



**Item:** Public Hearing - 2013/2014 CDBG and HOME Annual Action Plan  
**From:** Mike Haynes, AICP, Planning and Community Development Director  
**Initiated By:** Wendy Thomas, AICP, Planning and Community Deputy Director  
**Presented By:** Mike Haynes, AICP Planning and Community Development Director  
**Action Requested:** Conduct public hearing

---

**Public Hearing:**

1. Mayor conducts public hearing, calling three times each for proponents and opponents.
2. Mayor closes public hearing and asks the will of the Commission.

**Suggested Motion:**

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move to close the public hearing and schedule action on the Final Annual Action Plan for May 7, 2013.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, and calls the vote.
- 

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the City Commission conduct the public hearing to receive citizen input regarding the proposed Annual Action Plan required by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), including the proposed use of 2013/2014 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership program funds. City Commission will then consider the public input when they take final action on May 7, 2013.

**Background:**

The Consolidated Plan is a five year planning and reporting document which was approved by City Commission in May, 2010. This Plan includes a community needs assessment, housing market analysis, strategic plan and an annual action plan submitted each year. The Annual Action Plan portion of the Consolidated Plan includes the proposed use of CDBG and HOME funds for the approaching fiscal year.

Community Development Block Grant and HOME Grant project applications were received in January, 2013. The Community Development Council (CDC) reviewed the public service applications and made recommendations for the proposed use of funds for public service projects

to the City Commission on March 19, 2013. At that time, staff presented recommendations for the proposed use of funds for public facility and housing projects. The City Commission accepted the proposed use of funds and set the public hearing for April 16, 2013.

#### Significant Impacts

HUD regulations require one public hearing be held on the proposed Annual Action Plan which includes the use of the 2013/2014 CDBG and HOME funds, in order for the City to secure federal grant dollars.

#### Citizen Participation

The Proposed Annual Action Plan is being made available to the citizens of Great Falls for review and comment for a 30 day period which began March 27, 2013, and continues through April 25, 2013. A copy of the Proposed Annual Action Plan is available for review at the City CDBG/HOME and Neighborhood Council Office in the Civic Center Room 4, the Great Falls Public Library, and the City of Great Falls web page. As required by Section 7-1-4127, MCA, due notice of the public hearing has been provided through advertisements published in the *Great Falls Tribune* on April 7, 10 & 14 and in the Consumer Press on April 11, 2013.

#### Workload Impacts

Not applicable

#### Purpose

The purpose of the public hearing is to provide a forum to allow the citizens of Great Falls the opportunity to express their views on the proposed use of CDBG and HOME Program dollars and each program's policies and performance.

#### Project Work Scope

Not applicable

#### Evaluation and Selection Process

City Commission will be asked to give consideration to citizen comments received during the public hearing before approving the Annual Action Plan. At the May 7, 2013 Commission meeting, following the required 30-day public comment period, the City Commission must accept or amend the proposed Annual Action Plan and authorize submittal of the Plan which HUD must receive on or before May 15, 2013.

#### Conclusion

The public hearing provides citizens an important opportunity for input regarding the proposed HUD Annual Action Plan for 2013/2014.

**Concurrences:** The CDC reviewed the applications and made funding recommendations included in the proposed Annual Action Plan to the City Commission on March 19, 2013.

**Fiscal Impact:** Conducting the public hearing is a pre-condition for the City to receive its annual allocation of HUD CDBG and HOME grant funds.

**Alternatives:** The hearing is required for the City to be awarded 2013/2014 CDBG and HOME funding.

**Attachments/Exhibits:** CDBG and HOME Program Proposed Use of Funds

## 2013/2014 USE OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

### *Affordable Housing*

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<b>DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP OF GREAT FALLS, INC.</b> Undertake feasibility studies for preservation and re-use of historic commercial buildings in the downtown area, including providing housing units in the upper floors, organization located at #15 5 <sup>th</sup> Street North	\$50,000	\$50,000
<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PLANNING &amp; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT– CODE ENFORCEMENT</b> Provide services to preserve and enhance public health and safety and reduce slums and blight by enforcing city codes related to maintenance of property and buildings	\$31,652	\$31,652
<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PLANNING &amp; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT– REHABILITATION SPECIALIST</b> Provide rehab counseling, loan processing, inspections and construction monitoring for all CDBG-funded City revolving loan housing programs for low income people	\$65,500	\$65,500
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC.</b> Revolving loan fund to provide down payment assistance, new construction/purchase and rehabilitation of houses and other activities addressing neighborhood revitalization activities in their CBDO-designated neighborhoods; will also provide 17% of funds received to Habitat for Humanity for purchase of a lot, address to be determined	\$120,000	\$75,000

### *Public Facility Improvements*

<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PARK &amp; RECREATION – COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER</b> Purchase and install mobility platform lift and construct handicap accessible restroom on second floor of community recreation center located at 801 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue North	\$60,000	\$60,000
<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PARK &amp; RECREATION – VERDE PARK</b> Purchase and install handicap accessible play structure and play area border at Verde Park located at Upper River Road between 16 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South	\$37,500	\$37,500

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PUBLIC WORKS – 4<sup>th</sup> AVENUE NORTH</b> Reconstruct 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North from 8 <sup>th</sup> Street to 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, including replacement of asphalt, curb and gutter, sidewalks and installing handicap ramps	\$150,000	\$150,000
<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PUBLIC WORKS – SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT</b> Grant program to provide assistance to low income homeowners to remove and replace hazardous sidewalks in portions of Census Tract 4 and 5 (boundaries of 8 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue South and Park Drive to 15 <sup>th</sup> Street) and other areas at request of low income homeowners	\$30,000	\$30,000
<b><i>Public Service Activities</i></b>		
<b>ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH, INC.</b> Provide substance abuse treatment services to non-violent felony offenders with a substance abuse or dependency diagnosis as part of adult drug treatment program administered by Alliance for Youth, agency located at 5305 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue South	\$50,000	\$12,500
<b>AREA VIII AGENCY ON AGING</b> Purchase food for Meals on Wheels, a citywide home delivery meal program for low/moderate income elderly who are handicapped or unable to prepare meals	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>BOYS &amp; GIRLS CLUB OF CASCADE COUNTY</b> Provide scholarships for summer day camps for children from low income families, programs located at Great Falls Housing Authority (1722 Chowen Springs Loop) and Boys & Girls Club (600 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Southwest)	\$30,000	\$25,000
<b>CHILDREN’S MUSEUM OF MONTANA</b> Provide scholarships for children from low income families to participate in play-to-learn exhibits at children’s museum located at 22 Railroad Square	\$5,000	\$5,000
<b>FAMILY CONNECTIONS</b> (aka Child Care Solutions Montana) Provide child care scholarships for children from low income families, agency located at 202 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue South	\$15,200	\$0

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PARK &amp; RECREATION— MORONY NATATORIUM &amp; COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER</b> Provide scholarships for disabled adults to participate in special needs water activities at community indoor pool facility located at 111 12 <sup>th</sup> Street North; provide scholarships for children from low income families for after school and summer camp programs at community center located at 801 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue North	\$7,500	\$7,500
<b>GREAT FALLS CITY PARK &amp; RECREATION—EAGLE FALLS PARAMOBILE</b> Purchase paramobile adaptive golf cart to be used at Eagle Falls community golf course located at 1025 25 <sup>th</sup> Street North <b>Application withdrawn by agency as unable to secure matching grant as planned</b>	\$10,000	\$0
<b>GREAT FALLS SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER</b> Purchase food for on-site meal program for the elderly administered in elderly facility located at 1004 Central Avenue	\$10,000	\$0
<b>QUALITY LIFE CONCEPTS, INC.</b> Purchase and install ceiling tracking system, lift and slings to provide mobility assistance to bathrooms in group home for develop-mentally disabled adults located at 3233 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South <b>Fund lift, slings and bathroom track</b>	\$11,349	\$7,500
<b>RURAL DYNAMICS, INC.</b> Provide scholarships for case management services through a family financial stability program; provide scholarships for family memberships for Prosperity Club for low to moderate income people, agency located at 2022 Central Avenue <b>Fund only if total funding for Public Services exceeds \$99,000</b>	\$27,000	\$7,500*
<b>SUNBURST UNLIMITED, INC.</b> Purchase gardening tools, equipment and materials to develop programs to raise food for community food bank and teach low income people how to grow and prepare their own food, programs located at 410 16 <sup>th</sup> Street Southwest and 1801 Benefis Court <b>Fund purchase of gardening tools</b>	\$14,658	\$5,000
<b>YOUNG PARENTS EDUCATION CENTER</b> Provide day care scholarships and emergency housing scholarships for very low to low income teen or young adult parents completing high school or GED programs, programs located at alternative high school at 2400 Central Avenue	\$25,000	\$12,000

### ***Administration***

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<b>CDBG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION</b>	\$132,011	\$132,011
General oversight, promotion, financial accountability, monitoring, reporting, and coordination of the CDBG program including activities to further fair housing and the Continuum of Care for Homelessness		
<b>TOTAL 2013/2014 CDBG FUNDING REQUESTED</b>	<b>\$907,370</b>	
<b>TOTAL 2013/2014 CDBG FUNDING RECOMMENDATION</b>		<b>\$731,163</b>
<b>TOTAL ANTICIPATED 2013/2014 CDBG GRANT</b>		<b>\$660,056</b>
<b>TOTAL CDBG FUNDING AVAILABLE FROM PREVIOUS YEARS</b>		<b>\$75,000</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE CDBG GRANT FUNDS</b>		<b>\$735,056</b>

\* Amount not included in total funding recommendations as will be funded only if Public Service funding exceeds \$99,000

**2013/2014 USE OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS  
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<b>ACCESSIBLE SPACE, INC.</b> New construction of a 38 unit apartment complex to provide accessible, affordable rental housing for low income and frail elderly to be located at 1700 Division Road <b>For review only, project previously funded</b>		
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC.</b> Owners in Partnership XXI—construct and rehabilitate single family houses and provide down payment and closing cost assistance for low income home buyers on citywide basis <b>To be considered only if ASI project not undertaken</b>	\$240,000	\$0
<b>HOME PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION</b> General oversight, management, promotion, financial accountability, monitoring and coordination of the HOME program	\$23,040	\$23,040
<b>TOTAL 2013/2014 HOME FUNDING REQUESTED</b>	<b>\$263,040</b>	
<b>TOTAL HOME FUNDING RECOMMENDATION</b>		<b>\$23,040</b>
<b>TOTAL ANTICIPATED 2013/2014 HOME GRANT</b>		<b>\$230,000</b>
<b>TOTAL HOME FUNDING NEEDED TO FUND PREVIOUS YEAR ALLOCATIONS</b>		<b>\$202,000</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE HOME FUNDS</b>		<b>\$28,000</b>