



Statement of the CDBG Coalition Opposing OMB's Efforts to Eliminate CDBG

We, the undersigned members of the CDBG Coalition, oppose efforts by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) through its reform plan, "Delivering Government Solutions in the 21st Century," to eliminate the CDBG program. By stripping CDBG of most of its eligible activities and moving and combining its economic development activities with other programs at the Department of Commerce, this proposal kills CDBG as we know it.

CDBG is a valuable program that works locally to address substandard housing, poor or non-existent infrastructure, pockets of decline and neighborhood development. It provides the resources and tools that enable local communities to design flexible strategies to address these issues. CDBG is also an important leveraging tool for local communities to gain access to other funding sources. Every \$1.00 of CDBG invested in communities leverages another \$4.09 in private and public investment. The 1,268 state and local CDBG grantees representing every Congressional district would be deprived of these critical resources if this proposal moves forward.

CDBG is an impactful program; creating strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. The program is a model in efficiency and effectiveness; using strategic planning and coordination to assist millions of low- and moderate-income people annually. Grantees report annually to HUD on program performance, accomplishments and expenditure of funds. CDBG is also the program platform used by Congress to appropriate and deliver millions of dollars in disaster recovery funds because of its ability to allocate funds quickly and effectively. This delivery mechanism is threatened by this proposal.

Moreover, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has a 43-year history of effective administration and oversight of CDBG that includes long-term relationships with grantees and experienced, knowledgeable staff. The program must remain intact and administered by HUD.

We stand in our strong opposition of this proposal that would remove vital resources from local communities. We will work with our member communities and agencies to fight any efforts to implement this proposal.

American Planning Association
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Council of State Community Development Agencies
Enterprise Community Partners
Feeding America
Habitat for Humanity International
Heartland Alliance
International Economic Development Council
Local Initiatives Support Corporation

National Association for County Community and Economic Development
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
National Association of Counties
National Association of Development Organizations
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Association of Regional Councils
National Community Development Association
National Development Council
National League of Cities
National Main Street Center
National NeighborWorks Association
National Recreation and Park Association
National Urban League
Rebuilding Together
Rural Community Assistance Partnership
The Trust for Public Land
U.S. Conference of Mayors
YWCA USA