

Amendment of the 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan Community Development Block Grant- Recovery Program (CDBG-R)

The City of Tallahassee seeks to amend its 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan as follows:

The City of Tallahassee's formula allocation for the Community Development Block Grant Recovery Program (CDBG-R) is \$512,812. The CDBG-R Notice was released May 6, 2009. The following is a summary of proposed programs for CDBG-R funding:

Administration: The City will use the maximum allowable amount of funds for administration of the program (10%).

Public Services: The maximum allowable amount (15%) will be used to fund public services programs that provide essential support to low and moderate-income citizens. Funds will be awarded using the same citizen-driven needs analysis and awarding process as the regular CDBG program public services funds.

Public Facilities Rehabilitation: The balance of CDBG-R funds will be used to renovate existing public facilities in the City's low and moderate-income neighborhoods. The Lincoln Service Center will receive structural improvements to the roof and wall system, energy efficiency improvements to the air conditioning system, and capital improvements to the gymnasium, which houses after-school recreation programs. Funds will be used to replace windows on the Smith Williams Service Center building for improved energy efficiency and long term cost savings.

Program	Amount
Administration	\$51,281.20
Public Services	\$76,921.80
Public facilities rehabilitation	\$384,609.00
TOTAL	\$512,812.00

CDBG-R will address the Recovery Act:

Administrative funds: The preservation of local government jobs will promote economic recovery. In Florida, local governments are losing jobs quickly, and the administrative funds will assist some of the workers most impacted by the recession. Maintaining experienced employees, especially those who have administrative responsibilities for CDBG programs, will provide long-term economic benefits to the City. The equivalent of 1 full time position will be retained with CDBG-R administrative funds for the duration of the funding.

Public services: As stated in the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan, the primary impediment to the provision of public services in the community is lack of adequate funding. Each year there is a gap between the amount of funds available and the requests for public services funding. The CDBG-R funds will assist to fill the gap and fund more public

services programs. Sub-grantees will be awarded public services funds through the same competitive process used for regular Community Development Block Grant funds, the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP). The CHSP process ensures local non-profit agencies are not duplicating services, and the community's priority needs are met each year. CHSP volunteers evaluate non-profit agencies' ability to meet local needs and provide services efficiently. Public services programs target the needs of diverse populations, and high-risk persons and /or communities most impacted by the recession. The CHSP process is currently underway to make funding awards for the FY 2009-2010 regular CDBG allocation. Therefore contracts to sub grantees can be awarded within 120 days of the City's agreement with HUD, as required by Title XII of Division A and Section 1602 of the Recovery Act. The funding to public services agencies would assist in maintaining or creating the equivalent of 3 part-time employees for the duration of the funding, and would assist the City to avoid reductions in essential services.

Public facilities: Elimination of unsafe public facilities by upgrading existing public facilities in the City's low and moderate-income neighborhoods was determined to be a priority community development need in the FY 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan. Because of reductions in federal, state and local housing assistance funds, the City would not have been able to fund needed public service center renovations but for the CDBG-R funds. In the CDBG-R Notice on page 19, HUD wrote, "Congress clearly intends that CDBG-R funds should primarily be invested in economic development, housing, infrastructure, and other public facilities activities that will quickly spur further economic investment, increased energy efficiency, and job creation or retention." The chosen projects clearly satisfy Congress' intention. The projects are "shovel ready" and contracts can be awarded within 120 days of the City's agreement with HUD, as required by Title XII of Division A and Section 1602 of the Recovery Act. City staff is accustomed to environmental review processes and compliance with labor standards. CDBG-R funds will create construction industry jobs at a time when construction workers in Florida are deeply impacted by the recession. Through investments in infrastructure located in low and moderate-income neighborhoods, the City is promoting economic recovery. The Service Centers' essential public services may continue or be expanded for the community, assisting the low and moderate-income citizens most affected by the recession. The renovation projects will create approximately 26 full time construction jobs for the duration of the project.

Energy improvements in the Smith-Williams Service Center and Lincoln Service Center will promote energy conservation, and will provide long-term economic benefits to the City. The Smith Williams Service Center will receive new commercial grade double pane insulated operable windows to conserve energy. The Lincoln Service Center will receive an upgrade to the heating and air conditioning duct distribution system. The system will be replaced with well-insulated metal ductwork. This will provide long-term cost savings to the City and improving the environment. Additionally all attic insulation will be replaced and enhanced. With all of these improvements green-building technologies will be utilized to the fullest extent possible. The public service centers, including the Senior Center benefiting elder citizens, are expected to receive Energy Efficiency and

Conservation Block Grant funding through the Recovery Act to further expand energy efficiency, long-term cost savings, and job creation.

For additional information about these programs, citizens may contact Joyce Martinez, the Tallahassee Housing Administrator, by phone at (850) 891-6500, by email at joyce.martinez@talgov.com, or by mail at:

Tallahassee Housing Division
Department of Economic and Community Development
300 S. Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Public Comment:

Tallahassee's Citizen Participation Plan requires that the City encourage diverse members of the community to review and comment on plans and priorities for the use of federal and state grant funds. The Plan requires the publication of proposed uses and budgets, comment periods, and dates of a public meeting and a hearing. In addition to the public comment opportunities at the public meeting and hearing, a citizens' advisory committee reviews all plans and proposals before submittal. The City Commission appointed citizens to serve on the advisory committee, called the Community Improvement Advisory Council (CIAC). The CIAC also reviews the procedures involved in developing the City's plans and priorities.

According to the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) Notice released March 19, 2009, the CDBG-R Substantial Amendment could be submitted in conjunction with the HPRP Substantial Amendment. Following the Citizen Participation Plan, the City published the proposed CDBG-R budget and notice of public meeting on April 15, 2009 in the local newspaper and on the City website. The comment period met the requirements of the HPRP Notice. The City held a public meeting regarding the proposed use of CDBG-R funds on April 28, 2009, convened the CIAC on April 29, 2009, and held the final hearing on May 13, 2009. There were no comments made at the public hearings regarding the CDBG-R funds.