

AGENDA



Thursday, March 5, 2009

Public Hearings and Possible Actions
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 46

Subject: Conduct a public hearing to receive citizen input on community needs for the development of the City's (1) five-year Consolidated Plan for fiscal years 2009 - 2014, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; (2) the Annual Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Action Plan, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and (3) the Community Development 2009-2010 Program, as required by Texas Local Government Code Chapter 373.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

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

Prior Council Action: February 26, 2009: Council set a public hearing to develop the five-year Consolidated Plan for fiscal years October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2014.

The City of Austin Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office conducts a needs assessment every five years to determine housing and community development priorities in the community to be included in the five-year 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 assessing community needs for the five-year Consolidated Plan and the annual Action Plan and Community Development Program include the following:

1. Five Public Hearings:
 - One with the Austin City Council.
 - Two with the Community Development Commission (CDC).
 - One with the Community Action Network.
 - One with the HIV/AIDS Planning Council.
2. Housing Market Study - An evaluation of the existing and future housing needs in Austin.
3. Community Survey - A survey to gather public feedback about priorities for funding.
4. Impediments to Fair Housing report - An analysis of impediments to fair housing examining barriers to fair housing in Austin.
5. Consultations with social services, non-profits, for-profits, and government entities regarding public housing needs and planned programs and activities.

The annual Action Plan outlines activities and programs that fund the priorities identified in the five-year Consolidated Plan. The fiscal years October 2009 - September 2014 draft Consolidated Plan and fiscal year 2009-2010 draft Action Plan will be made available for written public comment in June 2009. Two public hearings, one with City Council and one with the Community Development Commission (CDC), will be held regarding the draft plans in June 2009.

In fiscal year 2009-2010, the City of Austin expects to receive \$13 million through four U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs: Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Emergency Shelter Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS. In order to receive HUD grants, the City must submit a Consolidated Plan every five years and an annual Action Plan that describes community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities with regard to

housing, community development, economic development, and public services. The Consolidated Plan and Action Plan are both due to HUD on August 15, 2009.