December 1, 2009

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM Application Information

The City of Martinsburg will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at 6:30 PM prevailing time in the J. Oakley Seibert Council Chambers in City Hall, 232 North Queen Street, Martinsburg, WV. The purpose of this hearing is to obtain the views and comments of individuals and organizations concerning the City's housing and community development needs, including project recommendations. Community Development needs will include requests from nonprofit organizations for FY 2010-2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds as well as HOME funds allocated to the City under the Eastern Panhandle HOME Consortium of West Virginia.

FY 2010 CDBG and HOME Funding amounts are unknown at this time. The City's FY 2009 funding for CDBG was \$388,561. We expect to receive a similar amount of funding for FY 2009 and may decide to reprogram unexpended funds from prior years. FY 2009 Funding for the Eastern Panhandle HOME Consortium was \$519,967.

A CDBG Funding Request Form is enclosed. CDBG Funding Request forms should be returned to the Community Development Office no later than 4:00 P.M. on Friday, January 29, 2010. HOME funding applications are accepted on an open basis and are available by contacting the Community Development Department as indicated below.

Written comments on community development and housing needs, including project recommendations and requests, should be submitted by Friday, January 29, 2010 to the:

Community Development Department

City Hall - 232 North Queen Street P.O Box 828 Martinsburg, WV 25402

CDBG and HOME Funding request forms are available via electronic mail by contacting Patricia. McMillan, Community Development Director, at (304) 254-2131, ext. 278 or by E-mail at pmcmillan@cityofmartinsburg.org. Please feel free to contact her with any questions you have. All programs and services of the City of Martinsburg are available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, handicap or disability, familial status or national origin.

Enclosures

City of Martinsburg, West Virginia CDBG PROGRAM FUNDAMENTALS AND ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

As an entitlement community, The City of Martinsburg receives a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant annually from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods, economic development and providing improved community facilities and services. The City of Martinsburg develops its own programs and funding priorities and ensures that they meet HUD's guidelines for eligibility and that they meet at least one of HUD's national objectives.

HUD's **National Objectives** include:

- At least 70% of program expenditures must benefit low and moderate income persons
- A maximum of 30% of program expenditures can aid in the prevention or elimination of blight
- Other community development needs certified by the City as having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

CDBG Eligible Activities include, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition and disposition of real property (includes homebuyer assistance)
- Relocation and demolition, code enforcement
- **Rehabilitation** of residential and non-residential structures
- Construction of public facilities and improvements such as neighborhood facilities (e.g., recreational facilities, parks, playgrounds), removal of architectural barriers to accessibility, infrastructure improvements (e.g., flood and drainage improvements), parking lots, aesthetic amenities on public property, and facilities for persons with special needs;
- **Public services** such as education and recreation programs, public safety services, fair housing activities, services for senior citizens and homeless persons, child and health care, job training, and homebuyer downpayment assistance (15% cap on expenditures)
- Activities relating to **energy conservation**;
- Providing assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation and retention activities.
- Administration and Planning for CDBG program (20% cap on expenditures)

City of Martinsburg CDBG Funding Priorities Five Year Consolidated Plan FY 2009-2013

The City's Strategic Initiatives for the Five Year Consolidated Plan are:

<u>Housing</u>						
HS-1	Promote homeownership opportunities					
HS-2	Provide rehabilitation assistance for owner-occupants					
HS-3	Provide assistance for emergency repairs					
HS-4	Inspect rental housing units					
HS-5	Promote fair housing opportunities					
HS-6	Assist in development of affordable housing					
HS-7	Promote accessible units for the disabled					
HS-8	Provide rental assistance to tenants					
HS-9	Promote mixed income neighborhoods and					
	deconcentrate low/mod areas					
HS-10	Reduce blight and deterioration in residential neighborhoods					
<u>Homeless</u>						
HA-1	Promote housing opportunities for the homeless					
HA-2	Promote support services for the homeless					
HA-3	Promote housing choice vouchers					
Other Spec	<u>ial Needs</u>					
SN-1	Promote housing opportunities for the elderly					
SN-2	Promote housing opportunities for persons with disabilities					
SN-3	Assist in developing housing for persons with					
	alcohol/drug additions					
SN-4	Assist in developing housing opportunities for persons with HIV/AIDS					
Community	y Development					
CD-1	Improve City's infrastructure					
CD-2	Promote programs for the youth					
CD-3	Promote programs for the elderly					
CD-4	Promote programs for the special needs population					
CD-5	Improve community facilities					
CD-6	Remove vacant dilapidated structures					
CD-7	Improve the existing environment					
CD-8	Provide code enforcement					
CD-9	Provide matching funds for public service providers					
CD-10	Make public facilities accessible					
CD-11	Promote crime prevention and community policing					

Economic Development

ED-1	Promote new commercial/industrial development
ED-2	Assist in the creation of new job opportunities
ED-3	Revitalize economically distressed areas in the City

Anti-Poverty

AP-1	Promote workforce development
AP-2	Promote support services for new employees
AP-3	Create new job opportunities for the unemployed
	and the underemployed

Administrative & Management

AM-1	Provide overall program administration and oversight
AM-2	Provide planning and management services

HUD Performance Measurements:

HUD has implemented **performance measures** to quantify the impact of the Community Development Block Grant program and other HUD programs, including HOME Investment Partnerships. **All activities funded with the City's CDBG funding must meet one of the following HUD objectives and outcomes:**

HUD OBJECTIVES

- Creating Suitable Living Environment addressing physical or social issues
- Providing **Decent Housing** housing activities to meet individual or community housing needs
- Creating Economic Opportunities economic development, job creation, commercial revitalization

HUD OUTCOMES

- Improve Availability/Accessibility: Makes basics of daily living available and accessible to low and moderate income persons where they live.
- Improve Affordability: Makes and activity more affordable by lowering cost, improving quality or increasing affordability of a product or service for benefit of low and moderate income persons.
- Improve Sustainability: Using resources in a targeted area to improve communities or neighborhoods, helping make them more livable or viable by benefiting low and moderate income persons.

Income Limits as of March 2009 Median Family Income = \$61.300

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Hagerstown Martinsburg MSA	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
30%	14,550	16,600	18,700	20,750	22,400	24,050	25,750	27,400
50% Very Low	24,200	27,700	31,150	34,600	37,350	40.150	42,900	45,650
60%	29,040	33,240	37,380	41,520	44,820	48,180	51,480	54,780
80% Low Income	38,750	44,300	49,800	<mark>55,350</mark>	59,800	64,200	<mark>68,650</mark>	<mark>73,050</mark>

If you have any questions or need additional information about eligible CDBG activities, please contact the City of Martinsburg Community Development Department at (304) 264-2131, ext. 278 or Pmcmillan@cityofmartinsburg.org.