



Item: Public Hearing - 2014/2015 CDBG and HOME Annual Action Plan

From: Jolene Wetterau, CDBG/HOME Administrator, Planning and Community Development Director

Initiated By: Craig Raymond, Planning and Community Development Director

Presented By: Craig Raymond, 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 schedule action on the Final Annual Action Plan for May 6, 2014.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, and calls the vote.
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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 2014/2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership program funds. The Commission will then consider the public input when they take final action on May 6, 2014.

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, 2014. The Community Development Council reviewed the Public Service, Public Facilities, and Affordable Housing applications and made recommendations for the proposed use

of funds for projects to the City Commission on March 18, 2014. 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 15, 2014.

Significant Impacts

HUD regulations require one public hearing be held on the proposed Annual Action Plan which includes the use of the 2014/2015 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 26, 2014, and continues through April 24, 2014. 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 112, 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 9 & 13, 2014 and in the Consumer Press on April 10, 2014.**

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.

Evaluation and Selection Process

The Commission will be asked to give consideration to citizen comments received during the public hearing before approving the Annual Action Plan. At the May 6, 2014 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 2014/2015.

Concurrences: The Community Development Council reviewed the public services applications and made funding recommendations included in the proposed Annual Action Plan to the City Commission on March 18, 2014.

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 2014/2015 CDBG and HOME funding.

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

2014/2015 USE OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Affordable Housing

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
GREAT FALLS RENTAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN PROGRAM Provide funds to rehabilitate units in the area, specifically the downtown area to tie into the City's Downtown Master Plan	\$150,000	\$50,000
GREAT FALLS CITY PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT– CODE ENFORCEMENT Provide services to preserve and enhance public health and safety and reduce slums and blight by enforcing international and city codes related to maintenance of property and buildings	\$31,652	\$31,652
GREAT FALLS CITY PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT– REHABILITATION SPECIALIST Provide rehab counseling, loan processing, inspections and construction monitoring for all CDBG-funded City revolving loan housing programs for low income people	\$67,455	\$67,455
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC. 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	\$225,000	\$84,903
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Purchase of land for construction of a Habitat for Humanity (HFH) house in fiscal year 2014/2015	\$50,000	\$25,000

Public Facility Improvements

GREAT FALLS CITY PARK & RECREATION – COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER Purchase and replacement of existing doors with ADA energy efficient entryway doors for the community recreation center located at 801 2 nd Avenue North	\$75,000	\$32,000
GREAT FALLS CITY PARK & RECREATION – DUDLEY ANDERSON PARK Purchase and install handicap accessible play structure and play area border at Dudley Anderson Park located at 701 33 rd Street South	\$40,000	\$30,000

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
GREAT FALLS CITY PUBLIC WORKS – 3th AVENUE NORTH Reconstruct 3rd Avenue North from 10 th Street to 12 th Street, including replace asphalt, curb and gutter, domes and sidewalk and install handicap ramps	\$200,000	\$130,328
GREAT FALLS CITY PUBLIC WORKS – SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT Grant program to provide assistance to low income homeowners to remove and replace hazardous sidewalks within the city limits	\$30,000	\$30,000
OPPORTUNITIES, INC. Repair of roof for the Youth Employment Center located at 620/622 1 st Avenue South	\$38,183	\$20,672
GREAT FALLS PARK & RECREATION – MORONY NATATORIUM Asbestos sampling, testing, removal of flooring, installation of floor tiles in lobby, bathrooms, and hallways located at 111 12 th Street North	\$42,965	\$13,000
CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH Replacement of existing windows and doors with energy efficient windows and ADA compliant door located at 513 1 st Avenue South	\$70,900	\$10,500
PARIS GIBSON SQUARE MUSEUM – ADA ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Replacement of existing west doors to improve ADA access and energy efficiency located at 1400 1 st Avenue North	\$30,459	\$10,000

Public Service Activities

AREA VIII AGENCY ON AGING 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
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF CASCADE COUNTY 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 st Avenue Southwest)	\$30,000	\$25,000

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
GREAT FALLS CITY PARK & RECREATION— MORONY NATATORIUM & COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER Provide scholarships for disabled adults to participate in special needs water activities at community indoor pool facility located at 111 12 th Street North; provide scholarships for children from low income families for after school programs and summer camp programs at community center located at 801 2 nd Avenue North	\$8,000	\$8,000
GREAT FALLS SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER Purchase food and supplies for on-site meal program for the elderly administered in elderly facility located at 1004 Central Avenue	\$10,000	\$5,000
QUALITY LIFE CONCEPTS, INC. Purchase an enclosed trailer for the Work Service Program available to disabled adults in the Great Falls area.	\$9,385	\$5,500
RURAL DYNAMICS, INC. Provide scholarships for federal and state tax preparation services to low/moderate income persons through the Tax Help Montana Program located at 1004 Central Avenue	\$14,777	\$10,000
SUNBURST UNLIMITED, INC. Purchase and installation of gardening shed for secure storage of equipment and materials belonging to the Westside Orchard Garden Program which raises food for the Great Falls Head Start program and teaches low income people how to grow and prepare their own food; programs located at 410 16 th Street Southwest and 1801 Benefis Court	\$14,658	\$3,000
YOUNG PARENTS EDUCATION CENTER 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	\$10,000
PARIS GIBSON SQUARE – SCHOLARSHIPS Provide scholarships for disabled adults and the elderly to the Paris Gibson Square Adaptive Art Classes located at 1400 1 st Avenue North	\$10,208.75	\$5,000

Administration

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
CDBG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	\$148,000	\$148,000
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		
TOTAL 2014/2015 CDBG FUNDING REQUESTED	\$1,401,222.24	
TOTAL 2014/2015 CDBG FUNDING RECOMMENDATION*		\$780,010
TOTAL ANTICIPATED 2014/2015 CDBG GRANT		\$730,000
TOTAL CDBG FUNDING AVAILABLE FROM PREVIOUS YEARS		\$50,010
TOTAL AVAILABLE CDBG GRANT FUNDS		\$780,010*

***Amount is an estimation of anticipated funding that has yet to be disclosed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); all amounts may vary depending on the final notification of award.**

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

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC.	\$250,000	\$207,000
Affordable Housing Program—construct and rehabilitate existing houses for purchase of rent and provide down payment and closing cost assistance for low income home buyers on citywide basis		
HOME PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	\$23,000	\$23,000
General oversight, management, promotion, financial accountability, monitoring and coordination of the HOME program		
TOTAL 2013/2014 HOME FUNDING REQUESTED	\$250,000	
TOTAL HOME FUNDING RECOMMENDATION		\$23,000
TOTAL ANTICIPATED 2013/2014 HOME GRANT		\$230,000*
TOTAL AVAILABLE HOME FUNDS		\$230,000

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