

AGENDA



Thursday, June 5, 2008

**Public Hearings and Possible Actions
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 78**

Subject: Conduct a Public Hearing to receive citizen comments on the City's (1) Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2008-2009, required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and (2) the Community Development Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Program, required by Chapter 373, Texas Local Government Code, including proposed funding allocations for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

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

This action is to conduct the second of two hearings before Council that are required prior to City Council's adoption of the City's Action Plan and Community Development Program for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. In Fiscal Year 2008-2009, the City of Austin will receive approximately \$12 million through four HUD programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant, ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). In order to receive these grants from HUD, 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. The Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Action Plan is due to HUD on August 15, 2008.

Neighborhood Housing Community Development (NHCD) staff prepares the Action Plan in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan that was adopted in compliance with federal regulations and Chapter 373 of the Texas Local Government Code. Pursuant to the Participation Plan, NHCD staff seeks input from citizens at two public hearings on the proposed Action Plan. One hearing is held by Council and the other is held by the Community Development Commission (CDC). NHCD staff prepares the draft Plan after gathering community input and statistical data. The draft Plan is available for public comment for 30 days. During the 30 day public comment period, Council conducts a second public hearing and the CDC also conducts an additional hearing. The CDC is given an opportunity to make recommendations to the City Council before the Council's final action. Final Council action on the Action Plan occurs no sooner than 15 days after the second public hearing on the draft Action Plan held by Council.

Two of the public hearings required by the Citizen Participation Plan have already been held to receive citizen input on community needs and service gaps. The first public hearing on the draft Plan held by Council occurred March 20, 2008, and the first hearing held by the CDC occurred March 31, 2008. In addition, to comply with an African American Quality of Life (AAQL) initiative recommendation, an Economic Development Stakeholder's meeting was held on April 16, 2008 to receive comments from the small business community.

The draft Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Action Plan will be made available for written public comment June 2, 2008 to July 2, 2008. After the second required public hearing before Council on June 5, 2008, the CDC will hold its second public hearing on June 26, 2008. Council will make a final approval of the Action Plan on July 24, 2008.