



# Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office

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





# 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)



# 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.



# 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



# 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



# 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



# 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



# 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



# 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



# 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



# 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, HACCA, NHCD, AIDS Services Austin)

**April 20:** Council Subcommittee on Public Health & Human Services

**April 23:** Council Public Hearing

**April 24 – May 1:** CDBG Survey



# 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.)*



# Informational Resources

[www.hud.gov/recovery](http://www.hud.gov/recovery)

[www.cityofaustin.org/stimulus](http://www.cityofaustin.org/stimulus)

[www.cityofaustin.org/housing](http://www.cityofaustin.org/housing)  
(see News & Events)