NCDA Washington Report

May 27, 2016

Appropriations Update; Congress Makes Progress on the FY17 Transportation-HUD Spending Bill
The Senate passed the FY 2017 Transportation-HUD (THUD) spending bill (H.R. 2577) on May 19 on a vote of 89-8. The Senate combined the THUD bill, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs FY 2017 spending bill, and a measure to provide emergency funding to combat the Zika virus. The joint package of legislation is the first of several "mini-buses" intended to speed up the appropriations process ahead of the Senate's scheduled July 15-September 6 recess. The Senate Appropriations Committee unanimously approved its version of the FY 2017 Transportation-HUD (THUD) spending bill in April. The House Subcommittee on Transportation-HUD marked-up its FY 2017 spending bill on May 18 and the House Appropriations Committee approved the measure by voice vote on May 25. CDBG and HOME sustained no program cuts in either the Senate or the House bill. Both chambers restored the $200 million cut made to CDBG in the President's budget request; thereby, providing $3.0 billion for the program. The CDBG Coalition, led by NCDA, worked very hard to ensure the funding was restored to the program; meeting with House and Senate appropriators from February through April.

Both the House and Senate FY 2017 THUD spending bills provide $950 million for the HOME program, level-funding from last year. HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants received an increase in both versions, with the Senate recommending $2.330 billion, $80 million more than last year. The Senate bill includes language to expand and improve HUD delivery of housing and services for homeless youth; providing $20 million to support more than 2,500 new family unification vouchers to prevent youth from becoming homeless after exiting foster care. An additional $20 million is included to test comprehensive efforts to end youth homelessness in urban and rural areas. The House Appropriations Committee recommended $2.487 billion for HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants, $262 million more than last year.

The House and Senate level-funded the HOPWA program at $335 million. The Senate bill includes language to update the HOPWA formula; ensuring that funds are better targeted to communities with the highest incidences of HIV cases by preventing HUD from counting deceased individuals when determining formula allocations for grantees.

Both the House and Senate recommended $505 million for Housing for the Elderly (Section 202), $72 million above the FY 2016 enacted level and $154 million for Housing for Persons with Disabilities (Section 811), $3 million above the FY 2016 enacted level.

Both the House and Senate bills provide $10.9 billion to renew all expiring Project-Based Section 8 rental assistance contracts, an increase of $300 million over the FY 2016 level and $85 million above the President's budget request.

The Senate recommends $20.4 billion for Housing Choice Vouchers, while the House recommends $20.189 billion, sufficient enough to renewal all expiring vouchers, according to Congressional appropriators. The Senate measure includes $11 million to implement a new housing choice voucher mobility demonstration program to help families move to areas of opportunity. The bill directs HUD to establish selection criteria and participation requirements for the new program.

The Senate bill increases the number of public housing units that can convert under the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program from 185,000 to 250,000 and eliminates the program's sunset date. The bill also allows Section 202 Project Rental Assistance Contracts (PRAC) properties to convert under RAD and provides $4 million for that purpose.

Both the House and Senate recommend an increase for HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control grants, with the Senate recommending $135 million in FY 2017, a $25 million increase over FY 2016 and the House recommending $130 million, a $20 million increase from last year.

The Senate approved an amendment offered by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) to eliminate the 24-month commitment deadline in the HOME program for FY 2016-2019 funding.

Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) offered an amendment – co-sponsored by Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR), Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL), and Senator David Vitter (R-LA) -- that would have prohibited HUD from carrying out its Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) final rule. THUD Subcommittee Chairwoman Susan Collins (R-ME) introduced an alternate amendment cosponsored by THUD Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-RI) and Appropriations Committee Chairman Thad Cochran (R-MS) that would prohibit HUD from interfering in local zoning laws. The Senate approved the Collins amendment and tabled the Lee amendment (effectively rejecting it).

HUD Allocates $174 Million through the Housing Trust Fund
HUD published the Housing Trust Fund (HTF) allocations earlier this month. The HTF is a new affordable housing production program that will complement existing federal, state and local efforts to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low- and very low-income households, including families experiencing homelessness. The Fund will be administered by states and territories; all of which received a minimum allocation of $3 million. HUD will allocate HTF funds by formula annually. Grantees must use at least 80% of their grant for rental housing; up to 10 percent can be used for homeownership; and up to 10% can be used for administrative and planning costs. The new funding can be used for real property acquisition, site improvements and development hard costs, related soft costs, demolition, financing costs, relocation assistance, operating cost assistance for rental housing (up to 30% of each grant) and reasonable administrative and planning costs. All HTF-assisted units will be required to have a minimum affordability period of 30 years.

Grantees have until August 16 to submit their Allocation Plans. HTF funds used for new construction of rental housing must comply with site and neighborhood standards established in the HTF interim rule. View the Federal Register Notice that contains the allocations.

HUD Issues Rules on Broadband Installation and Planning
HUD recently released two rules that will affect CDBG and other HUD programs. One rule adds broadband access and disaster resilience as needs in the Consolidated Plan process and the other rule

requires newly constructed and substantially rehabilitated multifamily housing to be wired for broadband. Both rules were issued on May 18 and comments on both rules are due on July 18. NCDA will draft a response letter to both rules. Please send any comments you have to Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org.

Proposed Rule: Narrowing the Digital Divide through Installation of Broadband Infrastructure in HUD-Funded New Construction and Substantial Rehabilitation of Multifamily Rental Housing
Purpose: To require installation of broadband infrastructure at the time of new construction or substantial rehabilitation of multifamily rental housing that is funded or supported by HUD. The rule is available here.

Proposed Rule: Modernizing HUD's Consolidated Planning Process to Narrow the Digital Divide and Increase Resilience to Natural Hazards
Purpose: To require States and local governments to evaluate the availability of broadband access and the vulnerability of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households to natural hazard risks. Where access to broadband Internet is not currently available or is minimally available, States and local governments must consider ways to bring broadband Internet access to low- and moderate-income residents, including how HUD funds could be used to narrow the digital divide for these residents. In regards to natural hazards, States and local governments must consider ways to incorporate appropriate hazard mitigation and resilience into their community planning and development goals, codes, and standards, including the use of HUD funds. The rule is available here.

HUD Updates Consolidated Plan in IDIS Desk Guide and Creates Con Plan Quick Guides
HUD has updated the Consolidated Plan in IDIS Desk Guide on the following topics:

- *Copying and Amending Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan* – additional guidance in process for copying and amending Consolidated and Annual Action Plans
- *Consortia Instructions* – Additional guidance for Consortia in managing amendments to the Consolidated Plan and copying Action Plans
- *Clarifications to Completing the CAPER* – This version of the Desk Guide provides additional clarification to the requirements for completing the CAPER including the ESG eCart Upload
- *Creation of Con Plan Quick Guides* – HUD has created a series of quick guides on the following topics:
    - Creating a Consolidated Plan for State and Entitlement Grantees
    - Creating a Consolidated Plan for Consortia Grantees
    - Creating a Year 2-5 Annual Action Plan for State and Entitlement Grantees
    - Creating a Year 2-5 Annual Action Plan for Consortia Grantees
    - Creating a Year 2-5 Annual Action Plan for Regional Grantees
    - Amending a Con Plan and Annual Action Plan for State, Entitlement, Regional Grantees
    - Amending a Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for Consortia Grantees
    - Creating a CAPER for All Grantees

2016 HOME Income and Rent Limits
HUD has released the FY 2016 HOME Rent and Income Limits, effective on June 6, 2016.

- 2016 HOME Income Limits
- 2016 HOME Rent Limits

Census Bureau Updates "Regional Analyst Edition;" Incorporates American Community Survey and Survey of Business Owners Statistics

The latest update to the Census Bureau's Regional Analyst Edition mapping tool includes the American Community Survey and Survey of Business Owner statistics. Census Business Builder is a suite of services that provides selected demographic and economic data from the Census Bureau tailored to specific types of users in a simple to access and use format. The Regional Analyst Edition provides data for all sectors of the economy. Four new Survey of Business Owners statistics were added: race, ethnicity, gender, and veteran status. Four new American Community Survey statistics were added based on user feedback: percentage of workers using public transportation, percentage of veterans, percentage of foreign-born, and percentage of people speaking Spanish at home.

The system has been improved to provide faster map downloads, the addition of consumer spending data, and a new bookmark feature.

Nationwide Transit Database

The Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT) recently launched the database AllTransit. CNT is supported through a myriad of civic foundations and companies to support and promote livable and sustainable urban communities. AllTransit assembles the largest collection of transit data anywhere – 543,000 transit stops, 800 transit agencies and 15,000 routes nationwide. The database offers a number of ways to explore the database including the metrics for how transit relates to jobs, economy, health, equity, transit quality and mobility.

Update Your NCDA Username and Password

In our effort to upgrade our website and database we need you to please go to the link below to create a new password to access the Members Only sections of the website. Please contact Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org with any questions.

http://ncdaonline.org/membercredential.asp

NCDA is on Facebook and Twitter

Thanks to the efforts of Melissa Horr Pond (Quincy, MA) NCDA is now on Facebook and Twitter. We are seeking content to add to the Facebook page, such as photos (with captions) and videos. Please feel free to e-mail those items to Melissa at mhorr@quincyma.gov.

https://www.facebook.com/NCDAonline/

Twitter: @NCDAonline

NCDA Annual Conference

NCDA invites you to join other community development professionals at the 47th Annual Conference in Milwaukee, WI on June 22-25. The three-day conference is filled with educational sessions on issues of importance to community development practitioners. Get ideas, expand professional contacts, and explore new topics. A copy of the agenda is attached. To register for the conference, go here.

General Registration (April 2 – June 3)
Members: $500
Non-Members: $550

Late Registration (registrations received after June 3)
Members: $600

Non-Members: $650

Cancellations made after June 1, 2016 will be charged a $250 fee. Cancellations must be made via e-mail to sgartrell@ncdaonline.org.

NCDA HOME and CDBG Training Available
Please see below NCDA's CDBG and HOME training schedule. Both the CDBG and HOME basics courses provide a comprehensive overview of the programs through lecture and in-class exercises. The courses are filling up quickly, so we advise you to register immediately. Go here to register for a HOME course and go here to register for a CDBG course.

CDBG Basics: Training for Practitioners (Full)
July 27-29
Austin, TX

HOME Basics Course (Spaces Available)
August 24-26
Santa Rosa, CA (Host: Sonoma County)

CDBG Basics: Training for Practitioners (New)
September 21-23
Santa Rosa, CA (Host: Sonoma County)

CDBG Basics: Training for Practitioners (New)
September 28-30
Philadelphia, PA

CDBG Basics: Training for Practitioners (Spaces Available)
November 1-3
Lexington, SC (Host: Lexington County)

Please contact Steve Gartrell at sgartrell@ncdaonline.org with any questions.

Department of Housing and Urban Development
Budget Chart

Program	FY16 Enacted Funding Level	President's FY17 Budget Request	Senate FY17 Request	House Appropriations Committee FY17 Request
CDBG Formula Grants	$3.0 billion	$2.8 billion	$3.0 billion	$3.0 billion
HOME Formula Grants	$950 million	$950 million	$950 million	$950 million
Homeless Assistance Grants	$2.25 billion	$2.664 million	$2.330 billion	$2.487 billion
Section 108	$300 million	$300 million	$300 million	$300 million
Choice Neighborhoods	$125 million	$200 million	$80 million	$100 million
HOPWA	$335 million	$335 million	$335 million	$335 million
Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction	$110 million	$110 million	$135 million	$130 million
Elderly Housing (Section 202)	$433 million	$505 million	$505 million	$505 million
Housing for Persons with Disabilities (811)	$151 million	$154 million	$154 million	$154 million
Housing Counseling	$47 million	$47 million	$47 million	$55 million
Housing Choice Vouchers	$19.629 billion	$20.854 billion*	$20.432 billion**	$20.189 billion***
Project-Based Section 8	$10.62 billion	$10.816 billion	$10.901 billion	$10.901 billion
Public Housing Capital Fund	$1.9 billion	$1.865 billion	$1.925 billion	$1.900 billion
Public Housing Operating Fund	$4.5 billion	$4.569 billion	$4.675 billion	$4.500 billion

*includes $18.447 billion for voucher renewals, $110 million for tenant protection vouchers, $2 billion for administrative fees, $88 million for new/restored vouchers, and $110 million for Section 811 Mainstream Vouchers

**includes $18.355 billion for voucher renewals, $110 million for tenant-protection vouchers, $1.769 billion for administrative fees, $20 million for new/restored vouchers, and $110 million for Section 811 Mainstream Vouchers

***Includes $18.312 billion for voucher renewals, $110 million for tenant-protection vouchers, $1.650 billion for administrative fees, $7 million for new Tribal HUD-VASH vouchers, and $110 million for Section 811 Mainstream Vouchers.