

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002-4290**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANTS PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, COG's Housing Director's Advisory Committee (HDAC) hosted a regional forum on April 25th with local government officials, housing and community development leaders, and HUD headquarters staff to address the ongoing significance of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to metropolitan Washington.

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program seeks to ensure decent affordable housing, to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, and to create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses; and

WHEREAS, national CDBG funding has been reduced from \$4.406 billion in FY2001 to \$3.99 billion in FY2010 with plans for additional cuts in FY 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, Congress is considering eliminating up to 60 percent of CDBG's budget which would greatly impact the nation's and region's community development industry and projects; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 100 representatives from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, the United Way – National Capital Area, Freddie Mac, COG's member government housing and human service agencies and several local nonprofit organizations resolved to partner and create grassroots advocacy campaigns to retain CDBG funding and continue serving our region's vulnerable residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

1. COG supports the work and advocacy of its regional CDBG funded partners in their common quest to bring attention to the program's success, positive regional impact and consequences should funding be reduced and/or cut.
2. COG recommends the active participation of its local elected officials and housing and planning staff in serving as champions for the region's CDBG allocations and projects.

COPY TESTE

Diane Humke, Board Clerk