Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 40

Subject: Set a Public Hearing to receive citizen comments on a Substantial Amendment to the City's (1) Fiscal Years 2004-2009 Consolidated Plan; (2) Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2008-2009, required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and to (3) the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 373, Community Development 2008-2009 Program. The Substantial Amendment allows the City of Austin to apply, receive, and administer additional grant funds made available to the City of Austin from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. (Suggested date and time: April 23, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX)

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

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

The guidelines for Community Development Block Grant and Homeless Prevention Funds of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 require jurisdictions to amend their current fiscal year 2008-09 Action Plan. This public hearing is one of the requirements of a Substantial Amendment as outlined in the Citizen's Participation Plan, which sets forth the City policies and procedures for citizen participation in the Consolidated Plan. The Citizen Participation Plan, required by HUD, was adopted by Austin City Council in June 2004. The guidelines for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 specify the public comment as 12 days in order to expedite the funding availability. As required by the City's Citizen Participation Plan, the steps for public participation in the Substantial Amendment to the annual Action Plan is one public hearing before Austin City Council and a public comment period. The Community Development Commission will be given an opportunity to provide Council with its recommendations regarding the amendment prior to the item going before the Austin City Council.

A summary of the amendment will be made available for written public comment April 20, 2009 to May 1, 2009, with final City Council approval scheduled for the May 14, 2009 Council Meeting.

The City of Austin plans to apply for the following American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding: (1) Homeless Prevention Fund in the amount of \$3,062,820 and (2) Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$2,003,003. The Health and Human Services Department will manage the Emergency Shelter Grant-R (ESG-R) funding. The application for grant funds is being prepared for submission to HUD on May 18, 2009.