Subject: Conduct a public hearing to receive comments on (1) the annual Action Plan Fiscal Year 2008-2009, required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and (2) the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 373 Community Development 2008-2009 Program.

For More Information: Margaret Shaw, Acting Director, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, 974-3184

This action is in accordance with the City’s Citizen Participation Plan, which sets forth the City’s policies and procedures for citizen participation in the Consolidated Plan. As required by Chapter 373 of the Texas Local Government Code and the City’s Citizen Participation Plan, the steps for public participation in the annual Action Plan and Community Development Program includes four public hearings before the City Council and the Community Development Commission (CDC) and a 30-day comment period on the draft Plan.

There will be two public hearings to receive citizen input on community needs and service gaps. The City Council public hearing on March 20th is the first public hearing. The second public hearing with the CDC will be on March 31, 2008. The draft fiscal year 2008-09 Action Plan will be made available for written public comment in May 2008. Two public hearings, one with City Council and one with the CDC, will be held regarding the draft Action Plan in May 2008.

In Fiscal Year 2008-09, the City of Austin expects to receive about $12 million through four U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). In order to receive these HUD grants, the City must submit annually an Action Plan that describes community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities with regard to housing, community development, economic development, and public services.