

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

APRIL 3, 2018

Recognizing “National Community Development Week” in Los Angeles County

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, enacted in 1974, has long been considered the most successful federally-supported local program ever approved by Congress. The CDBG Program gives state, city, and county governments the flexibility to target funds to locally determined priority needs, primarily to benefit low- and moderate-income residents, and to help eliminate slums and blight. The County of Los Angeles (County), through the Community Development Commission, administers the largest CDBG Urban County Program in the nation, encompassing the unincorporated County areas and 47 participating cities.

This year marks the 44th anniversary of the CDBG Program. Since its inception, the Los Angeles Urban County CDBG Program (Local Program) has consistently provided assistance to low- and moderate-income residents of the County through a variety of economic development, public service, recreation, and housing rehabilitation programs. CDBG funds provide services to youth and seniors, the homeless, persons with HIV/AIDS, and persons with special needs.

During the past fiscal year alone, the Local Program served 100,648 persons who were homeless and/or living with HIV/AIDS, as well as 346 housing units through code enforcement programs, created or improved 845 housing units through housing

- MORE -

MOTION

SOLIS _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

KUEHL _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
APRIL 3, 2018
PAGE 2

rehabilitation services, offered economic development technical assistance to 444 businesses, and constructed or improved seven public facilities. Through 50 non-profit agencies, the Local Program facilitated public services to 17,336 persons, supportive services to 4,448 seniors, and services and activities to 1,217 youth and children. In fact, the Local Program substantially exceeded the Federal requirement to expend 70% of its funds for the benefit of low- and moderate-income persons. In the past fiscal year, the Local Program spent \$16.4 million, equaling 97.22% of its total CDBG expenditures, for the benefit of low- and moderate-income persons.

Another federally-funded program that has significant local benefit is the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program. Prior to the 1990 enactment of the HOME Program, there were few options available to communities to develop affordable housing. The HOME Program was developed to provide resources to communities to provide decent, safe, and affordable housing opportunities for low-income persons. HOME Program funding has been used nationally to complete over one million units of affordable housing.

Although there have been significant reductions to this valuable resource, the County has used its HOME Program funds to finance innovative housing programs and projects for low-income families, including the construction of affordable housing, the rehabilitation of existing housing, and the down payment assistance for eligible first-time homebuyers. Since the HOME Program's inception in 1992, the County has overseen the administration of over \$285 million in HOME funds. The total leveraging ratio for the County's rental projects is approximately 3.7 times, creating a total of over \$850 million available for local housing.

Despite their proven track record of success, the CDBG and HOME Programs continue to face threats to their existence. It is vital that these Programs not only remain, but expand, in order to meet the growing national need for resources to support community and economic development-related purposes.

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
APRIL 3, 2018
PAGE 3**

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Proclaim April 2 through April 8, 2018, as National Community Development Week in the County of Los Angeles in order to recognize the history and accomplishments of the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs.

###

(LJ)