National Community Development Association

NCDA Washington Report

August 31, 2016

Appropriations Update

The end of the federal fiscal year is almost upon us and Congress has yet to complete the FY 2017 appropriations process. While all of the 12 spending bills have been approved by the Appropriations committees and some have either been approved by the House or the Senate, none have been approved by both chambers. The Transportation-HUD bill has been approved by the Senate, but not the House. With so many spending bills yet to be approved, Congress will need to move a Continuing Resolution (CR) before September 30, the end of the fiscal year, to keep the federal government operating. The CR will keep federal programs operating at current levels (FY 2016) while Congress and the Administration continue efforts to reach agreement on long-term funding for the new budget year. The CR will likely run through mid-December, based on an assumption that Congress will finalize a long-term FY 2017 Omnibus (i.e. catch-all) appropriations bill before adjourning.

HUD Releases Continuum of Care Notice on Proposed PPRN Formula Change

HUD released a notice in the Federal Register announcing the re-opening of the Continuum of Care (CoC) interim rule for further comments on the Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN) formula. The formula is used to establish a CoC's initial need amount which in turn is used to determine a CoC's maximum award amount in a given fiscal year. The current PPRN formula is based on the CDBG program formula; however, in the notice HUD is proposing some new factors for consideration that they feel are more closely aligned with homelessness. NCDA is working with a group of members to submit comments to HUD by the September 23 deadline. If you would like to provide comments to NCDA, please send them to vwatson@ncdaonline.org by September 16.

HUD Releases 30-Day AFFH Notice on the Local Government Assessment Tool

HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity released a notice on August 23 soliciting further comments on the Local Government Assessment Tool. The notice outlines recent changes made to the Local Government Assessment Tool, including the development of an insert for small grantees that receive less than $500,000 in CDBG funds annually and opt to collaborate on a joint or regional Assessment of Fair Housing. Small HOME Consortia would also be allowed to use this insert. HUD has made changes throughout the Local Government Assessment Tool so it is important for you to review the Tool thoroughly. The insert and other proposed changes are available at the following link. The proposed changes are highlighted in blue. The insert for small CDBG grantees which choose to collaborate jointly or regionally on the Assessment tool is available under Section G on page 14.

https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Assessment-of-Fair-Housing-Tool-for-Local-Governments-Compare-Version.pdf

HUD is seeking comments to specific questions related to the Local Government Assessment Tool. These questions begin on page 57609 of the notice under "Solicitation of Specific Comments on the Local Government Tool" and end on page 57610 under "Solicitation of Comments Required by the PRA." Please answer these questions and provide any other feedback you deem important to shaping the Local Government Assessment Tool as this may be the last opportunity to comment. Please submit your comments directly to HUD by the September 22 due date. Please also send your comments to vwatson@ncdaonline.org **by September 20** for assimilation into a collective letter from NCDA to HUD.

Defect Found in CDBG Activity Summary Report in IDIS

According to HUD, a defect has been found in the PR03 BOSMAC (Original) CDBG Activity Summary Report in IDIS. When grantees use the Prior Year Draw flag for an activity, the activity will appear in the report twice, once for current year draws without the Prior Year Draw flag and once for draws with the Prior Year Draw flag. Please make sure you are not double counting accomplishments and draws. HUD is working to have this defect fixed by September 30, 2016.

HUD Publishes FMRs

On August 26, HUD published a notice in the Federal Register announcing the FY 2017 Fair Market Rents (FMRs). The FMRs will take effect on October 1, 2016. The FY 2017 FMRs are based on the 2010-2014 American Community Survey data.

HUD Releases Notice on Allocating Costs and Identifying Units in the HOME Program

CPD Notice 16-15, released by HUD on Monday, provides guidance to participating jurisdictions (PJs) on the methods of conducting cost allocation in accordance with the HOME regulations. PJs are required to perform cost allocation and identify the number and characteristics of units to be designated as HOME units before entering into a commitment of HOME funds.

FHA Streamlines Process to Help Homeowners Avoid Foreclosure

The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) will streamline its loss mitigation protocols that servicers must use when evaluating foreclosure alternatives that will help delinquent homeowners remain in their home. FHA's changes will streamline the process servicers use especially when evaluating borrowers for the FHA-HOME Affordable Modification Program (FHA-HAMP). These changes will give servicers more flexibility when evaluating an unemployed borrower's financial condition and special forbearance options. Servicers will also be required to convert successful three month trial modifications into permanent modifications within 60 days instead of the average four to six months.

FHFA Announces New Streamlined Refinance, Extends HARP

The Federal Housing Finance Agency, the agency responsible for overseeing Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, announced the creation of a new refinance product through Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae for borrowers with high loan-to-value (LTV) ratios. These borrowers are currently not served through traditional refinance programs because their LTV ratios exceed program limits. Under the new refinance product, borrowers must not have missed more than one payment in the last 12 months, must have an income and receive a benefit from refinancing. This product is more targeted than HARP but does not have a minimum credit score, maximum debt-to-income ratio or maximum LTV. The product has no cutoff date and will begin in October 2017. FHFA has extended HARP through September 30, 2017 so that high LTV borrowers continue to have a refinance option until this new product is rolled out.

John Sasso Scholarship Fund

NCDA lost its founder, John Sasso, on August 2. John was an outstanding advocate for community development and an ardent supporter of the CDBG program and for the neighborhoods and beneficiaries served by the program. NCDA has set-up a scholarship fund in John's memory. An ad hoc committee will soon be appointed by NCDA's President to decide how the scholarship funds should be awarded. If you would like to contribute to the fund please go here.

About John

John Sasso was born in Providence, RI on April 8, 1938. He graduated from the University of Miami in 1959. John worked as a Housing Inspector/Planner with the City of Providence, RI early on in his career and as the Deputy Director of the Pawtucket (RI) Redevelopment Agency until 1968. In 1968, John was named Executive Director of the Pawtucket Model Cities Program where John's career in community development began in earnest. Administering the Model Cities Program meant development of the comprehensive plan and execution of the first two program action years. In 1969, the Model Cities Community Development Directors Association (MCCDDA) was formed and John became its first president in the spring of 1970. After the passage of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the MCCDDA became the National Community Development Association and John became its Executive Secretary. John remained the Association's Executive Secretary until June 30, 1999 and became Executive Secretary Emeritus. In 1982, John created the Community Development Training Institute to provide training to local government personnel on community and economic development and housing strategies. The NCDA John A. Sasso National Community Development Week Award is named in his honor.

Mark Your Calendars for the NCDA Winter and Annual Conferences

2017 NCDA Winter Conference
Washington, DC
February 15-17, 2017
Holiday Inn Capitol

2017 NCDA 48th Annual Conference
Miami, FL
June 14-17, 2017
Hyatt Regency Miami

RFP for the 2018 and 2019 Annual Conferences

NCDA is seeking proposals from its members to host the 2018 and 2019 annual conference. NCDA is dedicated to providing professional development, best practices, and networking opportunities to its members through the delivery of top notch annual conferences. We are seeking hosts for the 2018 and 2019 (50th annual conference). The conference brings together the innovative, the informative, and the inquisitive to network, share, learn, and recognize excellence. Grantees from across the country attend the annual conference.

Conference Schedule
2018 – The preferred conference date is June 20-23, 2018
2019 – The preferred conference date is June 19-22, 2019

Please review the attached RFP requirements and “Things to Consider When Hosting a Conference” documents. Please submit completed proposals to Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org and to Steve Gartrell at sgartrell@ncdaonline.org by December 6, 2016. Selection of the host is based on: quality of the proposal; responsiveness to NCDA’s conference requirements, including costs; ability to raise conference sponsorship funds; and ability to deliver specified items in the proposal.

NCDA Address Change
Please note the following address change for NCDA *effective November 1*.

NCDA
1775 Eye Street, Suite 1150
Washington, DC 20006

Update Your NCDA Username and Password
If you have not already done so, 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
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 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)
September 21-23
Santa Rosa, CA (Host: Sonoma County)

CDBG Basics: Training for Practitioners (Spaces Available)
September 28-30

Philadelphia, PA

HOME Basics Course (Spaces Available)
October 24-25
Albuquerque, NM

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

Need Onsite Training?
If you would like NCDA to provide on-site CDBG and HOME training to your staff, please contact Steve Gartrell at sgartrell@ncdaonline.org. A minimum of 25 people is required. The host is also required to provide the training space and a/v (screen, projector, mic).

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.