CITIES ARE SPENDING ABOVE THEIR HISTORIC NORMS ON HOUSING IN THE WAKE OF COVID-19

Cities are providing funding for rental and mortgage assistance, eviction diversion, homeless prevention, street outreach and shelter operations even as they are experiencing decreases in revenues and deep budget cuts to essential services.

Filling these financial gaps to serve their community relies on the fundamentals of a local, state, and federal partnership.

For every $100 that state and federal governments invest per person, cities have $3 in additional housing spending needs per person. This means that cities cumulatively have more than $14 billion in additional needs for housing.

The two states with the biggest shortfalls

NEW YORK $4.5 billion

CALIFORNIA $3.5 billion

Most cities will need more transfer payments JUST TO GET THEM BACK TO HISTORICAL LEVELS OF HOUSING SPENDING.

While CARES Act provides $5 billion in Community Development Block Grants and $4 billion for homeless assistance grants to state and local governments, IT IS NOT ENOUGH.
GAP BETWEEN CITY HOUSING SPENDING AND STATE AND FEDERAL AID TO CITIES

Note, cities in the majority of states will experience a gap between what they need to spend on housing and what state and federal governments provide them in aid, but cities in a few states will experience a surplus. This surplus is the result of a low number of entitlement cities in those states, as well as historically low levels of housing spending by cities in those states.