

**A Resolution of the Town of Fort Myers Beach
Urging Congress to Protect the
Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)**

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program was created in the 1970s and has been one of the most successful and broadly supported federal programs to city and county governments; and

WHEREAS, the history of CDBG in Florida has been one of strong intergovernmental partnerships working to improve low-to moderate-income areas with housing, water and wastewater systems, redevelopment efforts, road and transportation systems, social programs and other essential services; and

WHEREAS, the National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Association of counties and other state and local government-sector associations are all in unison in their support of CDBG and the need to keep this program intact; and

WHEREAS, President Bush has further proposed to merge CDBG with 17 other federal programs, and remove CDBG from the Housing and Urban Development Administration (HUD) where it has been housed since its inception, and we believe this move would be catastrophic to the true nature of CDBG, and would have the effect of killing the program; and

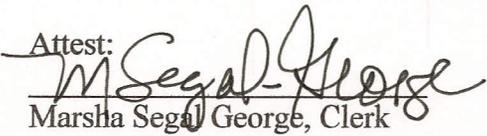
WHEREAS, in addition to moving the program, President Bush has requested that CDBG funding be substantially reduced, which has the effect of eliminating numerous Florida programs that were budgeted by their respective cities and counties for completion as CDBG programs, and that President Bush's request of \$3.71 billion is for all 18 programs to be housed with the Department of Commerce, not just CDBG funding alone, which further reduces the effectiveness of the CDBG program, currently funded at \$5.3 billion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Fort Myers Beach, that we hereby request:

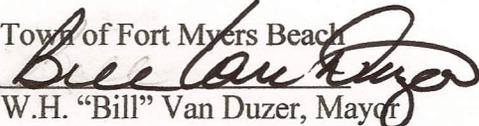
1. That Congress fully fund CDBG at the 2004 rate as a minimum, and retain the program's location within HUD as a stand-alone federal program.
2. That Congress continue to explore expansion of the CDBG program based upon its outstanding success rate across America.

ADOPTED this 18th day of April 2005 in meeting assembled.

Attest:


Marsha Segal George, Clerk

Town of Fort Myers Beach


W.H. "Bill" Van Duzer, Mayor