

FILE OF THE CITY CLERK

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 26-2017

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILWOMAN BARBARA WILSON – MAY 9, 2017

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL – MAY 9, 2017

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER
OPPOSING THE ELIMINATION AND REDUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND HOME PROGRAMS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE
DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES SUCH PROGRAM CUTS WOULD HAVE
ON ALL CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, AND URGING FEDERAL
LEGISLATORS TO ACT TO PROTECT THE PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, the federal Community Development Block Grant and HOME programs have funded police enforcement efforts in Lancaster City’s neighborhoods, paved neighborhood streets, helped low-income residents repair broken furnaces and leaking roofs, removed lead hazards from homes, and provided inspections that ensure safe housing; and

WHEREAS, every single person in the City of Lancaster has benefitted directly or indirectly by Community Development Block Grant and HOME Program funds; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2017, the federal Office of Management and Budget released “America First, A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” a budget proposal for federal Fiscal Year 2018 by the President of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget would eliminate funding for the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Programs altogether; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lancaster would lose \$1,575,992 in Fiscal Year 2018 by the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lancaster has no other source of funding available to continue the vital programs that aid local businesses, stabilize neighborhoods and provide critical access to human services for residents in need; and

WHEREAS, Lancaster City residents are not unique in having been helped by the flexible funding provided by those programs; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,200 communities nationwide rely on the Community Development Block Grant and HOME program as a direct source of annual funding for housing rehabilitation, public facilities, infrastructure investment, economic development and public services; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Community Development Block Grant in 1974, the program has invested \$144 billion in communities across the United States; and

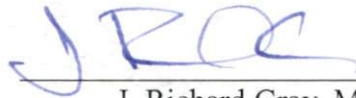
WHEREAS, for every \$1 in Community Development Block Grant funds invested, another \$3.65 is leveraged from other sources; and

WHEREAS, between Fiscal Year 2005 and Fiscal Year 2016, Community Development Block Grant Funding created or retained nearly 388,000 jobs; assisted 1.33 million low- and moderate-income residents rehabilitate homes, obtain down payments and closing cost assistance and remediate dangerous lead paint and other environmental hazards; and

WHEREAS, since 2001, funding from the Community Development Block Grant program has already been reduced by more than \$1.4 billion, at the same time that the need for these resources has continued to grow.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Lancaster that the City of Lancaster calls upon President Donald J. Trump, Senator Robert Casey, Senator Patrick Toomey and Representative Lloyd Smucker to oppose the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Program.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby directed to communicate the concerns of the City Council of the City of Lancaster by mailing copies of this resolution to President Donald J. Trump, Senator Robert Casey, Senator Patrick Toomey and Representative Lloyd Smucker.



J. Richard Gray, Mayor

Attest:



Bernard W. Harris Jr., City Clerk