



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker Meets with HUD Secretary Donovan

U.S. Mayors Urge Administration's Continued Support of Community Development Block Grants

Salt Lake City and Washington, D.C. – As Vice Chair of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Community Development and Housing Committee, Mayor Ralph Becker joined a delegation of U.S. mayors who met with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan today at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington D.C.

The focus of the meeting was the Community Development Block Grant Program and ensuring the Administration's continued support of the program. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is one of the most flexible funding streams of federal dollars that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs including affordable housing and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Begun in 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest continuously run programs at HUD, and is also considered one of the most successful.

"CDBG funding does more to aid our communities in need than any other single federal funding source and is necessary to continue offering low-income housing, park and street improvements, and many social service projects," said Mayor Ralph Becker. "I welcomed the opportunity to share the success of these funds in Salt Lake City with Secretary Donovan and expressed our gratitude and need for continued funding."

Joining Mayor Becker in the meeting with Secretary Donovan were Mayor Elizabeth Kautz, Burnsville, MN, USCM President, Mayor Michael Nutter, Philadelphia, PA, USCM Second Vice-President, Mayor Setti Warren, Newton, MA, USCM Community Development and Housing Committee Chair, Mayor James Brainard, Carmel, IN, Mayor Bill Finch, Bridgeport, CT and Tom Cochran, USCM CEO and Executive Director.

About the U.S. Conference of Mayors

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.

More information on the U.S. Conference of Mayors can be found at <http://www.usmayors.org/>.

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