



Item: CDBG & HOME Grant/Consolidated Plan Community Needs Public Hearing

From: Planning and Community Development Department

Initiated By: Craiq Raymond, Director Planning & Community Development

Presented By: Craiq Raymond, Director Planning & Community Development

Action Requested: Set Public Hearing for December 17, 2013

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission set the public hearing for December 17, 2013 to obtain comments on the housing and community development needs of the City of Great Falls.”

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

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Commission set December 17, 2013, as the public hearing date for citizen comments regarding needs of the community that may be addressed with Community Development Block Grant and HOME grant funds.

Background:

CDBG and HOME programs are federal programs administered by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help fund local community development programs including affordable housing, public service, economic development and public infrastructure projects. The primary goal of these programs is to assist low and moderate income (LMI) persons in their respective communities. State and local governments receive funding from HUD based on a formula derived from population and housing statistics.

Significant Impacts

Not applicable

Citizen Participation

The Citizen Participation Plan, which is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, dictates that the City hold a public hearing to receive citizen input regarding the issues and needs of the community.

Workload Impacts

Not applicable

Purpose

Public input helps identify Federal and State HUD grant funding opportunities in the community.

Project Work Scope

Not applicable

Evaluation and Selection Process

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires public input, especially input from lower income citizens and agencies representing them, as to the issues and needs of the community. The Commission will be asked to give consideration to citizen comments received during this public hearing when determining funding priorities for the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Grant Program.

Conclusion

The public hearing provides citizens an important opportunity to identify before the City Commission housing and community development needs, particularly those impacting low to moderate income households in Great Falls.

Concurrences: Not applicable

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 City Commission could elect to not hold a public hearing and thereby decide to not accept CDBG and HOME funding for FY 2014-2015.

Attachments/Exhibits: Not applicable