



**Item:** CDBG & HOME Grant/Consolidated Plan Community Needs Public Hearing

**From:** Community Development Department

**Initiated By:** Chris Imhoff, CDBG/HOME Administrator

**Presented By:** Chris Imhoff, CDBG/HOME Administrator

**Action Requested:** Conduct public hearing

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**Public Hearing:**

1. Mayor conducts public hearing, calling three times each for opponents and proponents.
2. Mayor closes public hearing.

**Suggested Motion:** No action required.

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**Staff Recommendation:**

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

**Background:**

Significant Impacts

A forum to obtain public input regarding 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.

Citizen Participation

The Citizen Participation Plan, adopted by the City Commission on January 8, 2008, 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.

Workload Impacts

Not applicable

Purpose

The purpose of this Consolidated Plan community needs 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 regarding how federal grant funds can be used to address these issues and help eliminate needs.

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 persons.

Project Work Scope

Not applicable

Evaluation and Selection Process

The Commission will be asked to give consideration to citizen comments received during this public hearing when determining funding priorities for the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Grant Program and in allocating the 2009/2010 Community Development Block Grant and HOME Grant funds.

Conclusion

The public hearing provides citizens an important opportunity to identify before the City Commission, community development needs particularly those impacting low to moderate income households in Great Falls.

**Concurrences:** Not applicable

**Fiscal Impact:** Conducting the public hearing is a pre-condition for the city receiving its annual allocation of HUD CDBG and HOME grant funds.

**Alternatives:** The hearing is a required for the city to be awarded 2009-2010 CDBG and HOME funding.

**Attachments/Exhibits:** Not applicable