MOD FOR GLO MONIES

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To: Mary Afuso <mary@coastalbendcog.org>

As the Mayor of one of the smaller cities in our COG region, I feel that many times when monies are available to us, these monies are not really available. this is due to the long standing tradition of allocating and rewarding monies based on the HUD LMI conditions. I understand the need for the disadvantages communities within our region and many other regions in the state. The problem with this limitation is that is not allowing the smaller but more affluent, not rich, communities to participate in the programs. All communities have needs that are not met nor can they be funded through traditional budgeting sources, especially as the costs of services continues to increase each year.
If there is a way to make sure that all communities are allowed to participate and be eligible to have access to the funding, in the long run this might also help some of the other participants as well. Just because a community does not meet the HUD guidelines should not mean that they cannot bring their city up to current standards and expectations. If all have have the opportunity to become more reslient and hardy, then that benefits all in the surrounding regions as well.
LMI certainly needs to be included to insure we are on even playing field, but so does the fact that a community is not in the LMI category have the right to be included in the ability to participate.

Jo Ann Ehmann., Mayor
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