

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 25, 2013

The Honorable Tom Latham
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ed Pastor
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation
Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Latham and Ranking Member Pastor:

We write to share our concern about the impact the proposed funding levels for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee-passed bill would have on redevelopment authorities and local municipalities. While we understand the difficult fiscal decisions we must make in Washington, the proposed bill reduces CDBG formula grants by nearly 50 percent, from \$3.071 billion in FY2013 to \$1.637 billion in FY2014. This proposed funding level also marks an historic low since the program's beginnings in the 1970s.

As you know, 144 Members signed a bipartisan letter in April for your review in developing FY2014 legislation. The letter supported maintaining the funding levels that the subcommittee recommended last year. The now proposed, substantial reduction -- essentially halving the program -- would impact local economies, threaten the program's national scope, curtail on-the-ground lead-abatement projects helping to revitalize our older cities, and reduce ongoing capabilities to aid veterans and other workforce training services.

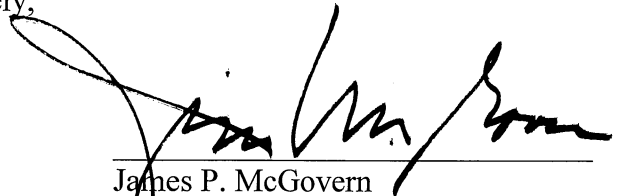
We are concerned about the implications of this reduction, especially as the program's funds have already fallen substantially—by nearly \$1 billion since FY2010. As you know, CDBG is largely managed by local municipalities, providing flexibility and tailored needs in our local economies and remains a lifeline for families and communities. For example, HUD reports that between FY2007 and FY2011, CDBG helped over 174,000 businesses expand economic opportunities and over the last decade, CDBG programs have rehabilitated more than 1.4 million homes for low- and moderate-income homeowners and renters. As a proven program with an effective track record, it serves an ongoing, continual need that not only impacts lives, but provides a documented return on its investment to leverage local dollars: Every \$1.00 of CDBG leverages an additional \$3.55 in non-CDBG funding, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).


The pressing need in the current economy for these funds remains critical. We look forward to working with you to maintain effective funding levels for this work. If we can provide any further information, please contact Kate Ostrander, Legislative Director of the Northeast-

Midwest Congressional Coalition, at 6-6106 or kate.ostrander@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,


Mike Kelly
Member of Congress


James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

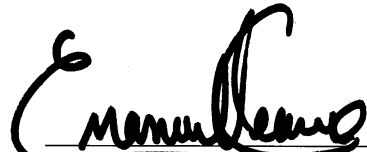

Mike Turner
Member of Congress

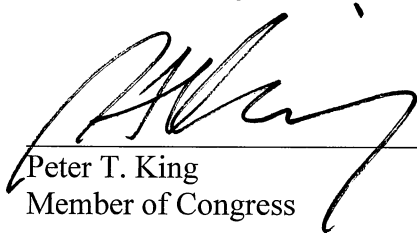

Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress


Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress

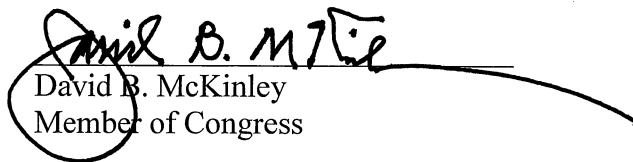

Chris Gibson
Member of Congress


Lou Barletta
Member of Congress

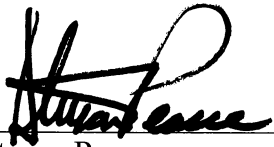

Emanuel Cleaver
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Peter T. King
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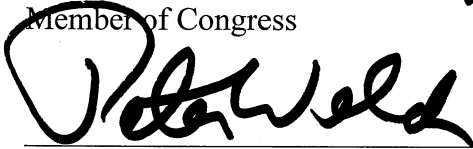
Wm. Lacy Clay
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Marcia L. Fudge
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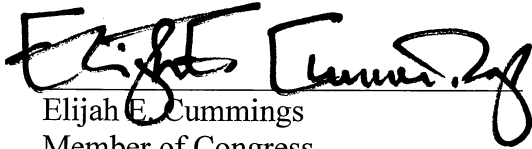
John D. Dingell
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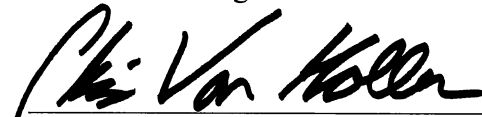
Peter Welch
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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



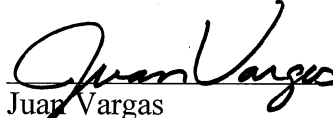
Elijah E. Cummings
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Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



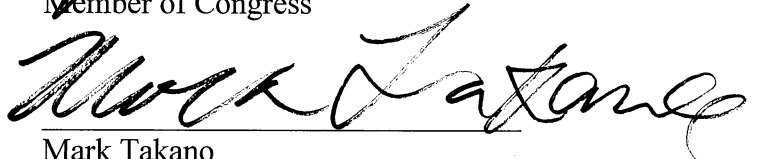
John K. Delaney
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Juan Vargas
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Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



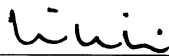
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Matthew A. Cartwright
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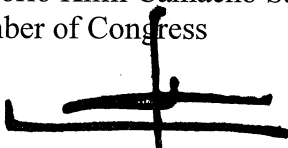
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



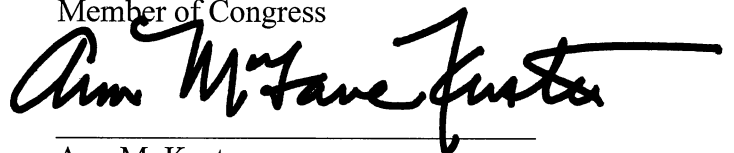
Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
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Diana DeGette
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

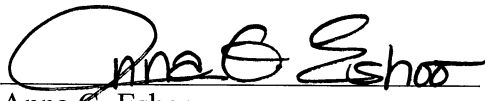
John Conyers, Jr.
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Member of Congress

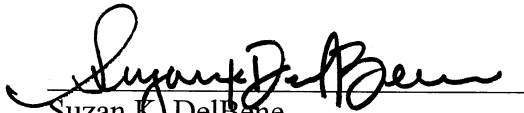
Richard M. Nolan
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Member of Congress


Paul Tonko
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Gene Green
Gene Green
Member of Congress

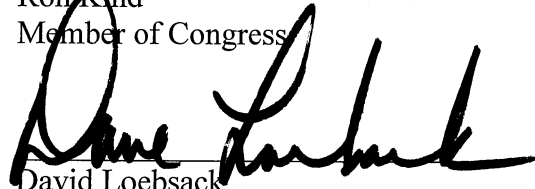

James A. Himes
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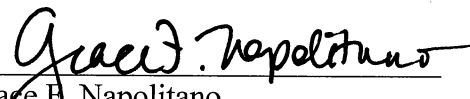

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

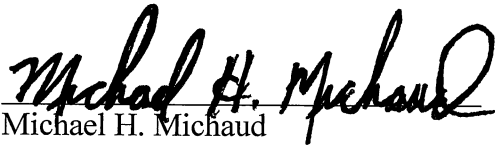

Suzan K. DelBene
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Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress

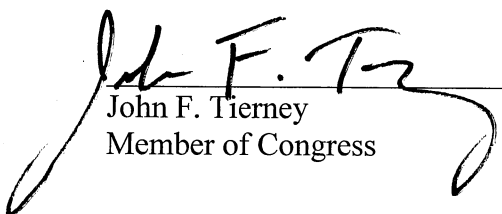

Ron Kind
Member of Congress

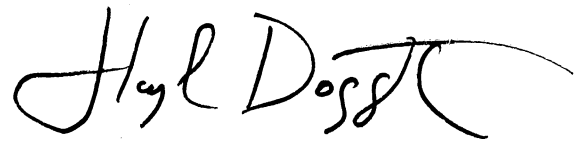

David Loebsack
Member of Congress

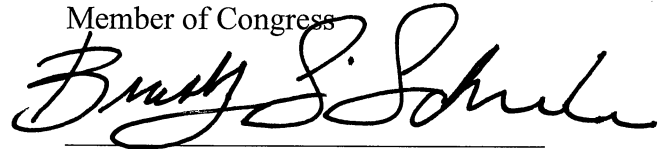

Grace H. Napolitano
Member of Congress

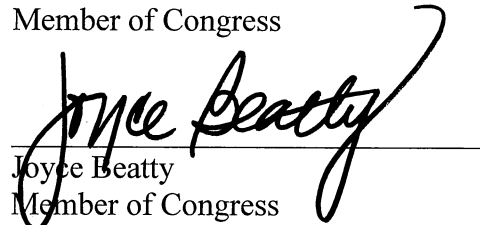

Michael H. Michaud
Member of Congress

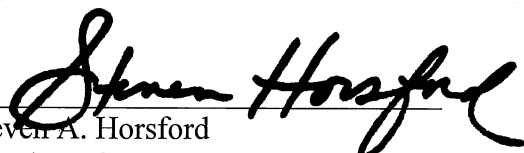

Corrine Brown
Member of Congress

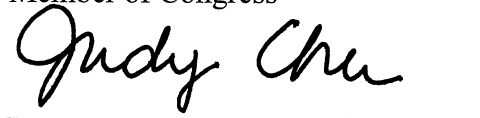

John F. Tierney
Member of Congress

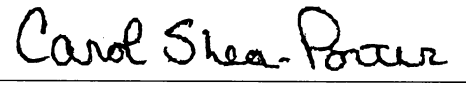

Lloyd Doggett
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Bradley S. Schneider
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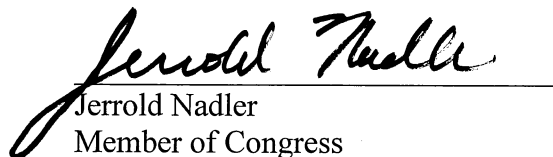

Joyce Beatty
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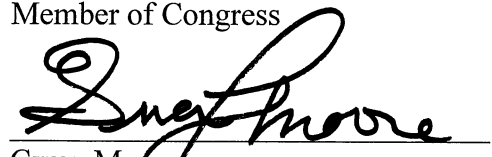

Judy Chu
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Loretta Sanchez

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Jim Costa

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Member of Congress

Michael E. Capuano

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Joe Garcia

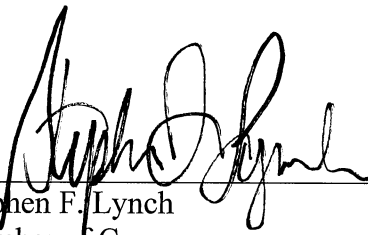
Joe Garcia
Member of Congress

Donna M. Christensen

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Member of Congress

Raul M. Grijalva

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Member of Congress



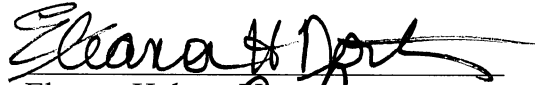
Stephen F. Lynch
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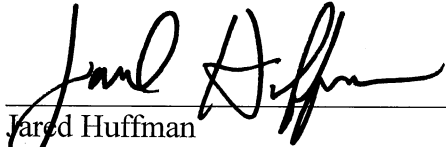
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



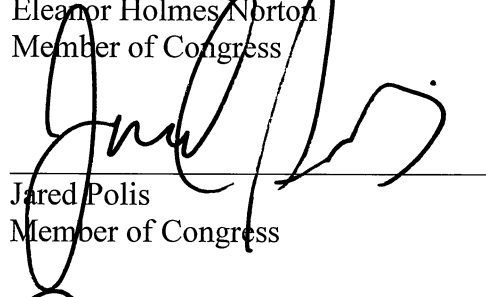
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



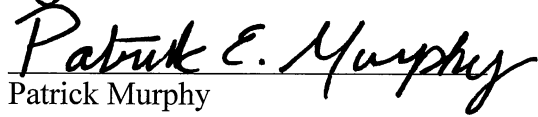
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



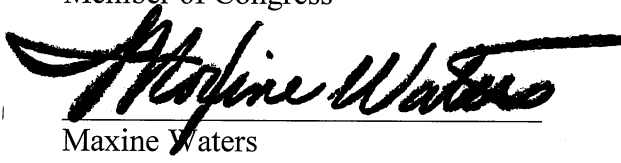
Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Xavier Becerra
Member of Congress



Patrick Murphy
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress