

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 709

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish and carry out an urban revitalization and livable communities program to provide Federal grants to urban areas for the rehabilitation of critically needed recreational areas and facilities and development of improved recreation programs, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2011

Mr. SIRES (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. POLIS, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. WEINER, Mr. TURNER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FATTAH, and Ms. BORDALLO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish and carry out an urban revitalization and livable communities program to provide Federal grants to urban areas for the rehabilitation of critically needed recreational areas and facilities and development of improved recreation programs, and for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “Urban Revitalization  
5 and Livable Communities Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7        Congress finds the following:

8            (1) According to the 2000 United States Cen-  
9            sus, 79 percent of the population of the United  
10           States lives in urban areas.

11           (2) The quality of life in urban areas is closely  
12           related to the availability of fully functional park  
13           and recreation systems including land, facilities, and  
14           programs.

15           (3) Residents of urban areas need close-to-home  
16           recreation opportunities that are adequate to special-  
17           ized urban needs, with parks and facilities properly  
18           located, developed, and well-maintained.

19           (4) The greatest deficiencies in recreation with  
20           respect to land, facilities, and programs are found in  
21           many urban areas, especially at the neighborhood  
22           level.

23           (5) Inadequate Federal financing of urban  
24           recreation programs has led to the deterioration of  
25           facilities, nonavailability of recreation services, and

1 an inability to adapt recreation programs to chang-  
2 ing circumstances.

3 (6) According to the Centers for Disease Con-  
4 trol and Prevention (CDC), over the last 25 years,  
5 rates of obesity have more than tripled among ado-  
6 lescents ages 12 to 19 and doubled among adults  
7 ages 20 to 74 and children ages 6 to 11.

8 (7) Physical inactivity contributes to obesity. A  
9 study by the CDC found that the creation of, or en-  
10 hanced access to, places for physical activity led to  
11 a 25.6 percent increase in the percentage of people  
12 exercising on 3 or more days a week. Physical activ-  
13 ity can improve physical and mental health. The an-  
14 nual costs of medical spending and lost productivity  
15 from individuals in the United States being obese  
16 and overweight are estimated to be  
17 \$139,000,000,000.

18 (8) Urban parks and recreation facilities play  
19 key roles in improving the health of the population  
20 of the United States by providing convenient access  
21 to the places, spaces, and opportunities that lead to  
22 increased physical activity.

23 (9) According to the Juvenile Justice Bulletin,  
24 without structured, supervised activities in the after-  
25 school hours, youth are at greater risk of being vic-

1 tims of crime or participating in anti-social behav-  
2 iors. Juveniles are at the highest risk of being a vic-  
3 tim of crime between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., and  
4 the peak hour for juvenile crime is between 3:00  
5 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., the first hour after most stu-  
6 dents are dismissed from school.

7 (10) The National Youth Violence Prevention  
8 Resource Center reported that students who spend  
9 no time in extracurricular activities, such as those  
10 offered in after-school programs, are 49 percent  
11 more likely to have used drugs and 37 percent more  
12 likely to become teen parents than are those stu-  
13 dents who spend 1 to 4 hours per week in extra-  
14 curricular activities.

15 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

16 The purposes of this Act are as follows:

17 (1) To authorize the Secretary of Housing and  
18 Urban Development to establish and carry out an  
19 urban revitalization and livable communities pro-  
20 gram to provide Federal grants for the rehabilitation  
21 and construction of critically needed recreational  
22 areas and facilities and development of improved  
23 recreation programs in urban areas.

24 (2) To improve urban areas through economic  
25 development.

1           (3) To prevent and improve chronic disease out-  
2 comes, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, de-  
3 pression, and obesity.

4           (4) To improve recreational areas and facilities  
5 and expand recreation services in urban areas with  
6 a high incidence of crime and to help expand recre-  
7 ation opportunities for at-risk youth.

8           (5) To promote collaboration between local  
9 agencies involved in parks and recreation, law en-  
10 forcement, youth social services, and juvenile justice  
11 system.

12           (6) To ensure accessibility to therapeutic recre-  
13 ation services and to provide recreation opportunities  
14 for injured or disabled members of the Armed  
15 Forces.

16           (7) To encourage the rehabilitation of existing  
17 and construction of new urban recreational areas  
18 and facilities with environmentally beneficial compo-  
19 nents, when possible, such as sustainable landscape  
20 features and upcycled and recycled materials, and to  
21 prioritize the selection of projects that provide envi-  
22 ronmental benefits to urban areas, including by up-  
23 dating lighting, planting trees, increasing the urban  
24 forestry canopy, improving stormwater management,  
25 increasing green infrastructure, employing water

1 conservation measures, and adding green spaces to  
2 urban areas.

3 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

5 (1) The term “recreational areas and facilities”  
6 means indoor or outdoor parks, buildings, sites, or  
7 other facilities that are dedicated to recreation pur-  
8 poses and administered by public or private non-  
9 profit agencies to serve the recreation needs of com-  
10 munity residents, with emphasis on public facilities  
11 readily accessible to residential neighborhoods, in-  
12 cluding multiple-use community centers that have  
13 recreation as a primary purpose, but excluding  
14 major sports arenas, exhibition areas, and con-  
15 ference halls used primarily for commercial sports,  
16 spectator, or display activities.

17 (2) The term “rehabilitation and construction  
18 grants” means matching capital grants to local gov-  
19 ernments for the purpose of rebuilding, remodeling,  
20 expanding, or developing existing or building new  
21 recreational areas and facilities, including improve-  
22 ments in park landscapes, infrastructure, buildings,  
23 and support facilities, and the provision of lighting,  
24 emergency phones, or other capital improvements to

1 improve the security of urban parks, but excluding  
2 routine maintenance and upkeep activities.

3 (3) The term “innovation grants” means  
4 matching grants to local governments to cover costs  
5 of personnel, facilities, equipment, supplies, or serv-  
6 ices designed to demonstrate innovative and cost-ef-  
7 fective ways to augment park and recreation oppor-  
8 tunities at the neighborhood level and to address  
9 common problems related to facility operations and  
10 improved delivery of recreation service, but excluding  
11 routine operation and maintenance activities.

12 (4) The term “at-risk youth recreation grants”  
13 means matching grants to local governments for new  
14 programs, or continuing program support for exist-  
15 ing programs, that provide constructive alternatives  
16 to youth at risk for engaging in criminal behavior,  
17 including grants for operating or coordinating recre-  
18 ation programs and services in neighborhoods and  
19 communities with a high prevalence of crime, par-  
20 ticularly violent crime or crime committed by youth-  
21 ful offenders.

22 (5) The term “recovery action program grants”  
23 means matching grants to local governments for de-  
24 velopment of local park and recreation recovery ac-  
25 tion programs, including for resource and needs as-

1        assessment, coordination, citizen involvement and plan-  
2        ning, and program development activities to encour-  
3        age public definition of goals and develop priorities  
4        and strategies for overall recreation system recovery.

5            (6) The term “maintenance” means all com-  
6        monly accepted practices necessary to keep rec-  
7        reational areas and facilities operating in a state of  
8        good repair and to protect such areas and facilities  
9        from deterioration resulting from normal wear and  
10       tear.

11           (7) The term “local government” means any  
12       city, county, town, township, parish, village, or any  
13       local or regional special district such as a park dis-  
14       trict, conservation district, or park authority.

15           (8) The term “private nonprofit agency” means  
16       a community-based, non-profit organization, cor-  
17       poration, or association organized for purposes of  
18       providing recreation, conservation, and educational  
19       services directly to urban residents on either a  
20       neighborhood or community-wide basis through vol-  
21       untary donations, voluntary labor, or public or pri-  
22       vate grants.

23           (9) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
24       of Housing and Urban Development.



1           (10) The term “State” means any State of the  
2           United States (or any instrumentality of a State ap-  
3           proved by the Governor), the District of Columbia,  
4           and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

5           (11) The term “insular areas” means Guam,  
6           the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the North-  
7           ern Mariana Islands.

8   **SEC. 5. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS.**

9           (a) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after  
10          the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall pro-  
11          mulgate regulations establishing an urban revitalization  
12          and livable communities program to, in accordance with  
13          this Act, provide Federal rehabilitation and construction  
14          grants, innovation grants, at-risk youth recreation grants,  
15          and recovery action program grants.

16          (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The regulations required  
17          under subsection (a) shall include—

18               (1) eligibility requirements for the grant pro-  
19               gram established pursuant to such subsection;

20               (2) the timing and form of applications required  
21               to be submitted to the Secretary by local govern-  
22               ments seeking such grants;

23               (3) required elements of any grant application  
24               required to be submitted to the Secretary by local  
25               governments seeking such grants;

1           (4) criteria for priority selection and approval  
2           by the Secretary in choosing which local govern-  
3           ments receive grant funds;

4           (5) guidelines for seeking modification of a  
5           project to be funded or which is funded by the grant  
6           program established pursuant to such subsection;  
7           and

8           (6) penalties placed on local governments that  
9           received amounts under the grant program estab-  
10          lished pursuant to such subsection for failing to  
11          comply with the reporting and recordkeeping re-  
12          quirements set forth in section 13, up to and includ-  
13          ing rescission of grant amounts for repetitive viola-  
14          tions.

15 **SEC. 6. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND PRIORITY CRI-**  
16 **TERIA.**

17           (a) **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**—

18           (1) **IN GENERAL.**—In developing the regula-  
19           tions required under section 5(a), the Secretary shall  
20           set forth eligibility requirements for receiving grants  
21           under the urban revitalization and livable commu-  
22           nities program established pursuant to this Act.

23           (2) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—The eligibility require-  
24           ments required to be established under paragraph  
25           (1) shall be based on—

1 (A) evidence of a commitment to ongoing  
2 planning, rehabilitation, service, operation, and  
3 maintenance programs for park and recreations  
4 systems, as described in section 8;

5 (B) population density (the number of per-  
6 sons per square mile of land area);

7 (C) total population under 18 years of age  
8 or over 59 years of age;

9 (D) the number of unemployed people as a  
10 percentage of the civilian labor force;

11 (E) the percent of households without  
12 automobiles available;

13 (F) the percent of persons with income  
14 below 125 percent of the poverty level;

15 (G) the change in per capita income;

16 (H) the percent of single-headed house-  
17 holds with children present; and

18 (I) any additional criteria the Secretary de-  
19 termines appropriate.

20 (b) PARTIAL ELIGIBILITY WAIVER.—

21 (1) GENERALLY.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
22 the Secretary may authorize local governments that  
23 do not meet the eligibility requirements required to  
24 be established under subsection (a) in standard met-  
25 ropolitan statistical areas as defined by the most

1 current census as eligible to receive grants under the  
2 urban revitalization and livable communities pro-  
3 gram established pursuant to this Act, in accordance  
4 with the findings and purposes of this Act.

5 (2) LIMITATION OF FUNDS.—Grants to local  
6 governments described in paragraph (1) shall not ex-  
7 ceed, in the aggregate, 15 percent of the funds ap-  
8 propriated pursuant to this Act for rehabilitation  
9 and construction, innovation, at-risk youth recre-  
10 ation, and recovery action program grants.

11 (c) ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION.—As part of any ap-  
12 plication process set forth pursuant to the regulations pre-  
13 scribed under section 5, a responsible official for a local  
14 government that has applied for a grant under this Act  
15 shall certify that the local government meets all of the eli-  
16 gibility requirements established under this Act with re-  
17 spect to receipt of grant amounts under the urban revital-  
18 ization and livable communities program established pur-  
19 suant to this Act. If a local government applies for a par-  
20 tial eligibility waiver under subsection (b), such certifi-  
21 cation shall specify which of the eligibility requirements  
22 are met by the local government.

23 (d) PRIORITY CRITERIA.—

24 (1) GENERAL PRIORITY CRITERIA.—The Sec-  
25 retary shall establish priority criteria for the selec-

1       tion and approval of projects to be funded by grant  
2       amounts made available pursuant to this Act. The  
3       priority criteria established under this subsection  
4       shall be based on—

5               (A) a higher population density of the  
6       project neighborhood;

7               (B) demonstrated deficiencies in the condi-  
8       tion of existing recreational areas and facilities  
9       in the project neighborhood;

10              (C) demonstrated deficiencies in access to  
11       neighborhood recreation opportunities, particu-  
12       larly for minority and low- and moderate-in-  
13       come residents and residents with physical or  
14       mental disabilities;

15              (D) public participation in determining re-  
16       habilitation or development needs;

17              (E) the extent to which a project supports  
18       or complements target activities undertaken as  
19       part of a local government’s overall community  
20       development and urban revitalization program;

21              (F) the extent to which such a project  
22       would—

23                      (i) provide employment opportunities  
24       for minorities, youth, and low- and mod-

1 erate-income residents in the project neigh-  
2 borhood; and

3 (ii) provide for participation of neigh-  
4 borhood, nonprofit, or tenant organizations  
5 in the proposed rehabilitation and con-  
6 struction activity or in subsequent mainte-  
7 nance, staffing, or supervision of rec-  
8 reational areas and facilities;

9 (G) the amount of State, local, and private  
10 support for the project as evidenced by commit-  
11 ments of non-Federal resources to project con-  
12 struction or operation; and

13 (H) any additional criteria the Secretary  
14 determines appropriate.

15 (2) PRIORITY CRITERIA FOR REHABILITATION  
16 AND CONSTRUCTION GRANTS AND INNOVATION  
17 GRANTS.—In addition to the general priority criteria  
18 established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall  
19 establish priority criteria for the selection and ap-  
20 proval of projects to be funded by a rehabilitation  
21 and construction grant or an innovation grant made  
22 pursuant to this Act, including whether the  
23 project—

24 (A) builds recreational areas and facilities  
25 in areas that are located within half a mile of

1 public housing or a school and do not currently  
2 have indoor or outdoor facilities;

3 (B) creates, maintains, or revitalizes play-  
4 grounds or active play areas for children;

5 (C) connects children to the outdoors for  
6 physical activity and access to nature;

7 (D) promotes physical activity for individ-  
8 uals and the community at large;

9 (E) works collaboratively with local govern-  
10 ments, colleges, and universities, and other in-  
11 stitutions to track the longitudinal rates of  
12 chronic diseases in the community such as car-  
13 diovascular disease, diabetes, depression, and  
14 obesity;

15 (F) uses environmentally beneficial compo-  
16 nents such as sustainable landscape features  
17 and upcycled and recycled materials;

18 (G) provides environmental benefits to  
19 urban areas, including by—

20 (i) updating lighting;

21 (ii) planting trees;

22 (iii) increasing the urban forestry can-  
23 opy;

24 (iv) improving stormwater manage-  
25 ment;

- 1 (v) increasing green infrastructure;
- 2 (vi) employing water conservation  
3 measures; and
- 4 (vii) adding green spaces;
- 5 (H) connects to public transportation;
- 6 (I) uses LEED Green Building Standards  
7 or contains energy efficiency components such  
8 as energy efficient lighting and HVAC systems,  
9 and other sustainable components and prac-  
10 tices;
- 11 (J) contains safe trails or routes, such as  
12 trails, bikeways, and sidewalks that connect to  
13 neighborhoods and enhance access to parks and  
14 recreational areas and facilities;
- 15 (K) either employs youth or uses youth  
16 volunteers;
- 17 (L) enhances or expands youth develop-  
18 ment in neighborhoods and communities by en-  
19 gaging youth in environmental stewardship,  
20 conservation, and service projects;
- 21 (M) updates existing equipment or facili-  
22 ties to be in compliance with the most recent  
23 accessibility guidelines published by the United  
24 States Access Board, specifically by removing  
25 architectural barriers so that sites comply or



1 exceed the requirements of the final guidelines  
2 for the accessibility of recreational areas and  
3 facilities; or

4 (N) constructs new facilities or sites to  
5 comply with or exceed the minimum require-  
6 ments of the final guidelines for the accessi-  
7 bility of recreational sites and facilities pub-  
8 lished by the United States Access Board.

9 (3) PRIORITY CRITERIA FOR AT-RISK YOUTH  
10 RECREATION GRANTS.—In addition to the general  
11 priority criteria established under paragraph (1), the  
12 Secretary shall establish priority criteria for the se-  
13 lection and approval of programs to be funded by an  
14 at-risk youth recreation grant made pursuant to this  
15 Act, including whether the program—

16 (A) targets youth who are at the greatest  
17 risk of becoming involved in violence and crime;

18 (B) teaches important values and life  
19 skills, including teamwork, respect, leadership,  
20 and self-esteem;

21 (C) demonstrates past success in providing  
22 constructive alternatives to youth at risk for en-  
23 gaging in criminal behavior;

1 (D) offers tutoring, remedial education,  
2 mentoring, and counseling in addition to recre-  
3 ation opportunities;

4 (E) offers services during nonschool hours;

5 (F) demonstrates collaboration between  
6 local park and recreation, juvenile justice, law  
7 enforcement, and youth social service agencies  
8 and nongovernmental entities, including private  
9 nonprofit agencies;

10 (G) leverages public or private recreation  
11 investments in the form of services, materials,  
12 or other funding; or

13 (H) shows the greatest potential of being  
14 continued with non-Federal funds or may serve  
15 as models for other communities.

16 **SEC. 7. REHABILITATION AND CONSTRUCTION, INNOVA-**  
17 **TION, AND AT-RISK YOUTH RECREATION**  
18 **GRANTS.**

19 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Upon approval of an applica-  
20 tion by the chief executive of an eligible local government,  
21 the Secretary may provide 70 percent matching rehabilita-  
22 tion and construction, innovation, and at-risk youth recre-  
23 ation grants directly to such eligible local government.

24 (b) TRANSFER.—At the discretion of a local govern-  
25 ment receiving a rehabilitation and construction, innova-

1 tion, or at-risk youth recreation grant pursuant to sub-  
2 section (a), and if consistent with an approved application,  
3 such a grant may be transferred in whole or in part to  
4 private nonprofit agencies, provided that assisted rec-  
5 reational areas and facilities owned or managed by such  
6 private nonprofit agencies offer recreation opportunities to  
7 the general population within the jurisdictional boundaries  
8 of the local government.

9 (c) PAYMENTS.—Grant payments may be made only  
10 for rehabilitation and construction or innovation projects  
11 or at-risk recreation youth programs approved by the Sec-  
12 retary. In the case of rehabilitation and construction and  
13 innovation projects, such payments may be made periodi-  
14 cally in keeping with the rate of progress toward the satis-  
15 factory completion of a project, except that the Secretary  
16 may, when appropriate, make advance payments on ap-  
17 proved rehabilitation and construction and innovation  
18 projects in an amount not to exceed 20 percent of the total  
19 project cost.

20 (d) MODIFICATION OF PROJECT.—The Secretary  
21 may authorize modification of an approved rehabilitation  
22 and construction or innovation project only when a grant-  
23 ee has adequately demonstrated that such modification is  
24 necessary because of circumstances not foreseeable at the  
25 time such project was proposed.

1 (e) SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR INNOVATION  
2 GRANTS.—Innovation grants shall correspond to the  
3 goals, priorities, and implementation strategies expressed  
4 in local park and recreation recovery action programs,  
5 with particular regard to the special considerations listed  
6 in section 8(b) of this Act.

7 **SEC. 8. LOCAL COMMITMENTS TO SYSTEM RECOVERY AND**  
8 **MAINTENANCE.**

9 (a) RECOVERY ACTION PROGRAMS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—As a requirement for project  
11 approval, a local government applying for a grant  
12 under this Act shall submit to the Secretary evidence  
13 of its commitment to ongoing planning, rehabilita-  
14 tion, service, operation, and maintenance programs  
15 for its park and recreation systems. Such commit-  
16 ment shall be expressed in a local park and recre-  
17 ation recovery action program that maximizes co-  
18 ordination of all community resources, including  
19 other federally supported urban development and  
20 recreation programs.

21 (2) INTERIM PRELIMINARY ACTION PRO-  
22 GRAMS.—During an initial interim period to be es-  
23 tablished by regulation, the recovery action program  
24 requirement under paragraph (1) may be satisfied  
25 by submission of preliminary action programs of a

1 local government that define objectives, priorities,  
2 and implementation strategies for overall system re-  
3 covery and maintenance and commit such local gov-  
4 ernment to a scheduled program development proc-  
5 ess.

6 (3) 5-YEAR ACTION PROGRAM.—Following the  
7 interim period under paragraph (2), each local gov-  
8 ernment applicant shall submit to the Secretary, as  
9 a condition of eligibility, a 5-year park and recre-  
10 ation recovery action program that demonstrates—

11 (A) identification of recovery objectives,  
12 priorities, and implementation strategies;

13 (B) adequate planning for rehabilitation of  
14 specific recreational areas and facilities, includ-  
15 ing projections of the cost of proposed projects;

16 (C) capacity and commitment to assure  
17 that facilities provided or improved under this  
18 Act shall thereafter continue to be adequately  
19 maintained, protected, staffed, and supervised;

20 (D) intention to maintain total local public  
21 outlays for park and recreation purposes at lev-  
22 els at least equal to those in the year preceding  
23 that in which grant assistance is sought, except  
24 in any case where a reduction in park and

1 recreation outlays is proportionate to a reduc-  
2 tion in overall spending by the applicant; and

3 (E) the relationship of the park and recre-  
4 ation recovery action program to overall com-  
5 munity development and urban revitalization ef-  
6 forts.

7 (4) CONTINUING PLANNING PROCESS.—Where  
8 appropriate, the Secretary may encourage local gov-  
9 ernments to meet recovery action program require-  
10 ments through a continuing planning process which  
11 includes periodic improvements and updates in re-  
12 covery action program submissions to eliminate iden-  
13 tified gaps in program information and policy devel-  
14 opment.

15 (b) RECOVERY ACTION PROGRAM SPECIAL CONSID-  
16 ERATIONS.—Recovery action programs shall address, at a  
17 minimum, the following special considerations:

18 (1) Rehabilitation of existing recreational areas  
19 and facilities, including—

20 (A) general systemwide renovation;

21 (B) special rehabilitation requirements for  
22 recreational areas and facilities in areas of high  
23 population concentration and economic distress;  
24 and

1 (C) restoration of outstanding or unique  
2 structures, landscaping, or similar features in  
3 parks of historical or architectural significance.

4 (2) Local commitments to innovative and cost-  
5 effective programs and projects at the neighborhood  
6 level to augment recovery of park and recreation sys-  
7 tems, including—

8 (A) recycling of abandoned schools and  
9 other public buildings for recreation purposes;

10 (B) multiple use of operating educational  
11 and other public buildings;

12 (C) purchase of recreation services on a  
13 contractual basis;

14 (D) use of mobile facilities and rec-  
15 reational, cultural, and educational programs or  
16 other innovative approaches to improving access  
17 for neighborhood residents;

18 (E) integration of the recovery action pro-  
19 gram with federally assisted projects to maxi-  
20 mize recreation opportunities through conver-  
21 sion of abandoned railroad and highway rights-  
22 of-way, waterfront, and other redevelopment ef-  
23 forts and such other federally assisted projects,  
24 as appropriate;

1 (F) conversion to recreational use of street  
2 space, derelict land, and other public lands not  
3 now designated for neighborhood recreational  
4 use; and

5 (G) use of various forms of compensated  
6 and uncompensated land regulation, tax induce-  
7 ments, or other means to encourage the private  
8 sector to provide neighborhood park and recre-  
9 ation facilities and programs.

10 (c) PUBLICATION OF REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-  
11 retary shall establish and publish in the Federal Register  
12 requirements for preparation, submission, and updating of  
13 local park and recreation recovery action programs.

14 (d) AT-RISK YOUTH RECREATION GRANTS.—

15 (1) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible to re-  
16 ceive an at-risk youth recreation grant, a local gov-  
17 ernment shall include in its 5-year park and recre-  
18 ation recovery action program the goal of reducing  
19 crime and juvenile delinquency and provide a de-  
20 scription of the implementation strategies to achieve  
21 this goal.

22 (2) COORDINATION.—The description of imple-  
23 mentation strategies under paragraph (1) shall also  
24 address how the local government is coordinating its  
25 recreation programs with crime prevention efforts of



1 law enforcement, juvenile corrections, and youth so-  
2 cial service agencies.

3 (e) RECOVERY ACTION PROGRAM GRANTS.—The  
4 Secretary is authorized to provide up to 50 percent match-  
5 ing grants to eligible local government applicants for re-  
6 covery action program development and planning to meet  
7 the objectives of this section.

8 **SEC. 9. STATE ACTION INCENTIVE; FEDERAL GRANTS, IN-**  
9 **CREASE.**

10 The Secretary is authorized to increase Federal reha-  
11 bilitation and construction, innovation, and at-risk youth  
12 recreation grants authorized in section 7 of this Act by  
13 providing an additional match equal to the total match  
14 provided by a State of up to 15 percent of total project  
15 or program costs. In no event may the Federal matching  
16 amount exceed 85 percent of total project or program cost.  
17 The Secretary shall further encourage the States to assist  
18 in assuring that local recovery plans and programs are  
19 adequately implemented by cooperating with the Depart-  
20 ment of Housing and Urban Development in monitoring  
21 local park and recreation recovery action programs and  
22 in assuring consistency of such plans and programs, where  
23 appropriate, with State recreation policies as set forth in  
24 statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plans.

1 **SEC. 10. MATCHING REQUIREMENTS; NON-FEDERAL SHARE**  
2 **OF PROJECT OR PROGRAM COSTS.**

3 (a) NON-FEDERAL SOURCES.—The non-Federal  
4 share of project or program costs assisted under this Act  
5 may be derived from—

6 (1) general or special purpose State or local  
7 revenues;

8 (2) State categorical grants;

9 (3) special appropriations by State legislatures;

10 (4) donations of land, buildings, or building ma-  
11 terials;

12 (5) in-kind construction, technical, and plan-  
13 ning services; or

14 (6) any combination of paragraphs (1) through  
15 (5).

16 (b) PROHIBITED SOURCES.—No moneys from any  
17 Federal grant program other than general revenue sharing  
18 and the community development and energy efficiency and  
19 conservation block grant programs shall be used to match  
20 Federal grants under this program.

21 (c) PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary shall  
22 encourage States and private interests to contribute, to  
23 the maximum extent possible, to the non-Federal share of  
24 project or program costs.

1 **SEC. 11. CONVERSION OF RECREATION PROPERTY.**

2 No property improved or developed with assistance  
3 under this Act shall, without the approval of the Sec-  
4 retary, be converted for uses other than for public recre-  
5 ation. The Secretary shall approve such conversion only  
6 if the Secretary determines it to be consistent with the  
7 current local park and recreation recovery action program  
8 and only upon such conditions as the Secretary determines  
9 necessary to assure the provision of adequate recreation  
10 properties and opportunities of reasonably equivalent loca-  
11 tion and usefulness.

12 **SEC. 12. COORDINATION OF PROGRAM.**

13 The Secretary shall—

14 (1) coordinate the urban revitalization and liv-  
15 able communities program with other Federal de-  
16 partments and agencies and with State agencies that  
17 administer programs and policies affecting urban  
18 areas such as the White House Office of Urban Pol-  
19 icy and departments that administer programs and  
20 policies affecting climate change, green jobs, hous-  
21 ing, urban development, natural resources manage-  
22 ment, employment, transportation, community serv-  
23 ices, and voluntary action;

24 (2) encourage maximum coordination of the  
25 program between appropriate State agencies and  
26 local government applicants; and

1           (3) require that local government applicants in-  
2           clude provisions for participation of community and  
3           neighborhood residents, including youth, and for  
4           public-private coordination in recovery action pro-  
5           gram planning and project selection.

6 **SEC. 13. REPORT; RECORDKEEPING; AUDIT AND EXAMINA-**  
7   **TION.**

8           (a) **REPORT.**—Each recipient of assistance under this  
9           Act shall submit to the Secretary, for each fiscal year such  
10          assistance is received, an annual report detailing the  
11          projects and programs undertaken with such assistance,  
12          the number of jobs created by such assistance, and any  
13          other information the Secretary determines appropriate  
14          based on the priority criteria established by the Secretary  
15          under sections 5 and 6.

16          (b) **RECORDKEEPING.**—Each recipient of assistance  
17          under this Act shall keep such records as the Secretary  
18          shall prescribe, including records that fully disclose the  
19          amount and disposition of project or program under-  
20          takings in connection with which assistance under this Act  
21          is given or used, and the amount and nature of that por-  
22          tion of the cost of the project or program undertaking sup-  
23          plied by other sources, and such other records as will fa-  
24          cilitate an effective audit.

1 (c) AUDIT AND EXAMINATION.—The Secretary and  
2 the Comptroller General of the United States, or their  
3 duly authorized representatives, shall have access, for the  
4 purpose of audit and examination, to any books, docu-  
5 ments, papers, and records of a recipient of assistance  
6 under this Act that are pertinent to such assistance.

7 **SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-  
9 priated to carry out this Act \$445,000,000 for each of  
10 the fiscal years 2012 through 2022.

11 (b) RECOVERY ACTION PROGRAM GRANTS.—Not  
12 more than 3 percent of the funds appropriated pursuant  
13 to subsection (a) in any fiscal year may be used for grants  
14 for the development of local park and recreation recovery  
15 action programs pursuant to section 8 of this Act.

16 (c) INNOVATION GRANTS.—Not more than 10 per-  
17 cent of the funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (a)  
18 in any fiscal year may be used for innovation grants pur-  
19 suant to section 7 of this Act.

20 (d) DISCRETIONARY FUND.—Notwithstanding any  
21 other provision of this Act or any other law or regulation,  
22 not more than 2 percent of the funds appropriated pursu-  
23 ant to subsection (a) in any fiscal year may be used to  
24 provide rehabilitation and construction grants, innovation  
25 grants, at-risk youth recreation grants, and recovery ac-

1 tion program grants to be used in the insular areas. Such  
2 sums will not be subject to the matching provisions of this  
3 Act, and may only be subject to such conditions, reports,  
4 plans, and agreements, if any, as determined by the Sec-  
5 retary.

6 **SEC. 15. LIMITATION OF USE OF FUNDS.**

7 Not more than 10 percent of funds appropriated pur-  
8 suant to section 14 for rehabilitation and construction  
9 grants in any fiscal year may be used for the acquisition  
10 of lands or interests in land.

11 **SEC. 16. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

12 (a) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after  
13 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall  
14 submit to Congress an interim report containing such  
15 findings and recommendations as the Secretary deter-  
16 mines appropriate with respect to the urban revitalization  
17 and livable communities program established pursuant to  
18 this Act.

19 (b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 10 years after  
20 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall  
21 submit to Congress a report describing the overall impact  
22 of the urban revitalization and livable communities pro-  
23 gram established pursuant to this Act.

○