

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: August 20, 2012

TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by James Mathy, Housing Administrator

SUBJECT: Informational Report, from the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, regarding the Process for 2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds

Issue

On August 8, 2012, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Housing Division conducted a public meeting to receive feedback on the proposed use of approximately \$376,225 in reallocated CDBG funds. Staff is proposing to use this reallocation for eligible 2013 projects that will be recommended to the County Board as part of the 2013 project timeline.

Background

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Housing Division staff had determined that there were projects funded in the 2011 cycle that did not meet eligibility requirements. Since that time, HUD was reimbursed for the ineligible projects and Housing Division staff cancelled a number of projects that had yet to be funded. Although HUD required reimbursement, the funds are now available for reallocation to other future CDBG projects. Due to the volume of applications that the Division generally receives, these reallocated funds will allow the Division to fund more eligible projects for non-profits and municipalities during the 2013 funding cycle.

According to HUD regulations, this decision requires a Substantial Amendment to the Milwaukee County 2011 Annual Plan. This plan discusses the Division's proposed annual uses of CDBG funds. A Substantial Amendment requires public input and a 30-day public comment period. Staff placed the Amendment on the Milwaukee County Website as well as published a notice for a public hearing in July 2012. Staff conducted this hearing on August 8th at the Zablocki Park Pavilion.

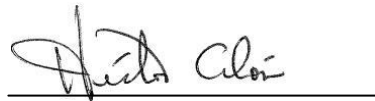
From this meeting, there were two public comments added to the Amendment. The first person expressed support for the Center for Driver's License and Recovery in relation to seeking work and getting to jobs. The second person voiced support for mobility to the workplace, especially for low income drivers and stated that workers need to be able to travel out of the area, which provides employers the benefit of a larger applicant pool.

The public comment period is now closed and Milwaukee County has the ability to reallocate these funds for eligible projects in the 2013 funding cycle.

Recommendation

This is an informational report. No action is necessary.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hector Colon", is written above a horizontal line.

Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Tia Torhorst, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablich, County Board
Patrick Farley, Director, DAS
Craig Kammholz, Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS
CJ Pahl, Assistant Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS
Antionette Thomas-Bailey, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS
Glenn Bultman, Analyst, County Board Staff
Janelle Jensen, County Board Staff