



**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

**98-162**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**AGENDA:**  
APRIL 27, 1998

**SYNOPSIS –**

**SUBJECT:**  
SCHEDULE AND  
PROCEDURES FOR  
DEVELOPMENT OF  
THE 1999  
CONSOLIDATED  
PLAN

The City Council is being asked to approve the schedule and procedures for the development of the 1999 Consolidated Plan, which allocates Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investments Partnership Act (HOME), and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds. The proposed procedures are different from the City’s past practices and are required to implement the new Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2020 Community Planning software and the Intergrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS).

**TYPE:**  
*RESOLUTION*  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**FISCAL IMPACT –**

**SUBMITTED BY:**  
JAMES GRANT  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

It is currently estimated that the 1999 allocations for Consolidated Plan programs will be as follows: CDBG-\$5,200,000; HOME-\$1,200,000; ESG-\$200,000.

**RECOMMENDATION –**

**Approval.**

**BACKGROUND –**

HUD implemented regulations for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan in January, 1994, with the first five-year sequence running from 1995 to 1999. Des Moines received a one-year deferral because we were resolving numerous flood-related projects at that time. Our five-year plan runs from 1996 to 2000. According to HUD, we have the option to adjust our timeframe to be in sync with the new planning and reporting process.

HUD is now implementing new software (Community 2020) for the Consolidated Plan which will compliment the new IDIS. This will dramatically change the way we provide monitoring

information, performance reports, and prepare funding drawdowns. Specific information (such as type of projects completed, number of person/households served, exact location of service provision) is entered directly into a central database. This database is also used by a new computer-mapping program that will be used this year to prepare the annual Action Plan, tying the data back to the goals and priorities determined in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

HUD intends the next round of Five-Year Consolidated Plans, starting in 2000 to 2005, to be prepared using this new Graphic Information System (GIS) (map) format. If we do not synchronize our program year, we will be in the position of preparing our final, fifth year Action Plan with a Five-Year Consolidated Plan that does not have precise enough language to accommodate the new reporting system.

Additionally, our current citizen participation process conflicts with the intent of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

We have been resetting priorities on a yearly basis since the beginning of our Five-Year Consolidated Plan, which counteracts the ability to develop long-range plans or multi-phased projects.

According to current HUD regulations, citizen input is required for the development of the full Consolidated Plan, which includes determining goals for the long-range Strategic Plan. Once HUD approves the Consolidated Plan, the Strategic Plan becomes the guidepost for goals and priorities in the annual Action Plans for the subsequent four years. It is the intent of this process to provide an opportunity to track actual changes. To do this, a benchmark is set at the beginning of a five-year tracking period. This would be in the Strategic Plan of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. A strategy is laid out to address a specific number of goals over a five-year timeframe. The Action Plan takes one piece of the strategy each year. There may be fluctuations in the number and kinds of activities each year, and all goals may not have projects to address them each year. However, at the end of the five-year period, when all the information is reviewed, true change or effect is more obvious.

Resetting priorities on a year-by-year basis does not allow enough time for true changes to be observed or for a long-range strategy to be put in place.

Also, the regulations call for two public hearings, one at the beginning and one near the end of the year, for the purpose of keeping the public informed about the Consolidated Plan. These hearings provide the opportunity to get citizen views on progress and respond to questions. These hearing will be held on May 20, 1998, and November 2, 1998, and also will replace the old Target Area meeting.

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the schedule and procedures recommended by the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) for development of the 1999 Consolidated Plan.