



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

**From:** Planning and Community Development Department

**Initiated By:** Jolene Wetterau, CDBG/HOME Administrator, Planning & Community Development

**Presented By:** Craig Raymond, Director, Planning & Community Development

**Action Requested:** Set Public Hearing for December 16, 2014

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**Suggested Motion:**

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission set the public hearing for December 16, 2014, 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.

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**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the City Commission set December 16, 2014, 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.

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.

Purpose

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

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 2015-2016.

**Attachments/Exhibits:** CDBG HOME Funding Schedule 2015-2016

<b>2015 – 2016 CDBG/HOME Allocation and 2016-2020 ConPlan/ Annual Action Plan Schedule</b>	
City Commission appoints Community Development Council (CDC) members	N/A
Application available on City web site	Friday November 14, 2014
CDBG/HOME Application Workshop	Friday November 14, 2014
City Commission conducts “Needs” Public Hearing	Tuesday December 16, 2014
Pre-deadline review of applications	Friday December 19, 2014
Commission Work Session to set CDBG funding Priorities & Policy	Tuesday January 6, 2015
Funding application deadline (Please note it is a 5 pm deadline)	Wednesday January 7, 2015
City Commission sets CDBG funding priorities	Tuesday January 20, 2015
Community Development Council (CDC) Orientation Meeting	Thursday January 30, 2015
CDC reviews applications and develops funding recommendations for CDBG projects.	Monday February 9, 2015 to Friday February 27, 2015
CDC presents funding recommendations for CDBG applications to the City Commission	Tuesday March 17, 2015
Staff presents funding recommendations for CDBG applications to the City Commission	Tuesday March 17, 2015
City Commission accepts project application funding recommendations for inclusion in 2016-2020 ConPlan and Annual Action Plan, sets the public hearing date.	Tuesday March 17, 2015
Proposed 2016-2020 ConPlan and Annual Action Plan completed and available for review.	Wednesday March 25, 2015
30 day comment period for proposed 2016-2020 ConPlan and Annual Action Plan	Wednesday March 25, 2015 to Thursday April 23, 2015
Public Hearing on Proposed ConPlan/Action Plan	Tuesday April 21, 2015
Commission approves ConPlan/Annual Action Plan	Tuesday May 5, 2015
ConPlan/Annual Action Plan mailed to HUD	Wednesday May 11, 2015

NOTE: Schedule is tentative depending on Commission meeting dates and actual meeting dates.