



Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:
HUD Funding Opportunities for City of Austin



1



Why We're Here Tonight?

- A public hearing before City Council is required in order to apply to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) for more than \$5 million in stimulus monies
- An opportunity to provide an overview of City's processes to secure HUD stimulus funding
 - Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) (\$3 million)
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (\$2 million)

2



American Revitalization and Recovery Act (ARRA)

- ARRA became law on Feb. 17, 2009
- Federal Objective – jumpstart the U.S. economy in midst of a global economic downturn
- Eligible entities range from Federal government to states, cities, regions, non-profits and others.

3



Substantial Amendment to HUD-approved Austin Plans

- **HUD Consolidated Plan (FY2004-09) and Action Plan (FY2008-09)**
 - HUD requires local jurisdictions to develop five-year and annual plans to outline how HUD grant funds are to be allocated
 - Process for plan development and changes are developed locally and approved by HUD (Citizen Participation Plan)
 - Public input is required.
- **Substantial Amendment**
 - Receipt of \$5M in ARRA HUD funds requires a "substantial amendment" to both FY 08-09 Action Plan and FY04-09 Consolidated Plan
 - Required opportunities for input: written comment period online and in select public sites (April 20 – May 1); Council public hearing (April 23)
 - Additional input: Community Development Commission, online suggestions, homeless stakeholders' meeting, Council Public Health & Human Services Subcommittee

4



Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

- Austin to receive \$3,062,820
- HUD Guidelines Released – March 2009
- Application Due – May 18, 2009
- Funds passed through NHCD to be administered by HHSD

5



Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

Three Primary Goals for Austin Funds:

- Prevention: Prevent people from becoming homeless whenever possible
- Diversion: Intervene when people enter shelters and divert them into housing (where possible/appropriate)
- Rapid Re-Housing: Move people who become homeless into permanent housing as quickly as possible

6



Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- Austin to receive \$2,003,003
- HUD Guidelines— not yet released
- Activities to date enable City to act quickly when guidance released
- Funds to be administered by NHCD

7



Community Development Block Grant: City of Austin Evaluation Criteria

- Meets federal requirements (economic development, create jobs, etc.)

Sustainable, well-financed, established efforts

- Projects are “shovel-ready” (90 days to start)
- Fast turn-around times—projects should be of relatively short duration (less than 3 years)
- Financially sustainable after the expiration of stimulus funds
- Leverages existing resources and programs
- Provides linkages with other stimulus opportunities

8



Community Development Block Grant: City of Austin Evaluation Criteria

Significant results for the Community

- Well-defined and measurable benefits
- Creates a lasting impact for Austin
- Contributes to environmental sustainability
- Improves the competitive position of the City and region

Tangible results for Residents

- Improves the quality of life for Austin residents
- Create jobs that pay a Council-set living wage (\$11/hour)
- Benefits low to moderate-income persons
- Benefits underserved neighborhoods and populations

9



ARRA Oversight & Monitoring

- Heightened Oversight & Monitoring
 - HUD Program Staff (DC, San Antonio)
 - HUD Office of Inspector General
 - Congress' General Accounting Office
 - Media
- Administrative Considerations
 - Capacity of partner
 - Leveraging funds
 - Minimum award of \$250,000

10



Public Input Process

January 1 – March 13: Public needs assessment related to FY 09-14 Consolidated Plan

April 7: HPRP Stakeholder Meeting

April 14: Community Development Commission (CDC) discusses ARRA HPRP funds & CDBG criteria

April 20 – May 1: Public Comments (2 libraries, 4 neighborhood centers, ARCH, HACA, NHCD, AIDS Services Austin)

April 20: Council Subcommittee on Public Health & Human Services

April 23: Council Public Hearing

April 24 – May 1: CDBG Survey

11



Next Steps

- **May 1:** Public Comment Period ends
- **May 2 – 10:** Staff develop recommendations on CDBG awards through evaluation panel process
- **May 12:** Community Development Commission reviews and takes action on staff recommendations on substantial amendment (HPRP & CDBG funding allocations)
- **May 14:** City Council reviews & approves substantial amendment
- **May 18:** HPRP Application due to HUD
- **September 1:** HUD execution of HPRP Grantee Agreements
- **September 30:** City obligates HPRP funds

(Note: When HUD releases CDBG application guidelines, staff will update City Council and public on actions required.)

12



Informational Resources

www.hud.gov/recovery

www.cityofaustin.org/stimulus

www.cityofaustin.org/housing
(see News & Events)