



The Federal Monitor

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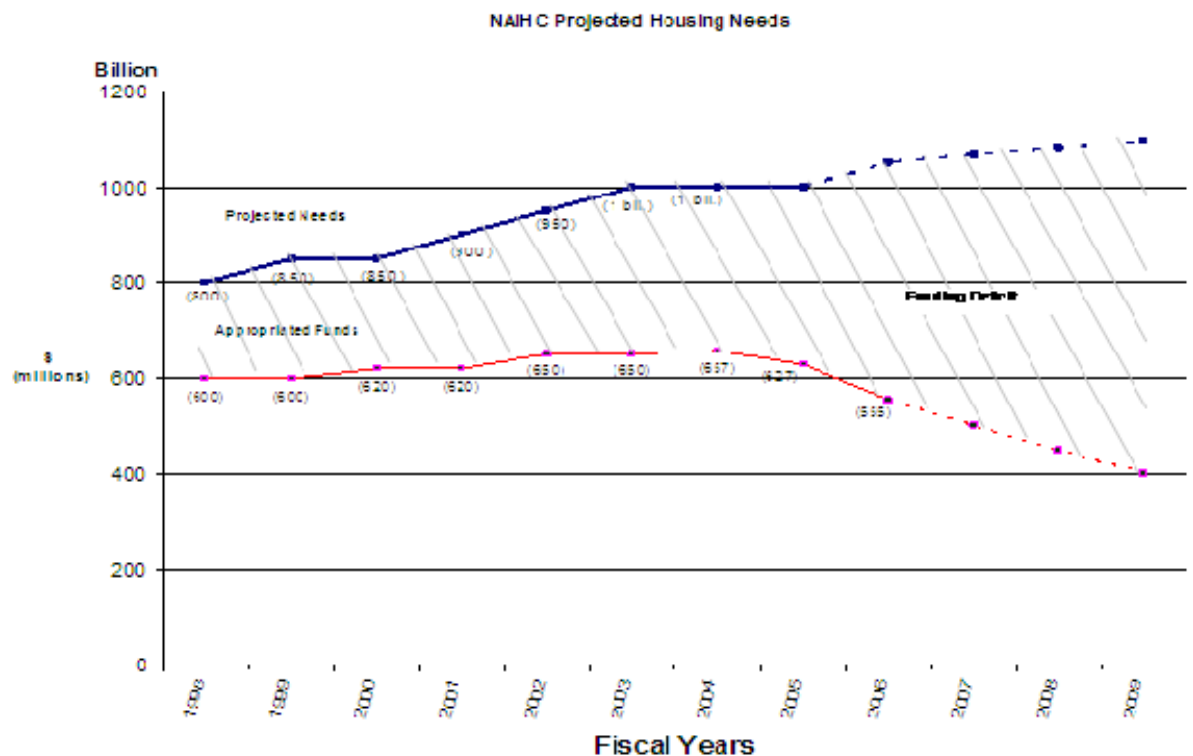
News of Issues Affecting Tribes and Tribal Housing Programs

ADVOCACY ALERT!!

On June 30th, 2005, the House of Representatives passed the FY '06 Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill (TTHUD). For Public and Indian Housing \$6.8 billion was appropriated, which is \$1.6 billion over last years level. However, The **Native American Housing Block Grant was cut by \$90 million dollars from FY '05 levels**. Though the House did allocate an additional \$17.4 million over the President's Budget Request for FY '06, the House agreed with the Administration in transferring the funding of the Indian Community Development Block Grant from its traditional location under the broader Community Development Block Grant to the Native American Housing Block Grant. The \$600 million appropriated to the NAHBG, discounting for ICDBG, is \$555 million. Additionally, the ICDBG was cut by \$23 million from FY '05 levels to \$45 million. Together these cuts amount to a total reduction in Indian Housing programs under HUD of \$90 million or 13%. Further in the [House Appropriations Committee Report](#), a new formula change was also inserted for distribution of the Block Grant funds: "Language is included instructing HUD to distribute funds on the basis of single race o[r] multi-race data which ever is the higher amount for each recipient. Additional funding has been provided to ensure that no grant recipient will lose further funding as a result of the new calculation of need." NAIHC has not taken a position on this language; however questions on accurate data and calculation methodology have been raised by HUD and congressional staff.

The Senate THUD Appropriations Subcommittee will mark-up its version of the THUD appropriations bill next Thursday, July 14th. The full Senate Appropriations Committee is scheduled to mark-up the appropriations language on July 19th. NAIHC seeks your support in contacting members of the Senate Subcommittee, full Committee and individual state Senators urging their assistance to secure the following in the Senate THUD bill:

1. an increase in funding for the Native American Housing Block Grant (NAHBG) to **\$723 million**, which would include funding for the various set asides as in past years but would not include funding for the Indian Community Development Block Grant funds;
2. an amendment to retain the authority and funding for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) in the Community Development Block Grant program where it has traditionally been, and to fund the ICDBG at **\$68 million**, which was last year's funding level; and
3. an increase in funding for NAIHC TA to **\$4.6 million**, the same level enacted in FY '05. Of this amount, \$2.4 million would be funded out of ICDBG and \$2.2 million out of NAHBG.



Attached to this alert is a complete list of the Senate THUD Subcommittee and the Senate Committee on Appropriations members with their fax numbers, a

sample letter, and the most current NAIHC Appropriations chart. **NAIHC has also compiled state specific information on the cuts impact to tribes within a Senators state. You may want to include your state specific data in a letter to your individual Senator. The data is available at www.naihc.net or by request to the Office of Governmental Affairs.**

On July 7th, NAIHC began a series of strategy meetings on the HUD appropriations to coordinate with all known external Indian housing advocates/lobbyists. In attendance, and those that called-in, were advocates/lobbyists for Cherokee, Choctaw, San Carlos, Gila River, and NCAI. All involved parties are coordinating meetings with Senators and staff, media outreach, and grassroots advocacy efforts with a unified message lead by NAIHC for increased funding and separation of ICDBG from NAHBG.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Ross B. Bell, Director of Governmental Affairs, at (202) 454-0928 or via e-mail at rbell@naihc.net

LETTER:

Draft – Letter to Senate TTHUD Subcommittee Members

July 8, 2005

The Honorable [Name]
Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury,
Housing and Urban Development and the Judiciary
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator [Name]:

On July 14th, the Senate will begin consideration of the FY06 Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill.

If the funding levels for Native American housing and housing-related accounts as passed by the House on June 30th are maintained, it will be the third straight budget cycle where significant reductions are allowed to be made.

Appropriated funding for the Native American Block Grant (NAHBG) reached its maximum level in FY2004 with funding of \$650 million. In FY2005 the NAHBG was funded at \$622 million. In FY2006, the requested amount is \$582.6 million and the House recommends \$600 million or **a reduction of \$107 million or \$90 million respectively. INSERT FOR STATE SPECIFIC SENATOR: The proposed cuts to the NAHBG would represent a 10% reduction in housing funds for [state] or [insert cut amount].**

On closer inspection, both the request and the House recommendation represent reductions in the tens of millions from last year's levels because both the President and the House call for funding for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) funding to come out of the NAHBG, resulting in funding for the NAHBG to be even lower than it appears. The reductions to the NAHBG and the inclusion of the ICDBG result in **a real reduction over a 3-fiscal year period of more than \$125 million.**

I urge you to protect these programs for the tribes in your state and support the significant increases to these accounts in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

[SIGNATURES]

APPROPRIATIONS TABLE:



NAIHC

**Native American & Native Hawaiian
Housing Budget & Appropriations**

Housing Appropriations (in millions)	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Enacted*	FY 2004 Enacted**	FY 2005 Budget	FY 2005 Enacted ***	FY 2006 Budget	FY 2006 House
Native American Housing Block Grant (NAHASDA)	\$ 648.6	\$ 644.8	\$ 650.3	\$ 647	\$ 622	\$ 582.6	\$ 600
Set-Asides:							
HUD Technical Assistance & Training	5	4	4.5	5	4.5	2.3	2.3
NAIHC Technical Assistance & Training	2.2	2.2	2.2	---	2.2	---	1.2
Title VI Loan Guarantee	6	2	2	2^	2^	4.8	2
Working Capital Fund for HUD Info. Tech.	3	.6	2.72	.5	2.6	---	---
Indian Comm. Dev. Block Grant	---	---	---	---	---	57.8	45
Total available for the formula after set-asides:	\$ 632.4	\$ 636	\$ 638.9	\$ 639.5	\$ 610.6	\$ 517.7	\$ 549.3
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant	---	---	---	\$ 9.5	---	\$ 8.82	\$ 8.82
Set-Aside: HUD Technical Assistance & Training	---	---	---	\$.4	---	---	\$.35
Section 184 Loan	\$ 6	\$ 5.3	\$ 5.3	\$	\$ 5^^	\$ 2.65	\$

Guarantee				1 [^]			2.65
Section 184a (Hawaiian Loan Guarantee)	\$ 1	\$ 1.035	\$ 1.035	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$.88	\$.88
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$ 4,341	\$ 4,368	\$ 4,357	\$ 4,331	\$ 4,150	---	---
Set-Asides available to Native Americans:							
Indian Community Dev. Block Grant (ICDBG)	\$ 70	\$ 71	\$ 72	\$ 71.6	\$ 68	b/	b/
NAIHC Technical Assistance & Training	\$ 2.6	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.5	\$ 2.5	\$ 2.4	---	\$ 1
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant	\$ 9.6	\$ 9.6	\$ 9.5	---	\$ 9	---	---
Technical Assistance	---	---	\$.4	---	\$.5	---	---
Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Institutions	\$ 4	\$ 3	N/A	\$ 3.5	N/A	---	\$ 3
Tribal Colleges and Universities	\$ 3	\$ 3	N/A	\$ 3	N/A	c/	\$ 2.6
Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program	\$ 54	\$.56	\$.57	\$.57	\$.6	\$.6	\$.6
Rural Housing and Economic Development	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	---	\$ 24	---	\$ 10
Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities	\$ 45	\$ 30	\$ 15	---	\$ 10	---	---
Commerce Economic Development Challenge ^^^	---	---	---	---	---	\$ 3,710	---
Healthy Homes Initiative (Office of Lead Hazard Control)	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 9.9	\$ 9.9	\$ 8.8	\$ 8.8
BIA Loan Guarantee Program	\$ 4.5	\$ 5.5	\$ 6.4	\$ 6.4	\$ 6.4	\$ 6.3	\$ 6.4
BIA Housing Improvement Program	\$ 22.9	\$ 22.9	\$ 19.5	\$ 19.3	\$ 19.1	\$ 19.1	\$ 19.1
IHS Sanitation Facilities Construction	\$ 93.8	\$ 93.8	\$ 93.6	\$ 103	\$ 92	\$ 94	\$ 93.5
USDA Section 502 Single-Family Loans (Direct)	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,038	\$ 1,366	\$ 1,110	\$ 1,150	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,141
USDA Section 502 Single-Family Loans (Guaranteed)	\$ 3,138	\$ 2,845	\$ 2,725	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,309	\$ 3,681	\$ 3,681
USDA Section 515 Multi-Family Direct Loans	\$ 114	\$ 115.8	\$ 116.5	\$ 60	\$ 100	\$ 27	\$ 100
USDA Section 538 Multi-Family	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 200	\$ 100

Guaranteed Loans							
USDA Housing Preservation Grants	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 9	\$ 10	\$ 10

^ Includes rescission of \$21 million in accumulated Title VI funds.

^^ Includes rescission of \$33 million in accumulated Section 184 funds.

^^^New program proposed in FY 2006 Budget- contains consolidated funding formerly in the Community Development Block Grant.

b/ Denotes funded under the Native American Housing Block Grant

c/ Denotes funded under Policy and Research

N/A means Not Available.

Three dashes (---) denote zero funding.