

Order 91-08/09

Passed 10/20/08 9-0

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ORDER APPROVING CDBG PRIORITY

CDBG PRIORITY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

ORDERED, that the CDBG Priority Task Force Recommendations in Attachment 1 are hereby approved.

CDBG PRIORITY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations from the CDBG Priority Task Force go beyond the initial goal of identifying priorities. They are recommending a fundamental shift in the program model for the CDBG Program.

The Task Force recommends a **Holistic Approach** that is multi-dimensional, coordinated and collaborative, and targeted to specific locations in neighborhoods. Vibrant neighborhoods are multi-dimensional. They include opportunities for housing, work, shop, mobility, social and retail services, open space, and social interaction for all community members within a safe environment. A coordinated approach based on the multi-dimensional nature of neighborhoods is essential for revitalization. Our intent is to produce **long term impacts** and **stretch CDBG dollars for maximum impact**. Preference would be given to collaboration or partnerships between entities, multi-category initiatives, entities that provide multiple complimentary services, and proposals that impact identified needs.

To help define this model further the Task Force has recommended a goal, principles, priority impact initiatives and structural changes.

GOAL

- The goal of the program is to **build strong, self-sustaining neighborhoods**.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Consistent and Coordinated.** All projects and programs will be reviewed with respect to HUD requirements, city objectives, plans, goals, and other CDBG, and or HOME investments. Proposals should be coordinated with all relevant city departments and be directly connected to these objectives and plans.
- **Measurable Community Impact.** Applicants will be evaluated based on how well they create a significant and measurable community impact.
- **Location.** Projects and programs should focus on targeted locations within the eligible neighborhoods, for example: neighborhood commerce districts, proximity to new affordable housing development and identified troubled areas in the neighborhood.
- **Diversity and Inclusiveness.** We live in a community full of unique talents, beliefs, backgrounds, and capabilities, therefore projects and programs should address our diversity and be inclusive to engage differences and create a culture of belonging.
- **Priority to Lower Incomes.** Priority will be given to projects and programs that serve the lowest income persons.
- **Leveraged Funding.** CDBG cannot be the only source of funding for a program or project, leveraging other funds is essential.
- **Sustainability.** Projects and programs must determine whether they are good for the environment, economically sounds (financially feasible), and supportive of the community. In addition, energy efficiency will be rewarded.

PRIORITY IMPACT INITIATIVES

- **Housing.** Maintaining persons living in their homes or creating places for persons to live in town.
- **Work and Shop.** Create or support places for people to work and shop within their neighborhoods as well as the means to gain and maintain employment.
- **Mobility and Accessibility.** Create the connection between home, work, shop, education and services.
- **Safe Neighborhoods.** Create safe and livable neighborhoods.

SET - ASIDES

- Basic Needs set aside for up to 10% of the total grant.
- Capacity Building set aside to be determined tied to the results of a community needs assessment.

STRUCTURAL CHANGES

- A minimum grant award of \$20,000 is recommended.
- Two year grant awards are recommended, contingent on performance and HUD allocation.

IMPACT

The recommendations herein propose a fundamental shift in the thinking and allocation of resources for the Community Development Block Grant. It will impact the agencies, organizations, and city departments that have utilized this funding in the past. However everyone can participate in this new model.

IMPLEMENTATION

- The Task Force recommends partial incorporation of the new model, goal, principles and priorities into this year's funding cycle. Partial incorporation will include: 1) substituting the current priorities listed in the CDBG Funding Application with the newly adopted principles and priorities, 2) revising the point system that was used in last year's CDBG Application to reflect the new goal, principles, and priorities, and 3) revising the last year's CDBG Application questions to reflect the new goal, principles and priorities.
- The Task Force recommends full implementation of the Council adopted model, goal, principles and priorities for next year, FY 2010.
- After the first year of implementation the Task Force recommends that the City Council reconvene the CDBG Priority Task Force to review the program and adjust as necessary.