

★ Roll Call Number

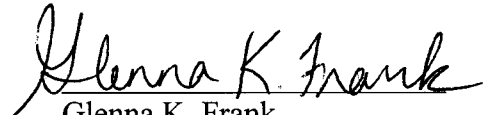
Agenda Item Number

60B

Date April 20, 2009

Communication from Bill Swanson, Chair, Polk County Housing Continuum Board (PCHCB), 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
 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		
_____ Mayor				

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.

_____ City Clerk

60B

TO: The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Bill Swanson, Chair
Polk County Housing Continuum 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 Wednesday, April 15, 2009, the Polk County Housing Continuum Board (PCHC) 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 Neighborhood Revitalization Board and the Polk County Housing Continuum Board.

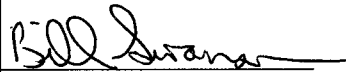
If approved by HUD, this amendment would provide \$1,763,874 of HPRP funds to provide financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized.

If approved by the City Council as proposed, the Rapid Re-Housing Program would be administered under a contract with Anawim Housing in much the same way as the Shelter Plus Care program. Anawim would coordinate with several other local agencies that provide services to the homeless through outreach, assessment, counseling, and case management. 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.

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



Bill Swanson, Chair
Polk County Housing Continuum

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

If you or anyone in your family is a person with disabilities, and you require a specific accommodation in order to fully utilize our programs and services, please contact 323-8950. A TDD machine is available at 323-8950.

