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# Howard County

## Internal Memorandum

**Subject:** Testimony and Fiscal Impact Statement for:  
Resolution No. 45-2012  
Adopting the FFY2012 Action Plan For Community Development Block Grant  
(CDBG) & Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

**To:** Lonnie Robbins  
Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Thomas P. Carbo *TPL*  
Director  
Department of Housing and Community Development

**Date:** March 21, 2012

Resolution No. 45-2012 approves the FFY2012 Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). The Annual Action Plan is required as a precondition to receiving the County's annual entitlement of CDBG and HOME funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

### BACKGROUND

In 2011, Council Resolution 45-2011 adopted Howard County's current Consolidated Plan, a five-year strategic plan stipulating a course of action for the use of CDBG and HOME funds. The Consolidated Plan is a planning document that summarizes local housing and non-housing needs, housing market and inventory conditions; outlines a five-year strategy; identifies available federal, state and local resources needed and anticipated to implement the strategies; and presents specific goals and objectives for each strategy. The Annual Action Plan, the implementing document for the Consolidated Plan, is required by HUD in order to obtain the annual entitlement of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Funds.

The primary objectives of the CDBG and HOME Programs are to develop viable communities by providing decent affordable housing, creating suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income

In order to receive the annual entitlement grants for FFY 2012 and to continue to be eligible as an Urban County Entitlement community, Howard County must adopt an Annual Action Plan. The attached draft Annual Action Plan outlines the proposed activities that will be undertaken for the upcoming program year. Howard County Housing has developed the draft Action Plan in consultation with several county agencies, the Housing and Community Development Board, Committee to End Homelessness, a subcommittee of the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency, and several local and regional service providers of housing and human services.

The attached schedule identifies the various milestones in the Action Plan development process, including funding solicitations and required Public Notices and Public Hearings.

Specific to the funding solicitation process, Howard County Housing conducted a public meeting and public hearing for local providers and the community at large, including current and prior year subrecipients and other interested agencies. Agencies in attendance included the Department of Citizen Services, Howard Community College Educational Foundation, Inc., Bridges to Housing Stability, Inc., Department of Recreation and Parks, Office of Human Rights, Community Action Council, the ARC of Howard County and Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, B.B. Homes, Inc. and Consumer Credit Counseling of Maryland and Delaware. All proposed projects/activities listed in the draft Action Plan are consistent with one or more of the goals of the current five-year Consolidated Plan.

The draft Action Plan will be distributed and available for public review in Howard County Public Libraries and at the Howard County Housing office beginning on March 23, 2012 and concluding on April 24, 2012. The Plan will also be available on the County's website under the Howard County Housing link at [www.howardcountymd.gov](http://www.howardcountymd.gov).

### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The projected entitlement awards to Howard County will provide funding in the amount of \$1,208,072 (CDBG-\$896,564; HOME-\$311,508). The grants cover both program and administrative costs. The projected award amounts have been incorporated into the Fiscal 2013 budget for Howard County Housing.

The Administration recommends the approval of this Resolution.

cc: Ken Ulman, Howard County Executive (w/draft Action Plan)  
Jessica Feldmark, Chief of Staff (w/draft Action Plan)  
Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator (w/draft Action Plan– 10 copies)  
Ray Wacks, Budget Administrator  
Shirelle M. Bennett, Deputy Director  
Ada Best, Administrative Officer  
Housing and Community Development Board

Attachments:  
Draft FFY2012 Action Plan (10 copies)  
Action Plan Schedule