



April 08, 2025

To Our Valued Community Partners,

We want to take a moment to express our deep appreciation for the incredible work you do every day to strengthen Cleveland's neighborhoods and serve our residents. Your unwavering commitment to community development is the cornerstone of our collective impact, and I am incredibly grateful for your dedication.

As you know, a significant portion of the funding that supports your critical work comes from the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Recently, the stability of this funding has been called into question due to shifts in federal policy from the Trump administration. While our neighborhoods have benefitted from decades of stable support, we now face an uncertain future. Funding may be reduced, subject to new restrictions, or delayed—whether temporarily or for the long term.

Given the potential risks, we strongly advise that you refrain from incurring expenses outside of your existing contracts with the City or making long-term financial commitments based on anticipated contract renewals until we have complete clarity on the funding landscape. We fully recognize how difficult and frustrating this situation is, and the City is right there with you in facing this uncertainty. Together, we must act with caution until we know exactly what we're facing in the coming months.

While the City has not yet received official communication indicating that our funding is at risk, we are not sitting idly by. We are taking every possible step to stay ahead of the situation, remain proactive, and plan for different scenarios in which federal funding is cut or substantially reduced. We are actively exploring all available solutions to best meet the needs of our community and will provide regular updates as new information becomes available.

The work you do has never been more critical, and the challenges we are facing together are real. The Trump administration's policies have created chaos across the country and weakened the social safety net – and this, not any policy from the city or other organization, has put us in the challenging place we find ourselves in.



We ask for your patience and resilience as we navigate these challenges together. Rest assured; we remain committed to advocating for the resources needed to support our shared mission of building stronger, more vibrant communities in Cleveland.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and for everything you do to make our city a better place. Together, we will continue to build a better Cleveland for our residents, no matter the obstacles in our path.

With gratitude,

Mayor Justin M. Bibb

City of Cleveland

Alyssa Hernandez

Director, Community Development

