

AGENDA REPORT

DATE December 17, 2002

ITEM CDBG & HOME Grant/Consolidated Plan Community Issues Public Hearing

INITIATED BY Community Development Staff

ACTION REQUESTED Conduct public hearing

PREPARED & PRESENTED BY Kim Johnson, CDBG/HOME Administrator

REVIEWED & APPROVED BY Mike Rattray, Community Development Director

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RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Commission conduct the Consolidated Plan community issues public hearing required for the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Grant programs.

MOTION:

No action required.

SYNOPSIS:

The purpose of this Consolidated Plan community issues public hearing is to allow the citizens, especially lower income citizens of Great Falls an opportunity to advise the City Commission of the community's issues. Ideas are encouraged as to how federal grant funds can be used to address these issues and help eliminate needs. The comments heard at this public hearing will be considered by the City Commission in allocating the 2003/2004 Community Development Block Grant and HOME Grant funds.

This hearing is not meant to be a format for agencies to lobby for their respective Community Development Block Grant or HOME Grant funding applications. Instead, individuals are encouraged to speak to housing and non-housing community development issues in the City, and especially the effect of these issues on low and moderate income people.

BACKGROUND:

A forum to obtain public input as to the needs of the community is required by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development in order for the City to secure federal grant dollars. The Citizen Participation Plan, adopted by the City Commission on January 18, 2000, stipulates a public hearing to allow citizens, especially lower income citizens, the opportunity to speak of the needs of the community, and to make recommendations to the City Commission of the use of the Community Development Block Grant and the HOME Grant funds to help address issues and eliminate needs.