



City of Lawrence

DAVID L. CORLISS
CITY MANAGER

City Offices
PO Box 708 66044-0708
www.lawrenceks.org

6 East 6th St
785-832-3000
FAX 785-832-3405

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
MIKE AMYX

COMMISSIONERS
ARON E. CROMWELL
LANCE M. JOHNSON
MICHAEL DEVER
ROBERT CHESTNUT

March 1, 2011

The Honorable Lynn Jenkins
U.S. House of Representatives
Room 1122
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-2715
202-225-5124 (Fax)

RE: Funding Threats to HUD Funded Housing and Community Development Programs

Dear Representative Jenkins:

As the chief elected official for the City of Lawrence, Kansas, I am writing this letter on behalf of our community to express our support for the HUD funded housing and community development programs and to voice our opposition to threatened major cuts of these programs in FY11 or FY12. Major reductions in these programs – including 60% for the CDBG program, 40% for the Public Housing Capital Fund, and 20% for Section 8 program administration, would severely slow down or eliminate local programs and projects that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens as well as contributing to the local economy and recovery efforts.

In the City of Lawrence, the Lawrence Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) provides public housing and Section 8 housing vouchers for 1086 residents of the City of Lawrence. The proposed cuts of approximately \$100 billion in housing and community development programs would result in the estimated loss of about \$252,432 in LDCHA's public housing program and \$121,818 in its Section 8 housing choice vouchers program. This would have an immediate and detrimental effect on LDCHA's public housing program, which provides safe, decent, and affordable housing, and a devastating impact on the ability to maintain the public housing property owned by the City.

The CDBG program is a vital resource to our community, providing funding for projects and services that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens, as well as the community as a whole. CDBG funding for the City of Lawrence in 2010 was \$873,000 and the City leverages those funds to provide numerous improvements and services throughout the community. A 60% reduction in funds would reduce that amount to less than \$350,000



and would certainly negatively affect community revitalization and development activities as well as services for low and moderate income citizens.

Through the years, CDBG funds have provided housing improvements including comprehensive housing rehabilitation, emergency repairs and furnace replacement, and weatherization improvements including attic insulation, storm windows, and weatherstripping of doors to several thousand low and moderate income homeowners. These individuals are able to remain in their homes, contributing to the community's tax base and local economy. Additionally, since 1994, funds have been provided to make 224 families/individuals first time homebuyers. Without this funding, some of these families would never be able to attain the American dream of homeownership.

Other important projects funded with CDBG funds include repairs to the structures that house numerous social service agencies in Lawrence or funding to provide those services. Along with the housing rehabilitation efforts previously mentioned, these structural repairs help revitalize and stabilize older neighborhoods. These include facilities that provide services for battered women and their families, unwed and pregnant teens, women and men recovering from substance abuse, mental health and health services, legal services, child care, youth education and housing, as well as general services such as food and clothing. These agencies provide services to thousands of Lawrence citizens each year, the majority of which are low and moderate income.

CDBG funds have also funded infrastructure activities that keep this community viable including such projects as the installation of miles of infill sidewalk and damaged sidewalk replacement, installation or replacement of water lines, sewer lines and drainage improvements, street improvements and parks improvements. Without CDBG funding, many of these projects would not have been completed and citizens would not have access to needed services. CDBG provides the flexibility to fund a myriad of activities, fill gaps where needed, and leverage and attract additional resources to projects. This combination of CDBG with other resources adds to our local economy through the purchase of goods and services and adds to the betterment of the lives of our local citizenry through improved neighborhoods and services.

On behalf of the City of Lawrence, I ask you to oppose any legislation that would eliminate or majorly reduce funding for HUD funded housing and community development programs in FY11 or FY12. I would also like to extend an invitation to you and your staff to tour our public housing and CDBG funded projects to see the benefits of these programs firsthand. We thank you, in advance, for your support of HUD funded housing and community development programs. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Amyx,
Mayor, City of Lawrence



City of Lawrence

DAVID L. CORLISS
CITY MANAGER

City Offices
PO Box 708 66044-0708
www.lawrenceks.org

6 East 6th St
785-832-3000
FAX 785-832-3405

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
MIKE AMYX

COMMISSIONERS
ARON E. CROMWELL
LANCE M. JOHNSON
MICHAEL DEVER
ROBERT CHESTNUT

March 1, 2011

The Honorable Kevin Yoder
U.S. House of Representatives
Room 214
Canon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-2865
202-225-2807 (Fax)

RE: Funding Threats to HUD Funded Housing and Community Development Programs

Dear Representative Yoder:

As the chief elected official for the City of Lawrence, Kansas, I am writing this letter on behalf of our community to express our support for the HUD funded housing and community development programs and to voice our opposition to threatened major cuts of these programs in FY11 or FY12. Major reductions in these programs – including 60% for the CDBG program, 40% for the Public Housing Capital Fund, and 20% for Section 8 program administration, would severely slow down or eliminate local programs and projects that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens as well as contributing to the local economy and recovery efforts.

In the City of Lawrence, the Lawrence Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) provides public housing and Section 8 housing vouchers for 1086 residents of the City of Lawrence. The proposed cuts of approximately \$100 billion in housing and community development programs would result in the estimated loss of about \$252,432 in LDCHA's public housing program and \$121,818 in its Section 8 housing choice vouchers program. This would have an immediate and detrimental effect on LDCHA's public housing program, which provides safe, decent, and affordable housing, and a devastating impact on the ability to maintain the public housing property owned by the City.

The CDBG program is a vital resource to our community, providing funding for projects and services that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens, as well as the community as a whole. CDBG funding for the City of Lawrence in 2010 was \$873,000 and the City leverages those funds to provide numerous improvements and services throughout the community. A 60% reduction in funds would reduce that amount to less than \$350,000



and would certainly negatively affect community revitalization and development activities as well as services for low and moderate income citizens.

Through the years, CDBG funds have provided housing improvements including comprehensive housing rehabilitation, emergency repairs and furnace replacement, and weatherization improvements including attic insulation, storm windows, and weatherstripping of doors to several thousand low and moderate income homeowners. These individuals are able to remain in their homes, contributing to the community's tax base and local economy. Additionally, since 1994, funds have been provided to make 224 families/individuals first time homebuyers. Without this funding, some of these families would never be able to attain the American dream of homeownership.

Other important projects funded with CDBG funds include repairs to the structures that house numerous social service agencies in Lawrence or funding to provide those services. Along with the housing rehabilitation efforts previously mentioned, these structural repairs help revitalize and stabilize older neighborhoods. These include facilities that provide services for battered women and their families, unwed and pregnant teens, women and men recovering from substance abuse, mental health and health services, legal services, child care, youth education and housing, as well as general services such as food and clothing. These agencies provide services to thousands of Lawrence citizens each year, the majority of which are low and moderate income.

CDBG funds have also funded infrastructure activities that keep this community viable including such projects as the installation of miles of infill sidewalk and damaged sidewalk replacement, installation or replacement of water lines, sewer lines and drainage improvements, street improvements and parks improvements. Without CDBG funding, many of these projects would not have been completed and citizens would not have access to needed services. CDBG provides the flexibility to fund a myriad of activities, fill gaps where needed, and leverage and attract additional resources to projects. This combination of CDBG with other resources adds to our local economy through the purchase of goods and services and adds to the betterment of the lives of our local citizenry through improved neighborhoods and services.

On behalf of the City of Lawrence, I ask you to oppose any legislation that would eliminate or majorly reduce funding for HUD funded housing and community development programs in FY11 or FY12. I would also like to extend an invitation to you and your staff to tour our public housing and CDBG funded projects to see the benefits of these programs firsthand. We thank you, in advance, for your support of HUD funded housing and community development programs. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Amyx,
Mayor, City of Lawrence



City of Lawrence

DAVID L. CORLISS
CITY MANAGER

City Offices
PO Box 708 66044-0708
www.lawrenceks.org

6 East 6th St
785-832-3000
FAX 785-832-3405

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
MIKE AMYX

COMMISSIONERS
ARON E. CROMWELL
LANCE M. JOHNSON
MICHAEL DEVER
ROBERT CHESTNUT

March 1, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Moran
U.S. Senate
Courtyard 4
Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-6521
202-224-1265 (Fax)

RE: Funding Threats to HUD Funded Housing and Community Development Programs

Dear Senator Moran:

As the chief elected official for the City of Lawrence, Kansas, I am writing this letter on behalf of our community to express our support for the HUD funded housing and community development programs and to voice our opposition to threatened major cuts of these programs in FY11 or FY12. Major reductions in these programs – including 60% for the CDBG program, 40% for the Public Housing Capital Fund, and 20% for Section 8 program administration, would severely slow down or eliminate local programs and projects that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens as well as contributing to the local economy and recovery efforts.

In the City of Lawrence, the Lawrence Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) provides public housing and Section 8 housing vouchers for 1086 residents of the City of Lawrence. The proposed cuts of approximately \$100 billion in housing and community development programs would result in the estimated loss of about \$252,432 in LDCHA's public housing program and \$121,818 in its Section 8 housing choice vouchers program. This would have an immediate and detrimental effect on LDCHA's public housing program, which provides safe, decent, and affordable housing, and a devastating impact on the ability to maintain the public housing property owned by the City.

The CDBG program is a vital resource to our community, providing funding for projects and services that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens, as well as the community as a whole. CDBG funding for the City of Lawrence in 2010 was \$873,000 and the City leverages those funds to provide numerous improvements and services throughout the community. A 60% reduction in funds would reduce that amount to less than \$350,000



and would certainly negatively affect community revitalization and development activities as well as services for low and moderate income citizens.

Through the years, CDBG funds have provided housing improvements including comprehensive housing rehabilitation, emergency repairs and furnace replacement, and weatherization improvements including attic insulation, storm windows, and weatherstripping of doors to several thousand low and moderate income homeowners. These individuals are able to remain in their homes, contributing to the community's tax base and local economy. Additionally, since 1994, funds have been provided to make 224 families/individuals first time homebuyers. Without this funding, some of these families would never be able to attain the American dream of homeownership.

Other important projects funded with CDBG funds include repairs to the structures that house numerous social service agencies in Lawrence or funding to provide those services. Along with the housing rehabilitation efforts previously mentioned, these structural repairs help revitalize and stabilize older neighborhoods. These include facilities that provide services for battered women and their families, unwed and pregnant teens, women and men recovering from substance abuse, mental health and health services, legal services, child care, youth education and housing, as well as general services such as food and clothing. These agencies provide services to thousands of Lawrence citizens each year, the majority of which are low and moderate income.

CDBG funds have also funded infrastructure activities that keep this community viable including such projects as the installation of miles of infill sidewalk and damaged sidewalk replacement, installation or replacement of water lines, sewer lines and drainage improvements, street improvements and parks improvements. Without CDBG funding, many of these projects would not have been completed and citizens would not have access to needed services. CDBG provides the flexibility to fund a myriad of activities, fill gaps where needed, and leverage and attract additional resources to projects. This combination of CDBG with other resources adds to our local economy through the purchase of goods and services and adds to the betterment of the lives of our local citizenry through improved neighborhoods and services.

On behalf of the City of Lawrence, I ask you to oppose any legislation that would eliminate or majorly reduce funding for HUD funded housing and community development programs in FY11 or FY12. I would also like to extend an invitation to you and your staff to tour our public housing and CDBG funded projects to see the benefits of these programs firsthand. We thank you, in advance, for your support of HUD funded housing and community development programs. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Amyx,
Mayor, City of Lawrence



City of Lawrence

DAVID L. CORLISS
CITY MANAGER

City Offices
PO Box 708 66044-0708
www.lawrenceks.org

6 East 6th St
785-832-3000
FAX 785-832-3405

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
MIKE AMYX

COMMISSIONERS
ARON E. CROMWELL
LANCE M. JOHNSON
MICHAEL DEVER
ROBERT CHESTNUT

March 1, 2011

The Honorable Pat Roberts
U.S. Senate
Room 109
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-4774
202-224-3514 (Fax)

RE: Funding Threats to HUD Funded Housing and Community Development Programs

Dear Senator Roberts:

As the chief elected official for the City of Lawrence, Kansas, I am writing this letter on behalf of our community to express our support for the HUD funded housing and community development programs and to voice our opposition to threatened major cuts of these programs in FY11 or FY12. Major reductions in these programs – including 60% for the CDBG program, 40% for the Public Housing Capital Fund, and 20% for Section 8 program administration, would severely slow down or eliminate local programs and projects that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens as well as contributing to the local economy and recovery efforts.

In the City of Lawrence, the Lawrence Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) provides public housing and Section 8 housing vouchers for 1086 residents of the City of Lawrence. The proposed cuts of approximately \$100 billion in housing and community development programs would result in the estimated loss of about \$252,432 in LDCHA's public housing program and \$121,818 in its Section 8 housing choice vouchers program. This would have an immediate and detrimental effect on LDCHA's public housing program, which provides safe, decent, and affordable housing, and a devastating impact on the ability to maintain the public housing property owned by the City.

The CDBG program is a vital resource to our community, providing funding for projects and services that directly impact the lives of our low and moderate income citizens, as well as the community as a whole. CDBG funding for the City of Lawrence in 2010 was \$873,000 and the City leverages those funds to provide numerous improvements and services throughout the community. A 60% reduction in funds would reduce that amount to less than \$350,000



and would certainly negatively affect community revitalization and development activities as well as services for low and moderate income citizens.

Through the years, CDBG funds have provided housing improvements including comprehensive housing rehabilitation, emergency repairs and furnace replacement, and weatherization improvements including attic insulation, storm windows, and weatherstripping of doors to several thousand low and moderate income homeowners. These individuals are able to remain in their homes, contributing to the community's tax base and local economy. Additionally, since 1994, funds have been provided to make 224 families/individuals first time homebuyers. Without this funding, some of these families would never be able to attain the American dream of homeownership.

Other important projects funded with CDBG funds include repairs to the structures that house numerous social service agencies in Lawrence or funding to provide those services. Along with the housing rehabilitation efforts previously mentioned, these structural repairs help revitalize and stabilize older neighborhoods. These include facilities that provide services for battered women and their families, unwed and pregnant teens, women and men recovering from substance abuse, mental health and health services, legal services, child care, youth education and housing, as well as general services such as food and clothing. These agencies provide services to thousands of Lawrence citizens each year, the majority of which are low and moderate income.

CDBG funds have also funded infrastructure activities that keep this community viable including such projects as the installation of miles of infill sidewalk and damaged sidewalk replacement, installation or replacement of water lines, sewer lines and drainage improvements, street improvements and parks improvements. Without CDBG funding, many of these projects would not have been completed and citizens would not have access to needed services. CDBG provides the flexibility to fund a myriad of activities, fill gaps where needed, and leverage and attract additional resources to projects. This combination of CDBG with other resources adds to our local economy through the purchase of goods and services and adds to the betterment of the lives of our local citizenry through improved neighborhoods and services.

On behalf of the City of Lawrence, I ask you to oppose any legislation that would eliminate or majorly reduce funding for HUD funded housing and community development programs in FY11 or FY12. I would also like to extend an invitation to you and your staff to tour our public housing and CDBG funded projects to see the benefits of these programs firsthand. We thank you, in advance, for your support of HUD funded housing and community development programs. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Amyx,
Mayor, City of Lawrence