

Resolution Number: 15

Submitted by: The Honorable Mayor Martin J. Walsh, City of Boston

**SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grows local economies and improves the quality of lives for low- and moderate-income citizens in every state, territory, and Congressional district by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, communities use CDBG funding to respond to current and emerging community development needs, including the creation of jobs, development of affordable housing, improvement of existing housing stock, the delivery of vital services, and the development of important infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, CDBG is a jobs generator; creating/retaining over 401,000 economic development jobs between FY2005-FY2017; and

WHEREAS, CDBG leverages other investment in local communities; for every \$1.00 of CDBG another \$4.09 in private and public dollars is leveraged; and

WHEREAS, the program has provided safe, decent, affordable housing to over 1.435 million low- and moderate-income households since FY2005; and

WHEREAS, CDBG-funded public improvements directly benefited over 45 million low- and moderate-income people since FY2005; and

WHEREAS, over 139 million low- and moderate-income people received CDBG-funded public services since FY2005; and

WHEREAS, while the number of grantees receiving CDBG funding has more than doubled from 594 in 1975 to 1,268 today, CDBG has been chronically underfunded, receiving \$2.473 billion in 1975 and only \$3.3 billion today; and

WHEREAS, the funding has not kept up with the rate of inflation; the program has never been adjusted for inflation even though local program costs increase annually; and

WHEREAS, a CDBG Coalition study of grantees found that CDBG grantees receive far more requests for funding than can be met with their current allocation with the majority reporting that over 50% of local program applications for assistance are not funded due to a lack of CDBG funding; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has proposed elimination of CDBG in FY2019.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges Congress to oppose elimination of the CDBG program, begin to restore program funding by supporting at least \$3.5 billion in FY2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States Conference of Mayors also urges Congress to incorporate an annual inflation factor into the program.