



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date May 21, 2007

Agenda Item No. 32
Roll Call No. 07-
Communication No. 07-308
Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community
Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the Schedule and Notices of Funding Availability for the 2008/2009 Action Plans for the City's 2005 – 2009 Consolidated Plan

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the schedule and publication of the Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) for the City's 2005 – 2009 Consolidated Plan. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the City's Consolidated Plan to guide the distribution of entitlement funds for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) programs. The 2008/2009 Action Plan schedule and publication of the NOFAs executes the application process for programs and projects for the fourth and fifth program years of the current Consolidated Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$5,186,000

Funding Source: Annual allocation estimates for PY2008 and PY2009 funding for the three entitlement programs included in the Consolidated Plan are as follows:

- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) – SP020 CDD049900 - \$4 million
- Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) – SP036 CDD049900 - \$1 million
- Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) - SP039 CDD049900 - \$186,000.

The actual award amounts could vary significantly from the estimates depending on congressional action.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The 2005-2009 Consolidated Plan is a five-year affordable housing strategy with annual action plans that identify low to moderate-income housing and community development needs. The one-year action plans seek to fund proposals with specific outcomes that will implement and further the long-term goals of the five-year strategy. The Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) is making the following recommendations for the 2008/2009 Action Plans.

Thirteen Consolidated Plan goals will be published as Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) on June 4, 2007. The notices are available for download from the city's website or on request. The NOFAs request program proposals to meet housing and community development needs in the following areas:

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| Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services | Homebuyer Education |
| Transitional Housing and Supportive Services | Job Training |
| Homeowner Support Services | Community Services – Site Offices |
| Infrastructure | Transportation |
| Code Enforcement | Neighborhood Clean-Ups – SCRUB Program |
| Micro Enterprise Assistance | Neighborhood Capacity Building |
| Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization | |

Federal regulations for the Consolidated Plan were updated (Federal Register March 7, 2006) to require the adoption and application of HUD's Outcome Performance Measurement System to all activities sponsored by entitlement funds. The measurement system is enhanced with additional measurements developed by each community to provide meaningful benchmarks for evaluating program effectiveness. On March 26, 2007, the Des Moines Consolidated Plan was amended by the City Council to adopt the HUD Performance Measurement System.

The NRB makes the following recommendation for program support of the 2005-2009 Consolidated Plan:

To change the contract period from a one to a two-year term between the City and the sub-recipient agencies and city departments.

The purpose of the extension will be to provide for the development, collection and reporting of appropriate and meaningful evaluation data to the City. The HUD funding will continue to be administered on an annual basis, and any changes to the overall federal allocation to the City of Des Moines will be adjusted proportionally to the programs that are confirmed to receive second year funding. The ability of the agencies and city departments to meet their obligations to demonstrate and report on evaluation measures, as well as other federal and local monitoring requirements, will determine the confirmation of second year funding or termination of the contract.

The two-year contract system will provide time for the agencies and departments to put into practice and collect a sufficient amount of data for reporting purposes. It will reduce the time resources devoted to annual proposal writing and review and will allow more time to measure program performance. Also, it will allow city staff to work with agencies to prepare a schedule for regular progress reports to the NRB. The NRB has directed city staff to develop a schedule for more opportunities for presentations by the agencies to provide progress reports at NRB meetings during the year. The NRB has also asked staff to develop a printed reporting format that will summarize the federal and local performance information.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: March 26, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-556

Action: Amendments to the 2005-2009 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Consolidated Plan. (Council Communication No. 07-167) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: May 8, 2006

Roll Call Number: 06-899

Action: PY2007 Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the third year action plan (2007) of the 2005-2009 U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Consolidated Plan. (Council Communication No. 06-273) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: May 17, 2004

Roll Call Number: 04-1025

Action: Goals for 2005-2009 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Consolidated Plan Affordable Housing Strategy. (Council Communication No. 04-243) Moved by Hensley to adopt, and include Public Transit Assistance in the list of goals. City Manager to report on the issue of housing in the City. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: April 4, 2007

Roll Call Number: N/A

Action: Neighborhood Revitalization Board recommends two-year allocation and contractual procedures for the grantees that provide service through the HUD Consolidated Plan.

Date: April 4, 2007

Roll Call Number: N/A

Action: Neighborhood Revitalization Board recommends the 2008 – 2009 Consolidated Plan Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the period of January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE