwaukee, WI on June 22-25, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee. More detail to follow.

**Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Budget Chart**

| <b>Program</b>                              | <b>FY15 Enacted<br/>Funding Level</b> | <b>President's FY16<br/>Budget Request</b> | <b>House Appropriations<br/>Committee</b> | <b>Senate Appropriations<br/>Committee</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| CDBG Formula Grants                         | \$3.0 billion                         | \$2.8 billion                              | \$3.0 billion                             | \$2.9 billion                              |
| HOME Formula Grants                         | \$900 million                         | \$1.060 million                            | \$900 million                             | \$66 million                               |
| Homeless Assistance Grants                  | \$2.135 billion                       | \$2.480 billion                            | \$2.185 billion                           | \$2.235 billion                            |
| Section 108                                 | \$500 million                         | \$500 million                              | \$300 million                             | \$300 million                              |
| Choice Neighborhoods                        | \$80 million                          | \$250 million                              | \$20 million                              | \$65 million                               |
| HOPWA                                       | \$330 million                         | \$332 million                              | \$332 million                             | \$330 million                              |
| Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction           | \$110 million                         | \$120 million                              | \$75 million                              | \$110 million                              |
| Elderly Housing (Section 202)               | \$420 million                         | \$455 million                              | \$414 million                             | \$420 million                              |
| Housing for Persons with Disabilities (811) | \$135 million                         | \$177 million                              | \$152 million                             | \$137 million                              |
| Housing Counseling                          | \$47 million                          | \$60 million                               | \$47 million                              | \$47 million                               |
| Housing Choice Vouchers                     | \$19.304 billion                      | \$21.123 billion                           | \$18.15 billion                           | \$19.934 billion                           |
| Project-Based Section 8                     | \$9.730 billion                       | \$10.760 billion                           | \$10.254 billion                          | \$10.826 billion                           |
| Public Housing Capital Fund                 | \$1.875 billion                       | \$1.970 billion                            | \$1.681 billion                           | \$1.742 billion                            |
| Public Housing Operating Fund               | \$4.440 billion                       | \$4.600 billion                            | \$4.440 billion                           | \$4.5 billion                              |