

★ Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

60A

Date April 20, 2009

Communication from Jean Minahan, Chair, Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB), transmitting the NRB's funding recommendation for the AMENDMENT TO THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2008 ACTION PLAN FOR THE HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*Glenna K. Frank*

Glenna K. Frank  
Assistant City Attorney

MOVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ TO  
RECEIVE AND FILE

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
HENSLEY				
KIERNAN				
MAHAFFEY				
MEYER				
VLASSIS				
TOTAL				

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

**CERTIFICATE**

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

60A

**TO:** The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Jean Minahan, Chair  
Neighborhood Revitalization Board

**SUBJECT:** Substantial Amendment to the 2008 HUD Action Plan for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

**Date:** April 20, 2009

At their special meeting on Saturday, April 18, 2009, the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) approved a motion to recommend that the City Council approve the substantial amendment to the 2008 HUD Action Plan for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) as proposed by a Joint Committee of the NRB and the Polk County Housing Continuum Board.

If approved by HUD, this amendment would provide \$1,763,874 of HPRP funds to provide financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized.

If approved by the City Council, the Rapid Re-Housing Program would be administered under a contract with Anawim Housing in much the same way as the successful Shelter Plus Care program. Anawim would coordinate with several other local agencies that provide services to the homeless through outreach, assessment, and counseling. Most of the groundwork for this collaboration was laid over 6 months ago when the City submitted a bonus application for Supportive Housing Program funding of a Rapid Re-Housing Program, which was not funded. Consequently, this project will be quickly implemented and be in operation well within the time frame required by HUD.

Under the proposed substantial amendment, homeless prevention activities such as rental assistance security deposits, utility assistance, moving costs, and motel and hotel vouchers will be provided. Payment will not be made directly to program participants, but only to third parties, such as landlords and utility companies. It is recommended that the Polk County General Assistance Program administer the prevention assistance. The Department has many years of experience and the administrative capacity to operate this part of the program. They will also collaborate with local agencies for outreach, assessment, income determination and other support services, as needed.

There is also a possibility of receiving additional HPRP funds from the State and/or reallocation of funds from localities that are unable to spend their funds within the time limits required by HUD. At their meeting on April 1, 2009, the Polk County Housing Continuum Board approved a motion to recommend that if additional funds become available the Rapid Re-Housing Program be limited to a total of \$1 million overall and the prevention program receive any excess funding. The NRB agrees with this recommendation.

We look forward to working with the Polk County Housing Continuum in the future to coordinate input on other programs where we share common funding sources, goals, and priorities.

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Jean Minahan, Chair  
Neighborhood Revitalization Board

Cc: City Manager  
PCHC Chair  
Joint Committee Chair  
Housing Services Director  
Community Development Director  
PCHTF Housing Coordinator