

October 25, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,  
and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,  
and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chair Shaheen, and Ranking Member Moran,

On behalf of communities across the country, the undersigned members of the EDA Stakeholders Coalition encourage the Committee to allocate robust funding levels for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) in the FY24 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Since 1965, EDA has helped local and regional stakeholders across the country address pressing economic development needs, with an emphasis on supporting job creation, providing disaster relief, and mitigating economic distress in rural and underserved areas. Many communities have benefitted from EDA investments into job skills training, technical assistance, development of high-growth industries, and infrastructure improvements designed to help attract and support businesses.

Given the importance of EDA's work in our communities, the undersigned members of the EDA Coalition write to express our concern regarding the proposed EDA funding cut in the Senate's proposed FY24 CJS appropriations bill, reducing funding for EDA to \$466 million, a \$32 million decrease in comparison to the FY23 level of \$498 million.

As the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Senate CJS Subcommittee continue to work toward a funding measure for FY24, we hope that all members of the Committee will join forces in supporting funding for EDA in FY24 that is level with, or higher than, the FY23 final appropriation of \$498 million.

Sincerely,

The undersigned members of the EDA Stakeholders Coalition:

National Association of Development Organizations  
Rural Community Assistance Partnership  
International Economic Development Council  
National Association of Counties  
National League of Cities

National Association of Regional Councils  
Council of State Community Development Agencies  
Main Street America  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
SSTI  
University Economic Development Association  
Development District Association of Appalachia