



The United States Conference of Mayors

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STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS PRESIDENT BEVERLY O'NEILL ON THE CDBG PROGRAM DURING CDBG WEEK

Washington, D.C. – At the beginning of CDBG week, United States Conference of Mayors President Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill reiterated her support of the CDBG program saying:

“The nation's mayors believe that in order to keep America strong, Congress and the Administration must responsibly invest in cities and local communities, which are the engines that drive this nation's economy.

“For more than 30 years, CDBG has been recognized by HUD as one of its most efficient tools to strengthen local communities. It is an effective program that helps millions of Americans by investing directly in neighborhoods. It increases homeownership and gives local governments the flexibility to address a variety of other needs.

“The FY 2007 federal budget, however, erodes the CDBG program with a \$1 billion cut and puts it on the road to elimination. During CDBG week, the nation's mayors are more determined than ever to stop this unwise and misguided effort to undermine this invaluable program. As in past years, we will work with our coalition of national organizations to raise the visibility of the effectiveness of the program both on the grassroots level, as well as on Capitol Hill. Because this program impacts so many communities in our country, we expect that the bi-partisan support we saw last year for the CDBG program remains in both houses of Congress.”

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