

Mayor Jim Gray

LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Division of Grants and Special Programs

TO:

JIM GRAY, MAYOR

URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM:

IRENE GOODING, DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DATE:

APRIL 2, 2013

SUBJECT:

REQUEST COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT 2013 CONSOLIDATED PLAN, ACCEPT AWARDS OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM, AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS PROGRAM, FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FOR FY 2014, AND TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENTS WITH SUBRECIPIENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPROVED PLAN

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires a consolidated application submission for jurisdictions receiving funds through HUD's Planning and Community Development programs. The purpose of the Consolidated Plan is to serve as the planning document for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's participation in these programs. The overall goal of the programs is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities for low and moderate income persons. The 2013 Consolidated Plan includes a one-year action plan providing for the expenditure of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, HOME Investment Partnerships funds, and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funds for Fiscal Year 2014 (the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014) to address identified problems.

Federal regulations require that an active citizens' participation process be used to identify needs and to recommend the allocation of these federal resources. Two required public hearings have been conducted for the purpose of soliciting citizen comment on the housing and non-housing needs of the low-income population and on the budgeting of these federal funds to address identified needs. Applications for ESG, HOME, and CDBG funds were accepted through a uniform application process. Application solicitation was available through the LFUCG web page for the convenience of agencies having an interest in Consolidated Plan funding. The applications received were reviewed by the staff of the Division of Grants and Special Programs. In addition, a group of Master's level student interns in the Department of Social Services reviewed the applications requesting services funding under the CDBG program. These recommendations for funding were reviewed by the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief of Staff in the Mayor's Office. The proposed plan was made available for public comment as provided by the approved Citizens Participation Plan on March 4, 2013. The 30-day comment

period expires on April 2, 2013. No substantial written comments on the draft plan have been received.

The Action Plan describes how funds available through the three program areas will be allocated and spent. CDBG program revenues include \$1,993,717 in federal funds with \$150,000 in program income anticipated in fiscal year 2014 for a total of \$2,143,717. The HOME Investment Partnerships program revenues include \$945,596 in federal funds, with a required local cash match of \$202,984 requested from the 2014 general fund budget and program income of \$180,000 for a total of \$1,329,580; and the Emergency Solutions Grants program revenues include \$164,919 in federal funds, with a proposed FY 2014 general fund cash match of \$28,969, and an in-kind match of \$135,950 from subrecipient agencies. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has not issued allocation notices for the 2013 program year; therefore these dollar amounts are subject to change.

These funds will be expended on public improvements, public facilities, housing rehabilitation, public services, a first-time Homebuyer program, development of homeownership units for low-income households, development of rental units for low-income populations, homeless prevention and rapid rehousing activities, operational support for emergency and transitional housing, and planning and administration activities. A list of projects as recommended for the Community Development Block Grant program, the HOME program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant program, is attached.

Council authorization to submit the 2013 Consolidated Plan, with funding allocations as recommended herein, to accept the herein described federal funds, subject to the availability of sufficient funds in FY 2014, and to execute written agreements in accordance with the approved plan is hereby requested.

Irene Gooding

Director

Attachment: 2013 Consolidated Plan Project Recommendations

Xc: Sally Hamilton, Chief Administrative Officer